

A poll by Pew Research Center found that 94 percent of those asked said it was easy to vote. Thankfully there appears to be no path to get the votes needed to pass this danger to democracy bill in the Senate.

MARCH FOR LIFE IS A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, later this week, tens of thousands of Americans will travel to D.C. to take part in the 48th March for Life.

They will not be alone. Across the country, Americans will march to their State capitals in protest of the Roe v. Wade decision.

This march is a celebration of life. It is a march full of joy. It is inspiring, it is peaceful, and it is welcoming to all who wish to attend.

Today, it continues to be the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world. The goal is simple, to celebrate life with the hope that one day we live in a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected.

This year's theme is equality begins in the womb. As Jeanne Mancini, president of the March of Life said best, "As our country continues to advance along the path to a more just society, we cannot ignore the discrimination that is taking place against vulnerable unborn babies. . . ."

In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson penned three unalienable rights, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

As Members of Congress, it is our job to uphold those rights.

Since coming to Congress in 2009, I am proud to be a strong proponent of standing for life and giving a voice to the voiceless.

Many of my colleagues have introduced legislation to advance the pro-life cause. I am proud to cosponsor many of these bills, including the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, the Sanctity of Human Life Act, the Protecting the Dignity of the Unborn Children Act, and the Life at Conception Act.

In addition, I proudly stand on this House floor advocating for these policies and thwarting any attacks on the unborn.

Madam Speaker, our country is at a turning point. Right now we are experiencing the most pro-abortion administration in our history.

For the first time in over four decades, Democrats removed the Hyde amendment from legislation. This amendment is a bipartisan agreement which prevents direct taxpayer funding of abortion and is supported by 77 percent of Americans.

As pro-abortion advocates continue to try to stifle one of our unalienable rights, I know this House will continue to work tirelessly at the Federal level to put the health and safety of women and children first.

As long as the cloud of abortion looms over our country, we must con-

tinue to be the shining light for those who cannot defend themselves.

Now I am proud of the brave women, men, and children who will travel to Washington this week.

We must always be a voice for the voiceless. And we must continue to build a culture that values life and respects mothers and their children.

Ahead of this year's march, I stand here and redouble my commitment to protecting the most vulnerable among us, the unborn.

□ 1045

#### ADDRESSING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, the trauma, disruption, stress, and isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly accelerated the mental health crisis facing our young people. I have seen this reflected in my own community. My alma mater, Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville, Illinois, has lost two students to suicide just this school year.

These are not isolated events. We are seeing the impacts of the youth mental health crisis play out in schools and communities across my district and across the Nation. Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago has seen the number of children admitted as a result of suicide attempts increase from two to three children per month to two to three per day. There are now 3,000 children on their waitlist for outpatient mental healthcare. This is absolutely heartbreaking.

However, I find hope in seeing young people in my community stand up in the face of tragedy and demand solutions from their schools and government officials. They shouldn't have to do this, but they are organizing, participating in school board meetings, and writing and calling my office. I want them to know that I hear them, and I am fighting for them.

This summer, I introduced the Child Suicide Prevention and Lethal Means Safety Act to invest in educating healthcare providers and evidence-based youth suicide prevention measures. It is absolutely critical that we act immediately to address the growing unmet need for more school-based mental health providers.

That is why I am fighting for the maximum possible funding through the Department of Education for the school-based mental health workforce in the omnibus appropriations package. I am inviting all Members to join this bipartisan effort.

Last month, I was proud to join Assistant Speaker KATHERINE CLARK to introduce the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Act to provide consistent, long-term funding to support schools in hiring more school-based mental health providers and

meet the recommended student-to-provider ratios.

As we begin another year of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, we must target resources toward supporting the mental health of kids in school. As U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy warned in his recent advisory on youth mental health: "It would be a tragedy if we beat back one public health crisis only to allow another to grow in its place."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both the House and Senate to work together and across the aisle to pass legislation, including a fiscal year 2022 spending package, that makes necessary investments in combating the mental health crisis facing young people.

We must seize this critical opportunity to build better, safer, and more supportive environments for our young people to grow and thrive.

#### UNDERSTANDING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S FAILURES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because I need this Congress to understand the failures of President Biden as our Nation's Commander in Chief.

This administration was handed the reins to a country that had an economy that was ready to bounce back after pandemic restrictions, a southern border that was more secure than any other point in our Nation's history, and a foreign policy that had us respected around the globe. Instead of simply being a caretaker, who ran on being a unifying force—and I want to say that again; he ran on being a unifying force—this President chose to play politics of division from day one and began dismantling all the positive policies of President Trump.

In January 2021, the President halted construction of the border wall and overturned countless immigration policies that clearly worked. These policies stopped dangerous caravans from bringing thousands of illegal aliens to our southern border. These policies protected thousands of illegals from the horrors of human trafficking, and these policies kept not only our country's borders safe but the community of the entire world safe as well.

In this President's first year, he chose to spend trillions of American tax dollars on COVID relief. He spent those dollars on the backs of our children and grandchildren when there was nearly a trillion dollars from previous relief packages still unspent.

This wasteful spending that has included payments to keep people from working has led to our Nation's supply chain disaster and the highest inflation in nearly 40 years, not to mention the labor shortage that we are facing now.

Last week, President Biden gave a speech in Georgia that was not only divisive and hateful but downright despicable—from the man who ran on: I am going to unify this country.

