

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2471, HAITI DEVELOPMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND INSTITUTIONAL TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 75, EXTENSION OF CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6968, SUSPENDING ENERGY IMPORTS FROM RUSSIA ACT

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 117-261) on the resolution (H. Res. 972) providing for consideration of Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2471) to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purpose; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6968) to prohibit the importation of energy products of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2471, HAITI DEVELOPMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND INSTITUTIONAL TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 75, EXTENSION OF CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6968, SUSPENDING ENERGY IMPORTS FROM RUSSIA ACT

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 972 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 972

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2471) to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-35. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The question of adoption of the motion shall be divided for a separate vote on all of the matter proposed to be inserted by the amendment of the House other than divi-

sions B, C, F, X, and Z, and titles 2 and 3 of division N. The two portions of the divided question shall be considered in the order specified by the Chair. If either portion of the divided question fails of adoption, then the House shall be considered to have made no disposition of the Senate amendment.

SEC. 2. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations and the chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may insert in the Congressional Record not later than March 11, 2022, such material as they may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in the first section of this resolution.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6968) to prohibit the importation of energy products of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas). The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

□ 0915

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), who is my good friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, let me wish a good morning to my good friend, Mr. COLE. It feels like just a couple of hours ago I was saying good morning. Let me say to the gentleman that he looks marvelous for getting no sleep, and it is great to be with my friend.

Madam Speaker, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House

Resolution 972, providing for consideration of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. It provides for a motion to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2471 with a House amendment and 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. It divides the question on adoption of the motion into two votes in the order specified by the chair, and provides that if any portion of the divided question fails, then the House shall be considered to have made no disposition of the Senate amendment.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 75, the Extension of Continuing Appropriations Act, 2022, under a closed rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and provides for one motion to recommit.

Finally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6968, the Suspending Energy Imports From Russia Act, under a closed rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and provides one motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, the bills contained in the rule are about investing in our communities and families here at home and living up to our values abroad.

Throughout last summer, House Democrats were hard at work passing appropriations bills funding nearly all of the Federal Government to build on the momentum of our economic recovery. This full-year omnibus is the product of extensive bipartisan, bicameral negotiations. Both sides have come together to produce an agreement to fund the government that I think has resulted in a very, very good bill.

That means this agreement does not include everything I wanted, and I know it doesn't include everything my Republican friends wanted. But I think, at the end of the day, it is a good package that is going to benefit the American people.

I especially want to recognize Chairwoman DELAURO and Ranking Member GRANGER and thank them for forging a bipartisan path forward. I also want to take this opportunity to thank the incredible staff of the Appropriations Committee as well as the incredible staff of the Rules Committee—Democrats and Republicans—who have worked tirelessly to bring this legislation to the floor today. I think most of my colleagues here do not appreciate how hard the staff works, and I think the American people ought to be proud of those who serve up here in both parties for their public service.

The work of Chairwoman DELAURO and Ranking Member GRANGER could not have come at a more critical time. We are at a moment in history that demands a strong and confident America,

and the certainty provided by this omnibus will allow us to tackle some of our country's biggest challenges by helping to support good-paying American jobs; by building ladders of opportunity for hardworking families; by confronting the existential threat of climate change; and by investing in lifesaving research into maternal health, mental health, and opioid abuse.

I am proud that we negotiated a government funding package that centers on the needs of middle-class and working families, not the rich and not on powerful special interests.

I am particularly proud that one of the provisions included in this package—funding for a White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health—is something that we have worked together on in a bipartisan way at the Rules Committee and with Democrats and Republicans in the Senate.

We live in the United States of America, the richest country in the history of this planet, yet as we gather here today, close to 40 million of our fellow citizens don't know where their next meal is going to come from. There is not a single congressional district in America that is hunger-free. We ought to be ashamed of that.

Hunger is a political condition. We can solve this problem, but we need to have the political will. This conference, I hope, will provide that political will.

I will remind my colleagues the last time we had a conference on this subject was 54 years ago, so I am looking forward to working with the White House and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to forge a path forward to end hunger in America once and for all.

Madam Speaker, this rule also provides for consideration of a short-term continuing resolution that keeps the government funded at current levels through March 15 to give the United States Senate adequate time to pass this full-year omnibus agreement and get it to President Biden's desk so that he can sign it.

And in the wake of the unprovoked and horrific invasion of Ukraine at the hands of Russian President Vladimir Putin, this Congress is taking urgent bipartisan action to protect global peace and security and hold Putin's corrupt regime accountable.

Yesterday, I co-chaired a meeting of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission. We had a detailed discussion about what was happening in Ukraine and the fact that what is happening has risen to the level of war crimes, and there needs to be accountability.

We have all seen the awful pictures and the awful videos, Madam Speaker, families gunned down, apartment buildings bombed, and the indiscriminate use of force, yet still the people of Ukraine are courageously standing up for freedom. Congress, the Biden administration, and the people of the United States must stand with them,

and that is exactly what this measure does.

By encouraging World Trade Organization members to suspend concessions to Russia; taking steps to review Russia's international trade status; and, very importantly, by reauthorizing a strengthened Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act so that the United States can impose further sanctions on human rights abusers in Russia and around the globe, America is standing up to bullies like Putin who think they can invade their way into an empire and blackmail the world with their oil.

I want to commend President Biden for taking action to stop the import of Russian energy products into the United States, action which our legislation supports.

I should also say, Madam Speaker, that I had kind of hoped that this could have come up under suspension because I like to think there is no dissent on what we are doing in this legislation. I am concerned that some of my friends on the other side objected to the strengthening of human rights provisions in the Magnitsky Act.

Ironically, the language that we are using is language very similar to the executive order put forward by President Trump. I don't agree with him on a lot of things—almost nothing—but I think he was right signing an executive order to actually strengthen the human rights criteria for the Magnitsky legislation. We ought to hold human rights abusers—those guilty of corruption—accountable. And for anybody—anybody—to want to weaken the standard and to want to let some people off the hook, I think, is unconscionable. So I hope there is a strong bipartisan vote on this.

Finally, I want to highlight that our bipartisan omnibus agreement includes \$13.6 billion in emergency military, humanitarian, and economic support for Ukraine. This week, the United Nations has warned that this is the “fastest growing refugee crisis in Europe since World War II.” I am proud that we are taking the moral obligation of humanitarian assistance seriously.

Together, these measures, in addition to the strong leadership shown by President Biden working quickly and in close consultation with our allies and partners, have placed enormous pressure on President Putin and his corrupt oligarchs to end this war. I hope that he does that immediately.

The final thing that I am going to say is to echo what I began with. This bill is not perfect through the eyes of anybody, whether you are a liberal Democrat like me or whether you are a conservative Republican, and this rule allows people to express their support and their lack of support for different parts of this bill very clearly.

