

as a Durango police officer, as the Bayfield marshal, as a deputy in the sheriff's office, and finally as the La Plata County sheriff for 20 years.

Sheriff Schirard fought the good fight, and he finished his race well. His watch may be over, but the community he protected will forever be better because of his efforts day in and day out.

While others ran away from danger, he ran toward it and woke up with courage each and every day to serve and protect his community. He strove to create peace, for "blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

I grieve with the people of La Plata County and with Sheriff Schirard's family—his two sons, four stepchildren, and three grandchildren—and with his extended family in the La Plata County Sheriff's Office who were positively impacted by Sheriff Schirard's exemplary life of service.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MENTORSHIP MONTH

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

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, as chair of the Congressional Youth Mentoring Caucus, I rise to recognize National Mentoring Month, a time to celebrate the impact of mentoring and raise awareness about the critical need for caring adults to become mentors, as our youth face the often-overwhelming challenges of our time.

One-third of young people in the United States don't have a meaningful connection with adults outside their homes, and the pandemic has only made it harder for them to call on caring adults for support.

Mentoring has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my adult life, allowing me to participate in the personal and professional growth of scores of young people. I am fortunate to be able to continue that mentoring with some of the best and brightest young people in my district through our Congressional Youth Cabinet, where high school juniors and seniors in my district, on a monthly basis, explore the policy and government issues facing our community and our country.

I urge all adults to think about how they can serve their communities and the next generation by becoming a mentor, whether through sports, career exploration, school, or faith-based programs.

ADDRESSING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S COVID CRISIS

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

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the devastating impacts on American lives and business because of Biden's lack of preparedness in handling COVID-19.

The disruptive testing shortages and record-breaking number of cases are a direct result of Biden's failed leadership.

In the spring, the administration ignored a request from a health agency to purchase millions of rapid tests and then rejected a proposal for free rapid tests for the holidays back in October.

To solve this self-inflicted shortage, this administration's new plan will require private insurers to cover the cost of tests instead of using the nearly half a trillion dollars from the COVID relief bill passed last March.

Madam Speaker, Biden has failed to deliver on his promises to the American people. He said he would shut down COVID-19 and that all Americans would have access to regular, reliable, and free testing. Sadly, that couldn't be further from the truth.

CAITLIN CLARK SETS NEW RECORD

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a record-setting student-athlete at the University of Iowa.

On January 2, sophomore guard Caitlin Clark became the fastest player in Big Ten history to reach 1,000 career points. She accomplished this in just 40 games, passing the previous record holder from Ohio State.

Reaching this mark against Evansville University, Caitlin put up a career-high 44 points in the 93-56 win for the Hawkeyes.

A lifelong Iowan, Caitlin was named a high school All-American before coming to Iowa City and earning numerous accolades as a freshman, including Big Ten Freshman of the Year, First Team All-Big Ten, National Freshman of the Year, and First Team All-American honors.

Congratulations to Caitlin. I look forward to watching her continue to dominate for the next 2 years. Go Iowa, and Go Hawkeyes.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S FAILURES CAUSE SUFFERING

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

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I am a firm believer that when the President of the United States does well, be it Republican or Democrat, we as America benefit the most. Unfortunately, President Biden's performance during his first year in office has been absolutely terrible, and virtually all Americans are suffering because of his failures.

There is so much about this President that actually frustrates me. He left behind Americans in Afghanistan, and he has completely refused to secure our southern border. Meanwhile,

he is punishing hardworking Americans by imposing illegal vaccine mandates on them.

All across America, businesses are struggling to keep their doors open and their shelves stocked, but President Biden has done nothing to fix these issues.

I am urging President Biden to show up and work on leadership for a change. The American people deserve much, much more and much better than what they are receiving today.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION ALLOWS BORDER VIOLATIONS

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind the American people that our national security is still under attack at the U.S.-Mexico border. The violation of our borders has been allowed to happen and is even facilitated by the Biden administration for nearly a year.

