

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Jesse Gomez and his lovely wife, and good friend of mine, Rosemarie Gomez.

Jesse was elected East Chicago city councilman in 1963, making him the first person of Hispanic descent to be elected to political office in East Chicago. Jesse's time in office opened political doors for the Hispanic community throughout the city and northwest Indiana.

Jesse's wife, Rosemarie, was elected to replace him on the council, making her the first Hispanic female to serve in political office in East Chicago. Rosemarie dedicated much of her time to the East Chicago Public Library, volunteering countless hours to help support readers and future leaders. Rosemarie was also very proud to help decorate an annual Mexican-themed Christmas tree for the library's "Christmas Around the World" exhibit.

Madam Speaker, our Nation's success is reliant upon the rich heritage and cultural diversity of its people, including the extraordinary contributions of citizens such as Jesse and Rosemarie Gomez.

CRISIS AT THE BORDER

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

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, crisis after crisis after crisis.

We now know that over 2.1 million people have illegally entered this country this year. That is 1.7 million who have been apprehended, the highest number ever on record. And 400,000 additional gotaways that the administration is now owning up to; yet we know nothing about them, we know nothing about their intent for this country, we know nothing about what they are doing.

And more fentanyl has been seized by CBP at our southern border to kill seven times over every single American.

Even as migrant caravans with thousands of migrants march toward our border, this administration continues to mislead and deny that we have a crisis.

I am extremely concerned about who is facilitating these caravans and what organizations are involved in the drug and human trafficking along the way.

The blame for this crisis falls squarely on the Biden administration and his open-border policies. Biden has abandoned Texans, and this administration's blatant disregard and incompetence for border security is endangering every single American. Let me again say that the President is abandoning not just Texans, but every American.

This administration needs to get back to work, and I urge the Democrats to come to the table.

RECOGNIZING WAYNE METRO COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of Wayne Metro Community Action Agency, a service organization based in Wayne County, Michigan, in my district.

Today, they celebrate 50 years of assisting southeastern Michigan's most vulnerable populations, a truly remarkable milestone.

Wayne Metro's staff and organizational leadership's holistic approach to serving our communities translates to exceptional service that has put many families on the path to a better quality of life.

Whether it is connecting a resident to emergency housing, helping with utility payments, or financial coaching, Wayne Metro has been a trusted agency for so many of my residents.

Their longevity is a testament to the trust in their reputation as a responsive and caring community partner in service. It has always been one of the main reasons I work very closely with them.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Wayne Metro Community Action Agency on 50 years of service and best wishes on many more to come.

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HONORING TROOPER TED BENDA

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

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the passing of a hero with deep roots in the tight-knit community of Waukon, Iowa, Iowa State Patrol Trooper Ted Benda.

On October 14, Trooper Benda was on duty, answering the calls of citizens in northeast Iowa, when he experienced a tragic accident. He later passed from his injuries on October 20.

This is the devastating loss of a father, a husband, a son, a friend, a mentor, a dedicated public servant who made it his life's mission to keep his community safe in Iowa.

This tragedy is a reminder that brave law enforcement officers often sacrifice for a purpose greater than themselves. So I join all Iowans in mourning the loss of Trooper Benda, and my heart is with his family, his friends, and fellow troopers during this very difficult time.

HONORING CORPORAL HUNTER LOPEZ

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of U.S. Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez and to urge the Senate to pass H.R. 5142 to give our Nation's servicemembers who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, the recognition they deserve.

H.R. 5142 would posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, our Nation's highest honor, to the 13 heroes in uniform we lost that day, including my constituent, Marine Corporal Hunter Lopez from Indio.

Corporal Lopez gave his life to save the lives of others. In fact, just moments before the explosion went off, he had pulled two little girls out of the fleeing crowd, preventing them from being crushed and saving their lives. Because of him, two children now have a future and the promise of a new life, many thousands reached safety, and many others have a reason to hope.

And because of his efforts and the work of his fellow servicemembers, over 120,000 of our fellow Americans and allies were able to evacuate, and our Armed Forces completed the largest airlift in human history.

Madam Speaker, we must honor their sacrifice to our Nation. We must award them the Congressional Gold Medal.

HEAT YOUR HOME TAX

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the heat your home tax that Democrats are adding to the partisan reconciliation package during our country's crippling economic crisis.

Americans are paying the most for a gallon of gas in 7 years, and now the Federal Government is warning Americans that their home heating bills could cost 54 percent more this winter compared to last.

This harmful provision authorizes the EPA to assess a \$1,500 tax per ton of methane emissions on energy producers, transmission, storage, processors, import and export, and pipelines. As a result, gas prices will continue to skyrocket, heating bills will increase up to \$242 per year, and thousands of jobs could be eliminated in the economy.

Madam Speaker, Americans will physically feel the effects of Democrats' senseless tax hike when choosing whether they can afford to heat their homes this winter. Instead of addressing our country's energy crisis at hand, Democrats are actively working to make it worse.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider these chilling effects and vote against the Democrats' reckless reconciliation package.

PREVENTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(Mr. BOWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to emphasize how important our actions today are for domestic violence survivors everywhere.

Domestic violence is yet another pandemic in this country. In my district, we have seen a rise in domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic amongst teenagers.

Survivors of domestic violence carry their experiences with them every single day, experiencing fear, chronic stress, self-doubt, depression, and so much more. This emotional trauma can prevent survivors from accessing and maintaining safe housing, employment, and supportive relationships, leading to feelings of isolation that only worsen their mental health.

Organizations in my district, like Safe Horizon, Westhab, Family Services of Westchester, and the YWCA are a lifeline of support for survivors of domestic violence. The Federal Government should support groups on the ground like them doing this important work.

Madam Speaker, I strongly believe that together we can prevent all violence and create a culture of care for one another. This legislation, which will authorize funding for preventative and culturally responsive services, is an essential step toward this vision.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-sponsor this bill, and I rise in support of its passage.

CRISIS AFTER CRISIS

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, the Biden administration and Democrats are causing one crisis after another, whether it is the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan; whether it is open border policy where caravans are coming here; whether it is increasing gasoline prices at the gas pump, increasing grocery prices, a shortage of goods so that we can't even get gifts at Christmas. Now the Biden administration and the Democrats want to pass a natural gas tax, which will cause heating prices and electricity to skyrocket.

Yet, at the same time that he wants to decrease natural gas in America, he is calling on OPEC to increase natural gas so that we can rely on it here in America. This makes absolutely no sense to me. It is as if he wants to hurt everyday Americans.

Madam Speaker, I object to these policies, and I hope that my Democratic colleagues do, too.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are once again reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

THE IRS IS WATCHING

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the Federal Government needs to stop sticking its noses in places it does not belong.

For the past 9 months, the size and scope of the Federal Government have expanded like a balloon being inflated with helium. Look no further than a provision in the Democrats' budget reconciliation package that allows the IRS to monitor the bank accounts of every American. If you made a deposit or withdrawal of more than \$600 cumulatively, the IRS would be the first to know. That is \$28 a day.

Madam Speaker, the American people are fearful of more government control, and I share their fear. America should never find itself standing at socialism's door, and this dangerous provision puts us one step closer to doing so.

IRS SURVEILLANCE PLAN

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

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, \$10,000 a year, an average of \$200 a week. Under the Democrats' IRS surveillance plan, that is all you will need to spend before they require the IRS to collect personal information on your bank transactions.

Let's put that in perspective. According to the USDA, an average family of four on a low budget paid roughly \$196 per week for groceries in 2019. That is almost enough right there to require your bank to turn over your information.

Now, with skyrocketing inflation and the costs getting higher and higher—and what if you pay rent, have credit card bills, a car payment, or need to buy gas that you can drive back and forth to work to support your family? That can easily exceed the threshold, and probably five times over.

This proposal is not simply targeting the richest Americans or big corporations. It means the IRS would have the personal information of almost every American with a bank account. This is an invasion of your privacy and a serious cybersecurity risk.

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 716, I call up the bill (H.R. 2119) to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 716, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor, printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-15,

modified by the amendment printed in part A of House Report 117-137 is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H. R. 2119

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES; SEVERABILITY.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act of 2021”.

(b) *REFERENCES.*—Except as otherwise specified, amendments made by this Act to a section or other provision of law are amendments to such section or other provision of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.).

(c) *SEVERABILITY.*—If any provision of this Act, an amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, the amendments made by this Act, and the application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

Subsection (b) of section 301 (42 U.S.C. 10401) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) *PURPOSE.*—It is the purpose of this title to improve services and interventions for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence, and to advance primary and secondary prevention of domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence by—

“(1) assisting States and territories in supporting local domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence programs to provide accessible, trauma-informed, culturally relevant residential and non-residential services to domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence victims and their children and dependents;

“(2) strengthening the capacity of Indian Tribes to exercise their sovereign authority to respond to domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence committed against Indians;

“(3) providing for a network of technical assistance and training centers to support effective policy, practice, research, and cross-system collaboration to improve intervention and prevention efforts throughout the country;

“(4) supporting the efforts of State, territorial, and Tribal coalitions to document and address the needs of victims and their children and dependents, including victims and their children and dependents who are underserved, implement effective coordinated community and systems responses, and promote ongoing public education and community engagement;

“(5) maintaining national domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence hotlines, including a national Indian domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence hotline; and

“(6) supporting the development and implementation of evidence-informed, coalition-led, and community-based primary prevention approaches and programs.”.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 302 (42 U.S.C. 10402) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) *ALASKA NATIVE.*—The term ‘Alaska Native’ has the meaning given the term Native in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602).

“(2) *CHILD.*—The term ‘child’ means an individual who is—

“(A) younger than age 18; and

“(B) not an emancipated minor.

“(3) *DATING PARTNER.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The term ‘dating partner’ means any person who is or has been in a social