Some think that the defense section is too high. I personally do. But we have an opportunity to be able to vote yes or no on that.

Some think that the investments in domestic spending are too high. I think

they are not high enough, but whatever. People have an opportunity to be able to vote yes or no on that.

So, I hope that we can get support for the rule. I hope that we can get this legislation passed today, sent over to the Senate, and help the American people.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I thank my very good friend, the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts, Chairman MCGOVERN, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today's rule covers three items. The first item is a bill to ban imports of Russian oil into the United States and to impose additional sanctions following Russia's unprovoked and unjust invasion of Ukraine.

Madam Speaker, although I will be supporting this bill, I cannot help but feel that this is a half measure and a missed opportunity to exhibit unified support on immediate steps to confront Putin's evil regime.

Yesterday, Senators WYDEN and CRAPO introduced a much stronger bill, one that was negotiated over the weekend by Republicans and Democrats in both the House and the Senate. But rather than taking yes for an answer, the majority instead put forward a weaker bill, one that is watered down and leaves loopholes wide enough to drive a tanker through.

Banning Russian oil imports in the wake of Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine should be an obvious no-brainer, just like it ought to be a no-brainer for the President to reverse his misguided policies and unleash development of America's own energy sources. But instead of doing so, the Biden administration continues to discourage domestic oil and gas production and is asking every other oil producer in the world to make up the difference.

Instead of encouraging our own domestic sources of energy, which could meet our needs, critically supply our allies, and strengthen American energy independence, President Biden instead is taking steps like unilaterally canceling the Keystone XL pipeline, imposing a ban on new oil and gas exploration and leasing on Federal lands, and telling hardworking Americans who are struggling to buy expensive gasoline to instead go buy more expensive electric vehicles.

Failing to develop America's energy resources is a missed opportunity, Madam Speaker, just like this bill. We had a better option. I wish we had taken it.

Our second item today is an omnibus appropriations package covering the remainder of the year 2022, and the third is a short-term continuing resolution to ensure continuity of government funding while Congress processes a larger bill.

Madam Speaker, it has been a very, very long road to get to this point. But

today, the House will act on a bipartisan, bicameral appropriations package. As vice ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, I am encouraged that we are finally nearing completion of this fundamental function of Congress to provide full-year funding for the government.

We are here today in a time of great crisis. Two weeks ago, Russian President Vladimir Putin launched an unprovoked and unjust war against Ukraine, its democratic neighbor to the west. Inflation has skyrocketed to a 40-year high, and due to the administration's reckless action, gas prices have continued to soar month after month after month.

□ 0930

Yet despite these crises, the Members of this body have worked together and have found common ground on today's legislation.

As I have said many times, one of the most consequential duties of a Member of Congress is to fund the government and keep it open and operating. At a time of crisis, this is more important than ever.

Last year, the Appropriations Committee passed all 12 appropriations bills out of committee and succeeded in passing nine of those bills across the floor before the August recess. Unfortunately, these bills were partisan and did not receive support from any Republican Members, with good reason.

Today, we are 5 months into fiscal year 2022, and despite the long process, the path forward has always been clear. It was clear last July, just as it is clear today.

In order to reach a final bipartisan, bicameral deal on appropriations for FY 2022, four conditions needed to be met. I am greatly pleased that this bill meets all four.

The first is to ensure that the long-standing, bipartisan pro-life provisions historically included in the appropriations bills are restored. These include the Hyde amendment, which prevents Federal dollars from being used to pay for abortions, except in limited cases of rape, incest, and the life of the mother, and the Weldon amendment, which protects American doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals from participating in and providing abortions if they have a moral objection.

The inclusion of these and other broadly popular provisions was and is an absolute necessity for this bill to have any chance of becoming law. I am personally deeply grateful that they are included in this package.

Second, partisan policy riders that were included in the bills that passed the House last summer needed to come out. These are provisions that both sides did not agree to and do not enjoy bipartisan consensus. At the end of the day, we needed to reach an agreement on these items to move forward. Fortunately, each of these provisions has been removed.

Third, the level of defense spending absolutely needed to come up. Unfortu-

nately, last year, President Biden proposed a budget that underfunded national defense, repeating the mistake of the Obama-Biden administration of chronically underfunding our national defense. But earlier this year, the House Armed Services Committee and the Senate Armed Services Committee, both controlled by Democrats, worked together in a bipartisan manner to authorize an increase in defense spending of \$25 billion over the fiscal year.

In today's bill, appropriators actually went beyond that, ensuring a robust increase in defense spending. This increase is necessary to ensure that our Armed Forces will have the funds needed to maintain our readiness and to procure the weapons and assets the warfighters of tomorrow will need to continue to succeed on the battlefield.

This includes increases for defense assets based in my own home State of Oklahoma. If the present crisis in Ukraine shows us nothing else, it should show us the need to continue to adequately fund our national defense.

Finally, the fourth condition that needed to be met was that the proposed levels of nondefense spending had to come down. In the initial set of bills that passed the House, my friends in the majority sought to include a 17 percent increase in nondefense spending. While that no doubt included many worthy items, Republicans generally felt that 17 percent was excessive, particularly given the substantial needs on the defense side of the ledger.

But the bill before us today increases nondefense spending by just 6.7 percent, which will allow for increased investments in key areas while also ensuring that we will continue to be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

Of course, this 6.7 percent ensures that there will be significant and important investments in nondefense areas across the government. I am particularly pleased that the National Institutes of Health will receive a robust \$2.25 billion increase, which will help advance medical science, help address future pandemics, and continue our progress toward defeating the scourge of cancer.

We are also funding ARPA-H, one of the President's highest priorities, at \$1 billion in its first year of operation. I am also encouraged that this bill provides significant increases for TRIO and GEAR UP, two programs that are close to my heart, that help first-generation students go to college. These are just a few of the programs that I could point to that are worthy of increased funding and investment, and this bill has done that.

The legislation before us today represents a negotiated compromise between the House and the Senate and obviously between Democrats and Republicans. Given that, it is a compromise. That means neither side got everything that they wanted. As I have often said, in a compromise, you have to give up more than you would like to get less than you want. Indeed, this is

not the bill I would have written had I written it alone. But at the end of the day, it represents a good balance for Congress and for the Nation.

Before I finish, I want to congratulate my friends and colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, particularly Chairwoman ROSA DELAURO and Ranking Member KAY GRANGER, without whom we would not have gotten to where we are today.

I also want to extend my huge thank you, as the chairman did, to the Appropriations Committee staff and to the Rules staff on both sides of the aisle. These staffers are truly unsung heroes who spent many long and sleepless nights over the preceding weeks, including this past weekend. We would not be here today without them.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me just say that I have enormous respect for the gentleman from Oklahoma. There is this old adage that says you don't have to agree on everything to agree on something. Much of what he cited is something that I think we can all agree on: investments in medical research, support for the NIH, investments in trying to find ways to manage and cure cancer. All of those things are incredibly important, and I think they bring us together.