Since Joe Biden took office, over 1.7 million illegal immigrants have been apprehended at the southern border. What is worse, Joe is flying these individuals deeper into our Nation with a ticket you paid for.

Because of President Biden's failed open border policies, more drugs have been smuggled into our neighborhoods than ever before. CBP estimates that nearly 1,200 pounds of fentanyl were apprehended last year alone, doubling from the prior year.

Fentanyl flowing through Joe's open border has caused unthinkable harm by poisoning our communities and killing our children.

The Biden administration's failure has had costly consequences. Cartels are profiting while Americans are paying with their tax dollars, safety, and lives.

Border security is national security. It is time to stop risking the safety of innocents for the sake of politics. This crisis has gone on long enough. Americans deserve better. They deserve a closed border, and they deserve to be safe.

PREVENTING CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss an important issue in Alabama and across the Nation. Chronic wasting disease is a neurological disease that affects deer, moose, and elk, and it is 100 percent fatal. Unfortunately, there is no known cure. CWD could absolutely devastate deer hunting in Alabama and the revenue it brings in each year.

I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 5608, the Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Management Act, which passed the House of Representatives last month.

This bill will help research and prevent chronic wasting disease from spreading further, protecting Alabama's deer herds, outdoor economy, and traditions.

Last week, the first case of CWD was reported in Alabama. While there is currently only one case, it is important that we do what we can to prevent this terrible disease from spreading even further. I am hopeful the Senate will answer the call and take up this legislation so important to Alabama and our Nation.

I will do whatever I can in Washington to help prevent CWD from taking hold in Alabama.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1836, GUARD AND RESERVE GI BILL PARITY ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4673, ENSURING VETERANS' SMOOTH TRANSITION ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 860 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 860

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1836) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the time during which members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty for training qualifies for educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-25 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further 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 Veterans' Affairs or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; and (3) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. After debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. All points of order against the further amendments printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules are waived.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the

bill (H.R. 4673) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the automatic enrollment of eligible veterans in patient enrollment system of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-26 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further 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 Veterans' Affairs or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 4 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 5 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. After debate pursuant to section 3 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 5 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 5. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 3 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 6. All points of order against the further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules or amendments en bloc described in section 5 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 7. House Resolution 188, agreed to March 8, 2021 (as most recently amended by House Resolution 829, agreed to December 2, 2021), is amended by striking January 21, 2022" each place it appears and inserting (in each instance) "February 4, 2022".

□ 1230

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HAYES). The gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER) 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. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers 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 Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 860. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1836, the Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, makes in order two amendments, and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4673, the EVEST Act, under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The rule also makes in order five amendments, provides the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with en bloc authority, and provides one motion to recommit.

Finally, the rule provides for recess instructions, suspension authority, and same-day authority through February 4, 2022.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased we are here today to provide for consideration of two important bills to support our Nation's veterans.

H.R. 1836, the Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act will make important improvements to the way GI Bill benefits are calculated for our National Guard and Reserve veterans. Since 9/11, our seven individual Reserve and Guard components of the United States Armed Forces have played a larger and larger role in military operations. Despite putting on the same uniform and taking on many of the same risks as their Active Duty counterparts, these servicemembers don't have access to the same benefits.

Under current law, active component servicemembers receive credit for every day they serve while reserve component and National Guard servicemembers earn credit depending on their duty status. H.R. 1836 would expand eligibility for the GI Bill to count every day a servicemember is paid and in uniform toward benefit eligibility and ensure parity for National Guard and Reserve members. It only makes common sense. This service would include all training and general duty for which basic pay is warranted.

These men and women answer the call to serve without hesitation. Our National Guard has stepped up these last several years to assist in the fight against COVID-19, help communities affected by natural disasters, as in Colorado, we had a terrible wildfire a week ago and the National Guard stepped up, and even protecting our Capitol following a domestic terrorist attack. It is past time these servicemembers have access to the GI benefits they deserve.