He demanded that Congress give him what he wants, and anyone who opposes him is a racist and a bigot. Seriously? That is the best you have? When you can't debate the issues, you resort to calling half of the American people and anyone who doesn't agree with you a racist and a bigot? I think the American people deserve a little bit better.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle railed against President Trump for anything they deemed divisive. So I ask them this: Will they condemn this? Will they condemn their President for calling half of all Americans racist? I doubt it.

Madam Speaker, I grew up through the disastrous Presidency of Jimmy Carter. President Carter is often considered the worst President in modern history. It appears President Biden wants to take that crown.

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

#### HIGHLIGHTING THE LEFT'S COVID HYPOCRISY

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

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the left's widespread misinformation and hypocrisy surrounding the coronavirus pandemic.

After repeatedly promising to shut down COVID-19 and vowing that all Americans would have access to regular, reliable, and free testing, the Biden administration has added a new crisis to its growing list of failures: the COVID crisis.

As our Nation faces a testing shortage, which began before the holiday season, I find it appropriate to quote President Biden himself from 2020: "Where are the tests, Mr. President?"

Considering all the coronavirus funding that Congress has provided the administration, that is the multitrillion-dollar question that has only been answered with deflection and poor leadership.

Interestingly, now that the coronavirus death count is higher under President Biden than President Trump, the Centers for Disease Control, or the CDC, is apparently separating the data now to reveal how many Americans have died with COVID compared to how many have died from COVID.

Republicans have been shouting this difference from the rooftops for over 2 years, during which the left quickly labeled our valid concerns as conspiracies. Yet, when the important difference can provide cover to the President, Democrats jump on board, and the leftwing media hides the hypocrisy. How convenient.

In fact, CDC Director Walensky recently admitted that 75 percent—yes, 75 percent—of COVID deaths occurred in people with at least four comorbidities.

Every life is precious, and families deserve the truth. The question must be answered: How many Americans died with COVID compared to how many died from COVID? Our government agencies should have been reporting health data accurately from the beginning, not as a matter of political cover.

Since Biden can't shut down COVID, suddenly, this data is being shared publicly. It is no wonder polling indicates that public trust in the CDC is plummeting.

Science is respected when people are skeptical, when people ask questions. None of that is happening now. Nobody questions the outcomes. And we wonder why the CDC has lost credibility. We wonder why people think the new meaning of the acronym is the center for Democrat control.

Keep in mind, this is all unfolding as we discover more evidence that Dr. Fauci, the highest-paid government official—an unelected one, I might add—has continuously concealed the truth concerning gain of function research at the Chinese Wuhan Institute of Virology, including his own knowledge and his own involvement.

Meanwhile, the administration continues to seek his deceptive guidance to push the narrative that we need more government control. Fauci's lies, the CDC's total lack of credibility, and the President's inability to rise to the moment and effectively lead all contribute to the COVID crisis, causing great damage and harm to the American people.

#### SUPPORTING SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the sanctity of human life.

Later this week, on January 22, our Nation will mourn the 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, a treacherous decision that has led to the murder of more than 62 million innocent babies. That is more than 62 million dreams never achieved, talents never realized, and lives never lived. In the blink of an eye, their chance of a happy life and a promising future has vanished. May God have mercy on their unborn souls.

What an unspeakable tragedy that corrupts the morals and values that our great country was founded on over two centuries ago. I am proud to have cosponsored H. Res. 58, led by my good friend JODY HICE, to memorialize the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* as the day of tears by lowering our flag to half-staff each year in honor of the unborn lives lost to the evils of abortion.

After being involved with the crisis pregnancy center in Athens, Georgia, for nearly two decades, I can confirm to you that the consequences of abortion go well beyond the murder of millions of precious lives. Despite being portrayed as a simple and quick solu-

tion, abortion ultimately alters at least three lives instead of one: a child that is lost forever, a mother that is scarred for life, and a father that is burdened with lifelong guilt.

We must never downplay the evils of abortion. As an unapologetic pro-life advocate, I am proud to defend the unborn and fight for the sanctity of life because every life is invaluable, worthy, and made in the perfect image of God.

#### ENDING THE SCOURGE OF ABORTION IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, all children are created by God at conception with a purpose. We must continue our work to end the scourge of abortion in America without exception.

The strides that we have made for the pro-life movement over recent years are incredible, and I am honored to be part of a group of such hard-working pro-life legislators.

Our daughters are part of the pro-life generation, full of students and young women that want to protect life in the womb. They have seen their siblings in sonograms. They have seen the pictures, and when they are told it is a glob of tissue, they know better.

I introduced the Protecting Life on College Campuses Act, which would prohibit any Federal funds from going to a college or university which is supplying dangerous chemical abortion pills.

This past Christmas, the week before Christmas, while no one was looking, the Biden administration and Governor Pritzker advanced very radical abortion policies, which are deeply unpopular with the American people. They want to remove parental involvement every step of the way for minors receiving an abortion because they are not pro-choice; they are pro-abortion.

Standing strong in this fight, we are participating in what could be potentially the last March for Life under *Roe*, and I could not be more thrilled.

#### HONORING AND REMEMBERING SHIRLEY WATERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Mrs. Shirley Waters of Rome, New York, for her outstanding leadership and service.

Sadly, Mrs. Waters passed away this December at the age of 100, leaving a legacy of service whose impact is felt throughout our entire area.

Shirley and her late husband, George Waters, have been devoted pillars of our community. The Waters family has owned and published the Rome Daily Sentinel newspaper since 1928. Shirley served as the vice president until her retirement in 2012.