Some of the things he said I disagree with. I believe it is a mistake to deny women their legal reproductive rights, and I think the defense budget is way too big. Spending more on something doesn't necessarily get you a better result. We need to spend more efficiently and more effectively. We have a military budget that is so bloated, that is so excessive, so filled with cost overruns, that even Dr. Strangelove would be impressed. We need to do better.

Having said that, I am aware that we have to be able to deal on legislation within the reality that we live in. We have a 50/50 Senate; we have a majority here in the House, not as big as I would like. Hopefully, that changes in November. But the bottom line is, we have to work with what we have. I think that is what has occurred here.

We continue to hear this claim that President Biden's climate policies are somehow to blame for the latest spike in gas prices. I think we need to just set the record straight here. Domestic energy production is up, it is rising, and it is approaching records. There are over 9,000 approved drilling permits the oil industry is not using. The truth is that changes in domestic energy policy often take years to impact global energy markets.

Instead, what is happening here is oil companies are using Putin's war as an excuse to jack up prices at the pump even more. They argue for looser regulations, cheaper drilling, and more pollution.

This is Putin's price hike. Quite frankly, at this time of global crisis, I

would like to appeal to the patriotism of Big Oil in this country to not make record profits their priority, to actually put the American people's interest and, in fact, the global interest first. Let's not fool ourselves that greed isn't at play here.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a March 4 opinion article written by the House Natural Resources Committee Chairman RAUL GRIJALVA, entitled "Oil and gas lobbyists are using Ukraine to push for a drilling free-for-all in the U.S."

[From the Guardian, Mar. 4, 2022]

OIL AND GAS LOBBYISTS ARE USING UKRAINE TO PUSH FOR A DRILLING FREE-FOR-ALL IN THE US

(By Raúl M Grijalva)

Last week, we all watched in horror as Vladimir Putin launched a deadly, catastrophic attack on Ukraine, violating international treaties across the board. Most of us swiftly condemned his actions and pledged support for the Ukrainian people whose country, homes and lives are under attack.

But the fossil-fuel industry had a different take. They saw an opportunity—and a shameless one at that—to turn violence and bloodshed into an oil and gas propaganda-generating scheme. Within hours, industry-led talking points were oozing into press releases, social media and opinion pieces, telling us the key to ending this crisis is to immediately hand US public lands and waters over to fossil-fuel companies and quickly loosen the regulatory strings.

Our top priority must be ending Putin's hostilities, but as chair of the US House committee on natural resources, I feel duty-bound to set the record straight. We can't let the fossil-fuel industry scare us into a domestic drilling free-for-all that is neither economically warranted nor environmentally sound.

Despite industry's claims to the contrary, President Biden has not hobbled US oil and gas development. In fact, much to my deep disappointment and protest, this administration actually approved more US drilling permits per month in 2021 than President Trump did during each of the first three years of his presidency. Before the pandemic, oil and gas production from public lands and waters reached an all-time high, and the current administration has done little to change that trajectory over the last 13 months.

Fossil-fuel companies and their backers in Congress also profess that more drilling on public lands and waters would lower gas prices for Americans. But if that's true, why hasn't record oil extraction from both federal and non-federal lands over the last decade done anything to consistently lower, or at least stabilize, prices at the pump?

The fact is that crude oil is a volatile global commodity. Worldwide supply, demand, and unpredictable events—like wars—influence the price of gas, not the current administration's decision to approve a few new leases or permits.

Even if we take industry's claims at face value, nothing is keeping fossil-fuel companies from more drilling on public lands right now. The oil industry already controls at least 26m acres of public land and is sitting on more than 9,000 approved drilling permits they're not using.

They have a similarly gratuitous surplus offshore, where nearly 75% of their active federal oil and gas leases, covering over 8m acres, have yet to produce a single drop. Any new leases issued today wouldn't produce anything of value for years, or even decades in some cases.

If industry did start to ramp up production from federal leases, the overall increase to the total US supply would likely be marginal. In 2020, public lands and waters only accounted for 22% and 11% of oil and gas production, respectively. The vast majority of oil and gas resources are beneath state and private lands—not public lands or federal waters.

With the facts laid bare, we see the fossil-fuel industry's crocodile tears for what they are—the same old demands for cheaper leases and looser regulations they've been peddling for decades. These pleas have nothing to do with countering Putin's invasion or stabilizing gas prices, and everything to do with making oil and gas development as easy and profitable as possible.

The US is the world's top oil and gas producer. Doubling down on fossil fuels is a false solution that only perpetuates the problems that got us here in the first place.

And quite frankly, we can't afford to maintain the status quo. In its newest report the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued its most dire warning yet on the rapidly accelerating climate crisis. If we fail to enact major mitigation efforts, like curbing fossil-fuel development, both quickly and substantially, we will "miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable future for all".

Fortunately, there is a path forward that simultaneously cuts the lifeline to fossil-fuel despots like Putin, stabilizes energy prices here at home, and creates a safer, more sustainable planet. We must wean ourselves off our oil and gas dependence and make transformational investments in cleaner renewable energy technologies, like those in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Build Back Better Act and the Competes Act, and we must do it now.

The fossil-fuel industry has had hold of the microphone for far too long. It's time we let the facts speak for themselves.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for yielding, and let me add my appreciation to Chairwoman ROSA DELAURO and Ranking Member GRANGER and admit that the world now sees this every day in American newspapers and around the world: the pillage, the desperation, the violence, and the death of women and children in Ukraine, the worst humanitarian crisis that we have seen in a century and the absolute outrage of the killing machine that Putin is and the terroristic acts. He is a war criminal.

I rise today to support H.R. 6968 and to thank my friend from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) for joining us together to be able to move forward on language that works to hold Russia accountable for its invasion of Ukraine by denying its preferential trade treatment and seeking to remove it from the World Trade Organization.

This legislation bans Russian energy imports and suspends preferential trade treatment with Belarus. I was at the border of Belarus as it was hosting 30,000 to 40,000 Russian troops and its reckless attitude of incarcerating and detaining its own political opposition. The head of Belarus is no better.

The President receives the ability to further increase tariffs on Russian or

Belarusian goods. Congress is empowered to disapprove any Presidential decision to restore normal trade relations or to remove the import ban.

It further closes yet another avenue for Russian participation in the world economy by revoking most-favored-nation status dealing with exports as well as its participation in world trade and denying Belarus membership.

Further, with this ban on Russian energy imports, Americans will no longer be contributing to Putin's most violent actions. He is a war criminal. He is killing children.

Let me also rise in support of H.R. 2471. I call it working Americans response act. It is an appropriation that deals with healthcare and education. It deals with climate change, and it also deals with responding to the needs of the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman from Texas an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it additionally responds to the potential of those that are facing domestic violence and sexual assault with the Violence Against Women Act that I led and had passed in this House just a few months ago.

