

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.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Return to us, O God; dwell in the midst of us, in this place, in our cities, neighborhoods, and Nation, that we would again acknowledge You. May You see reason to call us faithful, and may we reflect Your glory to all who would see.

In You, may both youth and those of age find reason to be joyful. May all marvel at Your handiwork, Your steadfast love, and Your saving mercy.

Cause our hands to be strong to do the work You have set before us. Sow Your peace in the fields of our hearts and bring forth Your fruit in the garden You have called us to attend. Give increase to our fellowship and pour out on Your house a spirit of compassion and mutual concern.

We give ourselves over to Your instruction to speak truth to one another, to render judgments that are true, and to find solutions which lead to peace.

May we not harbor ill will in our hearts against each other, but may we be intentional in making this a time of cooperation and kindness.

In You do we find truth and hope, and in Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING JESUS "CHUY" NEGRETE

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the life of a commu-

nity icon, an incredible storyteller, and a powerful voice of the Latino and labor rights movement, my dear friend Jesus "Chuy" Negrete.

Chuy was born in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, but grew up in Chicago's southeast side.

Through his corridos, or folk songs, Chuy elevated the work of Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers and national Farm Labor Organizing Committee.

Whether he was in the back of a pick-up truck or in a parking lot, he would be there and he would play his heart out.

His music resonated with the Mexican-American community because it reflected the daily struggles of workers and immigrants.

Chuy loved to add humor to his lyrics, because he understood the power of making people laugh, especially during the toughest times.

He believed in the importance of honoring your roots and heritage, encouraging youth to learn about their culture and history, reminding them of its riches.

I thank Chuy for his music, for always conveying a sense of courage, giving us animo, giving us resolve, and encouraging us to stick together.

Rest in power, my friend.

IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE IS A TOP PRIORITY

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, since I came to Congress 3 years ago, I have made it a top priority to work toward improving our Nation's infrastructure. I have repeatedly advocated and testified for repairing and expanding our roadways and bridges across the Sixth District, including Interstate 81, the economic backbone of the Sixth Congressional District.

But the Senate agreement up this week allocates just \$110 billion for roads and bridges, less than 15 percent of the total bill's funding.

Further, House Democrats are tying its passage to the \$4.3 trillion tax-and-spend boondoggle they call human infrastructure.

The bill includes \$7.5 billion to create a Civilian Climate Corps to promote the Green New Deal, \$80 billion for the IRS to double the number of agents that will target American families and businesses, and provides a zero percent increase for Homeland Security as the Biden border crisis continues to worsen.

Additionally, the bill provides \$42.3 billion in tax credits for the wealthy, while at the same time raising \$2.1 trillion in higher taxes on the middle-class families and job creators.

With inflation on the rise and unprecedented levels of government spending driving up our national debt, we cannot afford this loaded legislative package.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose both of these bills when they come before the House.

HEALTHCARE DISPARITIES

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the fragility and disparities of the American healthcare system, particularly in underserved communities.

Through the American Rescue Plan, Congress is seeking to close these disparities to make healthcare more accessible, with greater quality, through Federally Qualified Health Centers.

The American Rescue Plan funding released this week builds on this model, supporting improvements to facilities across the Nation, including \$2.2 million in new funding for western New York.

Health centers serve as trusted messengers and providers to connect with hard-to-reach patients. Investing in these health clinics' infrastructure will deliver healthcare savings, better health outcomes, and overall healthier communities throughout America.

SUPPORT FOR THE BUREAU OF PRISONS REFORM CAUCUS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Bureau of Prisons Reform Caucus and my thanks to Chairman FRED KELLER.

Earlier today, I participated in a meeting discussing the important issues and the goals of the caucus, which are aimed at improving and enhancing the existing relationship between Congress and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. This is done through increased communications, transparency, and efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I represent two Federal prisons: Federal Correctional Institution Loretto, located in Loretto, Pennsylvania, and Federal Correctional Institution McKean, located in Lewis Run, Pennsylvania. It is critical Congress continues to support these hard-working men and women at these Federal institutions.

As a member of the Bureau of Prisons Reform Caucus, I will work to oversee the implementation of the programs laid out in our legislation.

From improving staffing conditions to implementing the First Step Act to expanding current technical educational opportunities for inmates as they look to find a better place in society, it is important we understand the actions taking place in our Federal prison system.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that this caucus continues to meet and improve the relationship between Congress and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.