So let me say that this is a job well done to all of those who have been working but let us do this in a bipartisan manner.

The people of Ukraine cry out in pain. Russia is now brought to its knees. Let's make sure that Vladimir Putin never stands on the world stage again.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to just quickly respond to my friend's comment about the energy industry.

I am from an energy district. I am from an energy State. My constituents and their forebearers have produced more energy than they have consumed for over a hundred years, and they have shared it all over the world, but particularly across this country.

Thank God for them because, quite frankly, what Americans would be paying at the pump now would be astronomical were it not for them. Since 2005, American oil production has doubled, and that is due to their ingenuity. Frankly, we pay almost the lowest energy prices in the world.

I am sorry, but to put all of these energy price increases off on Vladimir Putin—he is certainly responsible for those this week, but the reality is, for the entire Biden Presidency, energy prices have been going up. That is because the President, on his very first day, effectively declared war on the fossil fuel industry. He canceled the Keystone Pipeline. He changed the leasing and drilling rules on Federal lands. The hostility has simply been overwhelming.

Now, where does that put us? The United States is going to Iran to ask them to increase energy production, the largest sponsor of state tyranny.

We are sending representatives to Venezuela. Why don't we just call people in Houston and Oklahoma City and Cheyenne? We have got lots of places that know how to produce energy and have been doing it cheaply, efficiently, fairly, and cleanly for decades.

The reality is, let's not attack them. They are our salvation in a time of trial, and they are our national security moving forward. I feel very strongly about that.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my good friend and distinguished member of the Rules Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee.

□ 0945

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I also am from an energy State, and I want to associate myself with the remarks of Ranking Member COLE as far as the energy industry is concerned. Quite correct, the hostility of the Biden administration to American energy was front and center from day one when the President took the oath of office, and it is only the last 6 weeks that we have seen the hostility from Putin and Russia, but the seeds were set for record high energy prices because of the activities of the Biden administration and the Democratic leadership in this Congress, quite frankly.

But I am here today to speak about the spending bill that is in front of us. Halfway through the fiscal year, we finally have the appropriations bills for the spending for this year, and I am grateful to see a copy on the Speaker's desk. That is the only copy that I have seen. Certainly, we didn't have a copy last night in the Rules Committee.

I am gratified to know that there actually does exist a copy of this spending bill; but, once again, no Member of the people's House has really had the opportunity to look at and weigh in on, no ability to amend last night in the Rules Committee, no ability to really affect this massive spending bill that is in front of us.

I planned to offer several amendments to improve this bill. The public health mandates are easing around the country, but the Department of Transportation still requires patrons to wear masks on public transportation, on airlines. This could and should be rescinded, and this was an opportunity to do just that.

As Mr. COLE mentioned, we are experiencing some of the highest gas prices in over a decade, maybe even in this generation, and no funds in this bill should be expended to restrict the operation or development of oil and gas pipelines to get that vitally needed energy out of places like the Permian Basin to population centers—Dallas, Houston, Oklahoma City—where they can be consumed or where they can be liquefied and exported to other countries.

Federal agencies are behind, veterans' services are severely back-

logged. I would have loved to have submitted an amendment to appropriate some additional dollars, \$2 billion, to the Department of Veterans Affairs so that they could relieve this backlog for our veterans. And, in fact, the budget neutrality requirements in the Medicare physician fee schedule could have been waived, and we could have done so with the excess funds in the Provider Relief Fund and given our frontline health personnel a little bit of a break from the fact that they have been on the front lines battling the coronavirus for 2 years, and what do they get for that effort? A pay cut.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Texas an additional 1 minute.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office did provide to the Budget Committee, of which I am also a member, a list of the top 20 agencies that are overfunded with funds that have been appropriated over the last 2 years. The totality of those 20 accounts is \$340 billion. There were moneys available. A lot of things that are in this bill could have been offset if we had simply taken the time to do it. I will say, since I am a member of the authorizing committee, going forward our authorizing committees have to do their work. They have to do the study because we can't expect it to all happen at the Appropriations Committee at the eleventh hour.

Madam Speaker, I think it is important that people be able to see where those moneys exist. The results of the study, which was compiled by the Congressional Budget Office, are contained on a spreadsheet and can be found at: <https://burgess.house.gov/UploadedFiles/COB-UnspentCOVID.pdf>.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to correct the record on one thing. The gentleman said he didn't get a copy of the text of what we are considering here today. It was put into his Dropbox, and he could have downloaded it. It was emailed to his staff. It was posted online. Yeah, we didn't print off a 3,000-page bill because I believe in saving trees. But it was available, and I just want to point that out for the record. I will also just say—and again with great respect for my two colleagues on the Rules Committee—I don't share their enthusiasm about big oil companies. I just don't. They are making all-time-high record profits while Americans are paying more at the gas pump.

I will remind my friends that when Donald Trump was President, we had unemployment at about 14.9 percent, which was terrible. It is now down to 3.8 percent, which is driving up demand. Nobody is questioning the fact that there is a supply-and-demand problem here. But we also ought to understand that part of these price hikes, in addition to the Putin price hike, is

the oil company price hike, and as we try to figure out how to alleviate the burden on the American people, which we are trying to do, we also have to figure out how we do it in a way where any savings or any tax incentives that we might provide are actually passed on to the consumer because the oil industry in this country, the big oil companies, have a history of price gouging, and the fact that they are doing it now I think is unconscionable.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will refrain from correcting my friend again and just send him something to read.

If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act for immediate consideration.

Two weeks ago, Russian President Vladimir Putin shocked the world by launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. In doing so, Mr. Putin revealed his true self, and that is a bully, a thug, a tyrant bent on subverting his democratic neighbor to the west. In challenging not only Ukraine, but also the rest of the civilized world, Mr. Putin's powerful weapon is not his army, potent though that may be, but the dependence of much of the rest of the world on Russian oil and gas. Already he has begun to put the squeeze on democratic states seeking to challenge his invasion of Ukraine by threatening to cut off their supplies of energy.

The American Energy Independence from Russia Act would address the challenge and would reposition the United States to be energy self-sufficient. It would immediately approve the Keystone XL pipeline, would restart oil and gas leasing on Federal lands and waters, and would expand liquid natural gas exports at the moment Europe needs the most. In doing so, it would ensure that America remains energy independent and can act to address Russian aggression without risking economic damage.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD along with extraneous material immediately prior to the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW), my good friend and a distinguished member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, to further explain our amendment.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise to oppose the previous question so we can immediately consider the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, led by my friend and the Republican leader of the Energy and Commerce Committee, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS.

This week our President, our American President, asked Venezuela and Saudi Arabia to increase oil production, asked them to boost their output so that American consumers wouldn't see a spike in gas prices.

It seems like a noble cause at first glance, but I couldn't help to think to myself what a strange thing to ask because surely he knows that we can also boost domestic production right here at home. Surely he knows that domestic production supports American jobs, and surely he knows that domestic production is cleaner, by far, than foreign production; far better for the environment than Venezuelan oil unless that Socialist dictator suddenly became a devout green energy disciple without any of us knowing it.

Surely President Biden knows that energy demand doesn't just disappear because you tell middle-class Americans to go buy a Tesla. Surely he knows all of this, right? The answer is, of course, yes, he does know that, and the entire Democratic Party knows this. It is impossible not to know these things because these things are called hard facts. They are indisputable. Those facts are simple and worth repeating.

Number 1: The world will demand at least 50 percent more energy in the next 50 years. That is a fact.

Number 2: The energy demanded will be reliable energy; electricity that turns on when you want it, heat that keeps you alive in the winter, and air conditioning that keeps you cool in the summer.

Fact number 3: Solar and wind cannot and will not ever provide this reliable energy, no matter how often you worship and pray to the deities of wind turbines and solar panels; proudly made, of course, by the Communist genocidal country of China.

Fact number 4: American production of oil and gas is far cleaner than any other country, except maybe Canada.

These are indisputable facts. So where does that leave us? For anyone wise in the ways of common sense, it leads to one conclusion. It is in the American interest to pursue absolute American energy dominance. If you don't believe me, let's outline the alternative. Let's imagine we go the way of Germany and invest half a trillion dollars in building out unreliable wind and solar production, only to watch our energy prices rise faster than anywhere else and yet still be forced to turn on coal plants and import Russian gas because your green energy just doesn't work the way you wanted it to.

The rest of Europe wasn't all that different. They increased their reliance on Russian gas from 10 percent to over 40 percent now, and I cannot help but notice that the Democratic Party seems intent on pursuing this very path, canceling leases and pipelines, increasing regulations, chastising our industry. If no one else here noticed, someone in Russia certainly did.

Fast forward to 2022, and Putin, with his newfound leverage over European

energy supply, realizes it may just be the right time to exercise his imperialistic ambitions and retake the old Soviet territory of Ukraine, leaving thousands of innocents dead and a Western world order completely upended.

We are all left thinking the same thought, wouldn't it be better if it was America supplying Europe its energy? Wouldn't it be better if Europe wasn't held hostage to the whims of a dictator? Wouldn't it be better if we didn't have to wonder where the extra oil would come from after we rightfully ban Russian imports?

Most of us are thinking that, of course. Unfortunately, those in the majority, those in power are not. I pray that you start.

We should defeat the previous question, pass the American Energy Independence from Russia Act and pursue true American energy dominance.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Give me a break. I hope my friends know better, and I hope they know what drives the price of oil. They talk as if there is just one little switch you can turn on. I hear them talking, just bring the Keystone pipeline back online. By the way, it was never built, and it was years away from bringing any oil to the United States—foreign oil, by the way; Canada is another country. Even if it were built, we are told it may lower prices by maybe one cent a gallon and lock us into the same dependence on fossil fuels that got us into this mess to begin with.

We have been arguing for years with my friends to make the transition away from fossil fuels to greener, cleaner energy so every time there is a world crisis we are not having this discussion, but instead they continue to be in the pockets of the oil companies. Follow the money. Follow the money. Look where the oil companies are putting their money.

By the way, when they say we should do more drilling, the oil companies now have been provided 9,000 new drilling permits on public lands. Much to my disappointment, the Biden administration is actually outpacing even the Trump administration in approving new drilling permits on public lands and water. So give me a break.

Here is the reality, and let me spell it out for my friends; and I think they know better, but again it is politics as usual: Oil is a global commodity. Prices rise when supply chains are disrupted or demand is interrupted, like we saw during COVID. Prices rise when oil-producing countries launch destabilizing invasions; and, yes, when oil companies think they can use either of these as an excuse to jack up the prices, they do.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a March 4 article from Newsweek entitled, "'Little Evidence' Keystone Pipeline Would Level Prices Despite GOP Claims."

[From Newsweek, Mar. 4, 2022]

'LITTLE EVIDENCE' KEYSTONE PIPELINE WOULD LEVEL PRICES DESPITE GOP CLAIMS

(By Alexandra Hutzler)

Republicans are hitting President Joe Biden over his decision to cancel the Keystone XL pipeline as gas prices rise across the country in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Former Vice President Mike Pence said last week "gas prices have risen across the country because of this Administration's war on energy—shutting down the Keystone Pipeline, shutting down oil and gas leases in this country—while they were incomprehensibly green-lighting the Nord Stream 2 deal for the Russians."

Senator Tim Scott told Fox News on Wednesday canceling the pipeline was "catastrophic" and that "the prices we're seeing today are reflective of his decisions a year ago, not reflective of the conflict that started days ago."

But James Glynn, a senior research scholar at Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy, said the Keystone pipeline—even if operational—likely wouldn't have had an impact on the global energy markets.

"There is little evidence to back up the argument that Keystone XL would have averted some of this price spike," Glynn told Newsweek. "The Keystone pipeline capacity is less than one-tenth of Russian oil exports."

"Even if Keystone XL was filled with fully additional Canadian export capacity, which would have been an unlikely scenario, it would not balance the global oil markets where the price of oil is set through a global arbitrage of the last marginal available barrel," Glynn continued.

The current national average for a gallon of gasoline is \$3.837, according to the American Automobile Association (AAA). That's an increase of over 20 cents from the national average reported the week before.

The White House has also emphasized that the Keystone Pipeline was never running, and was less than 10 percent completed when the project was shut down, amid criticism from the Republican Party.

"The Keystone Pipeline has never been operational," press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters on Thursday "It would take years to have any impact. I know a number of members of Congress have suggested that, but that is a proposed solution that has no relationship or would have no impact on what the problem is we, here, all agree is an issue."

The pipeline project would have expanded an existing conduit for transporting tar-sands oil from Canada through the U.S. to the Gulf Coast. After years of legal challenges and environmental activism to shut the project down, the company behind it officially halted construction in June 2021 after Biden revoked a key permit.

"The Keystone pipeline is not a viable solution because you can't build a pipeline in an hour, right?" David Sacco, a practitioner in residence in the finance program at the University of New Haven, told Newsweek. "The company that was building it shut it down a year ago. So that's not viable. But I think the argument that our energy policies have been a pretty significant contribution to this [crisis] are certainly valid from an economic standpoint."

Sacco said there's an argument to be made that the U.S. and other nations purchasing oil from Russia has "allowed their economy to strengthen, has allowed Putin to basically fund his military and expansion policies."

In addition to rising prices, Republicans have hit the Biden administration for energy policies they say make the U.S. more dependent on foreign oil.



“Biden has given up the best defense we had against Putin’s evil vision for the world—energy independence,” Senator Marsha Blackburn said in a statement this week. “We need to make America energy independent again. It’s time to divest from Russian energy and stop funding Putin’s war, and reauthorize the Keystone Pipeline.”

One energy proposal that has received bipartisan support on Capitol Hill is to ban Russian oil imports. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Thursday she was “all for” the proposal.

While Biden has said “nothing is off the table,” the administration has so far resisted slapping Moscow’s energy sector with sanctions because it could further drive up prices at the gas pumps.

Sacco said he believed gas prices could go up to \$5 per gallon as the Russia-Ukraine crisis unfolds.

Biden has said it’s a priority for his team to ease the financial burden on Americans as prices rise. The administration just announced it is coordinating with other nations to release 60 million barrels of oil in global reserves, half of which would come from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

“The American people understand that defending democracy and liberty is never without cost,” Biden said last month while speaking on the Russia-Ukraine crisis.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I also urge all my colleagues to do a little research and look at the profits of Big Oil in this country. Look at what they are making. While Americans are paying more at the pump, their executives are making more and more and more. You can defend Big Oil if you want. And I get it, maybe there is some benefit politically to doing that. Again, follow the money. But I have to tell you, I think people are sick of this. We have seen this movie before.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

□ 1000

Mr. DOGGETT. This rule makes proper for our consideration legislation that I have offered to respond to the brutal aggression of Vladimir Putin destroying, hour by hour, Ukraine, and its people, with death and destruction.

I am pleased to hear from the gentleman from Oklahoma that he supports this legislation because it will be stronger if we are united in sending this message.

Like so many Americans, I have watched the horrors in Ukraine. I have seen the people standing with their blue and yellow Ukraine banners and flags on the steps of the State capitol in Austin day after day, rain and shine, to express their concern.

And like them, and like so many of us of all political persuasions, we wonder what we can do to prevent what is happening that we see played out, in real time, on our televisions?

Well, in my case, it has been advocating that we get all of the weapons that Ukrainians need to defend themselves to them yesterday. Immediately.

But to recognize that to put a squeeze on the Russian empire, we should respond with the most effective sanctions that we can. One of those

sanctions arising out of the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee is the ability to respond with reference to the World Trade Organization and Russia.

The week before last, I introduced with Mr. BLUMENAUER, the chairman of that subcommittee, legislation concerning the trade status of the Russian Federation.

The legislation that I introduced yesterday that this rule puts into effect is different from that, and I will discuss that in the course of our consideration of the bill.

But it continues to urge the expelling of Russia from the World Trade Organization, which I think we should do to attempt to isolate as completely as we can Russia from any benefits from the world economy.

To see now one American-owned company closing down hundreds of its locations throughout Russia, one American company, including some of the big oil companies withdrawing from the Russian Federation, they are acting in a way that supports what we need to do—put Russia in an economic vise.

I believe that there is much more that we need to accomplish but that we respond today on the number one issue on the world agenda, and that is what is happening in Ukraine and what we can do to prevent it.

Now, I understand some people continue to have their own ideological agenda to defend and ignore the climate crisis, deny climate science, and promote more and more fossil fuels.

They choose the Keystone pipeline, which is exactly 8 percent completed. It uses the dirtiest form of oil in the tar sands.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Texas an additional 1 minute.

Mr. DOGGETT. From the cold tar sands of Canada, completing the Keystone pipeline will not save one Ukrainian life nor will the adoption of the rest of their agenda.

Let me just say, I have only one agenda in this matter, and that is to respond to the aggression and do all we can to try to stop the brutal attacks unprovoked on the Ukrainian people.

I am very pleased that this legislation that I introduced yesterday incorporates the good work of Chairman MCGOVERN on the Global Magnitsky Act.

That is legislation that fits so well with what I have been urging about Russia because it combats human rights abuses there and all over the world.

He has strengthened the provisions of the Global Magnitsky Act, which would have expired at the end of this year. By incorporating it, it fits well with our agenda to respond to Russian aggression and human rights abuses that are going on as people are being murdered as we speak today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, to further discuss the need for America to be energy independent, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and my good friend.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the previous question so this Democrat-controlled House can finally do the right thing: pass the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.

This morning, Americans are seeing even higher gas prices on their way to work than they saw on last night’s commute home. Sadly, tonight, tomorrow morning, next week, and next month, they are going to see the same episode play out on those commutes to and from work over and over again.

With the cost of living and inflation over the last year spiraling out of control, the last thing American families need is \$7 to \$8 a gallon gasoline.

Due to the policies of President Biden, we are more reliant on Putin and Russian energy than in recent history.

I agree that we must immediately halt the import of Russian oil and LNG. However, it is a false narrative pushed by President Biden that it should be an unavoidable hit to Americans’ pocketbooks. This was avoidable, and it didn’t have to be this way.

Since Biden’s first day in office, he has forced executive orders and supported policies that have made us more dependent on Russian energy. These policy choices are directly to blame for the increased pain at the pump that middle-class Americans are feeling.

Take, for example, the opening line of an AP article 2 weeks ago: “The Biden administration is delaying decisions on new oil and gas drilling on Federal land.”

Sure, some of these leases are not utilized, but that is because they are tied up in litigation from far left anti-jobs groups or because they are awaiting delayed approvals from the Biden administration.

So, instead of approving rights-of-way, following the science, and putting our oil and gas developers to work, Joe Biden is making American families suffer.

On behalf of the American people, the Ukrainian people, and just basic common sense—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. I yield the gentleman from Minnesota an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. STAUBER.—I joined my colleagues CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and BRUCE WESTERMAN in offering an American energy solution.

While Biden’s solution is to buy oil from Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, our solution is to put blue-collar workers, American workers, to work here at home and develop our God-given natural resources.

We have the ability to bring costs down by unleashing the economic engine of American energy production.

We can do that by defeating this previous question and passing the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We are all trying to figure out a way to alleviate the burden of energy costs on consumers. I mean, it is brutal for a lot of families in this country.

Listening to some of the speeches here, I kind of feel like we should have an amendment that would require Members of Congress to take a basic course in economics to understand how supply and demand works.

Again, the oil companies have 9,000 leases that they are not utilizing as we speak.

I include in the RECORD an article titled "Exclusive: Oil companies' profits soared to \$174 billion this year as U.S. gas prices rose."

[From the Guardian, Dec. 6, 2021]

EXCLUSIVE: OIL COMPANIES' PROFITS SOARED TO \$174BN THIS YEAR AS US GAS PRICES ROSE

(By Oliver Milman)

The largest oil and gas companies made a combined \$174bn in profits in the first nine months of the year as gasoline prices climbed in the US, according to a new report.

The bumper profit totals, provided exclusively to the Guardian, show that in the third quarter of 2021 alone, 24 top oil and gas companies made more than \$74bn in net income. From January to September, the net income of the group, which includes Exxon, Chevron, Shell and BP, was \$174bn.

Exxon alone posted a net income of \$6.75bn in the third quarter, its highest profit since 2017, and has seen its revenue jump by 60% on the same period last year. The company credited the rising cost of oil for bolstering these profits, as did BP, which made \$3.3bn in third-quarter profit. "Rising commodity prices certainly helped," Bernard Looney, chief executive of BP, told investors at the latest earnings report.

Gasoline prices have hit a seven-year high in the US due to the rising cost of oil, with Americans now paying about \$3.40 for a gallon of fuel compared with around \$2.10 a year ago.

The Biden administration has warned the price hikes are hurting low-income people, even as it attempts to implement a climate agenda that would see America move away from fossil fuels, and has released 50m barrels of oil from the national strategic reserve to help dampen costs.

But oil and gas companies have shown little willingness so far to ramp up production to help reduce costs and the new report, by the government watchdog group Accountable.US, accuses them of "taking advantage of bloated prices, fleecing American families along the way" amid ongoing fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Americans looking for someone to blame for the pain they experience at the pump need look no further than the wealthy oil and gas company executives who choose to line their own pockets rather than lower gas prices with the billions of dollars in profit big oil rakes in month after month," said Kyle Herrig, president of Accountable.US.

The analysis of major oil companies' financials shows that 11 of the group gave payouts to shareholders worth more than \$36.5bn collectively this year, while a dozen bought back \$8bn-worth of stock. This apparent

focus, rather than on further drilling, has caused some frustration within the federal government, with Jennifer Granholm, the US energy secretary, stating that "the oil and gas companies are not flipping the switch as quickly as the demand requires."

A glut of new oil drilling has made the US awash with oil in recent years, turning the country into a top-level exporter as well as domestic supplier, but this has kept prices low to the displeasure of investors.

"A lot of this has been driven by investor sentiment," said Helima Croft, head of global commodity strategy at RBC Capital Markets, of the current reluctance to expand production. "They don't want them to spoil the party."

The situation has left the White House in an awkward position with its commitments to rapidly reduce planet-heating emissions, with environmentalists furious at administration attempts to expand drilling and fossil fuel companies also unhappy over some of its earlier climate-related moves, such as shutting down the controversial Keystone XL pipeline.

The oil and gas industry has fought Joe Biden's attempts to pause new drilling permits on federal land, despite its unwillingness to expand operations in order to reap the returns of costlier oil and the fact the industry currently sits on 14m acres of already leased land that isn't being used, an area about double the size of Massachusetts.

"It's not the government that is banning them from drilling more," Pavel Molchanov, an analyst at Raymond James, told CNN. "It's pressure from their shareholders."

Aside from its role in the current high gasoline prices, the oil and gas industry is a leading driver of the climate crisis, the reality of which it sought to conceal from the public for decades, and is a key instigator of the air pollution that kills nearly 9 million a year, a death toll three times that of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.

The American Petroleum Institute, a leading industry lobby group, pointed to a blog that blamed the Biden administration for policies that "significantly weaken the incentives to invest in America's energy future" but did not answer questions on production rates of oil companies.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I love the fact that we can't even get anybody to express the slightest bit of outrage over the fact that oil companies are gouging us, making record profits, while Americans are paying more at the gas pump.

I mean, I get it. They are very supportive of some on the other side, but, I mean, give me a break. I think the American people understand this.

We need to figure out a way to lower gas prices to alleviate the burden on working families here. But to get up and defend oil companies and oil company executives and put forward bills and ideas that are oil companies' wish lists when they have 9,000 leases right now that they are not utilizing—and why? Because they are making record profits.

I would also say to my colleagues that the underlying bill that we are dealing with here today contains a lot of good stuff. The gentleman from Oklahoma alluded to it in his opening remarks about the incredible investments in medical research.

I was at the White House, as was the gentleman from Oklahoma, when President Biden announced the re-

launch of his Cancer Moonshot program. I mean, the issue when it comes to curing cancer is not whether we can. The issue is when we will do it. That depends on investments. That depends on supporting innovation and medical research. This bill does that. That is a good thing. It should bring us all together.

As we have talked about, we are going to deal with a bill to help Ukraine, especially with humanitarian assistance, given the refugee crisis. We are going to strengthen the Global Magnitsky law so that we have stronger human rights language, which some of my friends on the other side of the aisle, unfortunately, have opposed.

I am reading in The New York Times today an article, "Republicans, Once Harsh Ukraine Critics, Pivot to Strong Support." I am glad about that. I am hoping that the people who called Ukraine the most corrupt country in the world under the previous administration will now at least vote to support that country as they are under attack by Vladimir Putin.

Anyway, there is some really good stuff in this bill, and I am looking forward to getting to the debate on this.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just to remind my friend, it was the last administration that actually began lethal aid to Ukraine. The Obama administration did not. The record there is pretty clear as to who has helped the Ukrainians.

Madam Speaker, to further discuss the need to get America out from under the thumb of Russia, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and my good friend.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to oppose the previous question so we can immediately pass the American Energy Independence from Russia Act. I would like to thank Ranking Member CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS for her leadership on this.

Really, the question is simple. I think we are missing the point. The question here is: Is the President of the United States going to pick America, or is he going to pick our enemies? That is the debate here.

Step one was great, and I am glad that we are going to support Ukraine. I was there 5 weeks ago; we need to support Ukraine.

Step two is we need the President to support America. Energy security is national security, Mr. President. It is time to put Midland over Moscow.

Unfortunately, that security has been under assault for decades but most recently beginning on January 20, 2021. The administration is leading the assault on energy. The reality is that American energy is the cleanest in the world, but the President and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle refuse to acknowledge that fact and unleash it.



Instead, they are choosing, the President is choosing, our adversaries, terrorists, and begging them to produce more when we can do it right here.

Instead of calling on the 10 million Americans who do it every single day, we are outsourcing production to adversaries like Russia, Iran, Venezuela, and they are harming our environment even more.

The war on Ukraine is horrifying, and it is heartbreaking. When I sat with President Zelensky, he said that the impetus to invade his country came from the fact that Nord Stream existed.

Our President green-lighted Nord Stream but canceled the Keystone pipeline. Right now, today, there are six LNG terminals that the President, with the stroke of a pen, could approve.

Are we going to pick the United States of America, or are we going to pick our adversaries?

The United States should not be energy dependent. We should be energy dominant. Put Midland over Moscow. Unleash American LNG. Restart oil and gas leasing on Federal lands, and protect our own country. Pick our country.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, the gentleman asked a question: Are we going to pick America or our adversaries? Interesting question. My friends on the other side have spent all of their time criticizing President Biden and very little mention of Putin. I think that says it all.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, for further explanation of our energy independence bill, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), my very good friend and fellow Oklahoman.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. COLE for yielding.

I rise today in opposition to the previous question so that we can immediately consider H.R. 6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.

Gas prices are at a record high, and unfortunately, they will continue to rise.

While the Russian invasion of Ukraine has worsened the crisis, it is not the sole cause. The root cause of high energy and gas prices is due to the anti-energy policies of the Biden administration, which suspended all oil and gas leasing on Federal lands, slow-walked liquefied natural gas exports, and halted construction of the Keystone XL pipeline while green-lighting Russia's Nord Stream 2.

These steps allowed Putin to corner the energy market and fund his invasion of Ukraine. American dollars can no longer go to countries whose interests run counter to America.

□ 1015

America produces some of the cleanest oil and gas in the world. If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to lower emissions and promote clean energy, they would rely on American oil and gas production in States like my home State of Oklahoma, not foreign countries like Russia, Venezuela, and even Iran.

Oklahomans are tired of inaction from Washington. They expect solutions. We cannot continue to tap into the strategic petroleum reserve, which is at some of the lowest levels since 2003. In addition, releasing 30 million barrels is only enough to meet our Nation's energy requirements for about a day.

Sadly, this week House Democrats are not bringing forward a single piece of legislation to address the energy crisis.

Under the Trump administration, America was energy independent and a net total energy exporter for the first time since 1952.

Madam Speaker, energy security is national security. Sadly, under this administration, we have neither.

Congress must act immediately to take up the American Energy Independence From Russia Act.

This legislation would promote America's oil and natural gas production and unleash American energy independence once again.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE).

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 173, nays 255, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 62]

YEAS—173

Aderholt	Bucshon	Ellzey
Allen	Budd	Emmer
Amodei	Burchett	Estes
Armstrong	Burgess	Fallon
Arrington	Cammack	Feenstra
Babin	Carey	Ferguson
Baird	Carl	Fischbach
Balderson	Carter (GA)	Fitzgerald
Banks	Chabot	Fleischmann
Barr	Cline	Foxx
Bentz	Cloud	Franklin, C.
Bergman	Clyde	Scott
Biggs	Comer	Fulcher
Bilirakis	Crawford	Gaetz
Bishop (NC)	Crenshaw	Gallagher
Boebert	Curtis	Garbarino
Bost	Davidson	Garcia (CA)
Brady	Davis, Rodney	Gibbs
Brooks	DesJarlais	Gimenez
Buchanan	Donalds	Gohmert
Buck	Duncan	Gonzales, Tony

Good (VA)	Latta	Rosendale
Gooden (TX)	LaTurner	Rouzer
Gosar	Lesko	Roy
Granger	Letlow	Rutherford
Graves (LA)	Long	Salazar
Green (TN)	Loudermilk	Scalise
Greene (GA)	Lucas	Schweikert
Griffith	Luetkemeyer	Scott, Austin
Grothman	Mace	Sessions
Guest	Mann	Smucker
Guthrie	Massie	Spartz
Harris	Mast	Steel
Harshbarger	McCarthy	Stefanik
Hern	McCaul	Steil
Herrell	McClain	Steube
Herrera Beutler	McClintock	Stewart
Hice (GA)	Meuser	Taylor
Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Tenney
Hill	Miller (WV)	Thompson (PA)
Hollingsworth	Moolenaar	Tiffany
Hudson	Mooney	Timmons
Huizenga	Moore (AL)	Upton
Issa	Moore (UT)	Valadao
Jackson	Mullin	Van Drew
Jacobs (NY)	Murphy (NC)	Van Dуйne
Johnson (LA)	Newhouse	Wagner
Johnson (OH)	Norman	Walberg
Jordan	Obernalte	Walorski
Joyce (OH)	Owens	Waltz
Joyce (PA)	Palazzo	Weber (TX)
Keller	Palmer	Webster (FL)
Kelly (MS)	Perry	Wenstrup
Kelly (PA)	Pfenger	Westerman
Kustoff	Posey	Williams (TX)
LaHood	Reschenthaler	Wilson (SC)
LaMalfa	Rodgers (WA)	Wittman
Lamborn	Rose	Young

NAYS—255

Adams	DeFazio	Kilmer
Aguilar	DeGette	Kim (CA)
Allred	DeLauro	Kim (NJ)
Auchincloss	DelBene	Kind
Axne	Delgado	Kirkpatrick
Bacon	Demings	Krishnamoorthi
Barragan	DeSaulnier	Kuster
Bass	Deutch	Lamb
Beatty	Diaz-Balart	Langevin
Bera	Dingell	Larsen (WA)
Beyer	Doggett	Larson (CT)
Bice (OK)	Doyle, Michael	Lawrence
Bishop (GA)	F.	Lawson (FL)
Blumenauer	Dunn	Lee (CA)
Blunt Rochester	Escobar	Lee (NV)
Bonamici	Eshoo	Leger Fernandez
Bourdeaux	Espallat	Levin (CA)
Bowman	Evans	Levin (MI)
Boyle, Brendan	Fitzpatrick	Lieu
F.	Fletcher	Lofgren
Brown (MD)	Fortenberry	Lowenthal
Brown (OH)	Foster	Luria
Brownley	Frankel, Lois	Lynch
Bush	Gallego	Malinowski
Bustos	Garamendi	Malliotakis
Butterfield	Garcia (IL)	Maloney
Calvert	Garcia (TX)	Carolyn B.
Carbajal	Golden	Maloney, Sean
Cárdenas	Gomez	Manning
Carson	Gonzalez (OH)	Matsui
Carter (LA)	Gonzalez,	McBath
Carter (TX)	Vicente	McCollum
Cartwright	Gottheimer	McEachin
Case	Graves (MO)	McGovern
Casten	Green, Al (TX)	McHenry
Castor (FL)	Grijalva	McKinley
Castro (TX)	Harder (CA)	McNerney
Cheney	Hayes	Meeks
Cherfilus-	Higgins (NY)	Meijer
McCormick	Himes	Meng
Chu	Hinson	Mfume
Cicilline	Horsford	Miller-Meeks
Clark (MA)	Houlihan	Moore (WI)
Clarke (NY)	Hoyer	Morelle
Cleaver	Huffman	Moulton
Clyburn	Jackson Lee	Mrvan
Cohen	Jacobs (CA)	Murphy (FL)
Cole	Jayapal	Nadler
Connolly	Jeffries	Napolitano
Cooper	Johnson (GA)	Neal
Correa	Johnson (SD)	Neguse
Costa	Johnson (TX)	Newman
Courtney	Jones	Norcross
Craig	Kabele	O'Halleran
Crist	Kaptur	Ocasio-Cortez
Crow	Katko	Omar
Cuellar	Keating	Pallone
Davids (KS)	Kelly (IL)	Panetta
Davis, Danny K.	Khanna	Pappas
Dean	Kildee	Pascrell