

I ask my colleagues to join me and the citizens of the city of Selma and Dallas County, Alabama, in declaring May 14, 2022, as Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr. Day in celebration of the extraordinary life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Jr., an Alabama gem and an American treasure.

NO CONTROL AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I have been here probably about 16 months now, and I am really getting tired of being right on so many issues in general, just the things we talk about from sort of the right of the political perspective.

We warned that if we spent trillions and trillions of dollars on COVID that we would see inflation as a result. Now, the American people are feeling that pain.

We warned that if we shut down the Keystone pipeline, and then we had to beg OPEC to increase production, we would see an increase in prices. We continue to see that impact the American families.

Today, I am here to yield another warning, and I hope I am wrong on this. I really do. I had an opportunity to go down to the border, and I have been down a couple of times. One of the things that I found very interesting is that people coming to this country are having to deal with the drug cartels.

We no longer have operational control of the southern border, no matter what Secretary Mayorkas says. We don't have control of the southern border.

What is happening is now we have people coming to this country, and they have a couple of different options, depending on where they are coming from. If you are coming from Mexico, just south of the border, you can pay the drug cartels approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000. Those prices, I think, are changing gradually. But if you want to come from the triangle nations a little further south, it will cost you about \$8,000 to come to America.

Syria, the last price I heard was \$20,000. This week, we had a sheriff's department in Texas on a random traffic stop that had two Chinese people who they arrested and detained who had paid \$80,000 each to come to our country.

What do the people do that don't have the money to come to our country? What do they do? What are the policies of Biden's southern border? What do they do? They have a couple of options.

One option is they can become drug mules. If you want to pay passage to the drug cartels, you have an option. You can backpack heroin, fentanyl, or cocaine across the U.S. southern border to pay for your passage to the Mexican drug cartels.

Now, the thing we need to be reminded of is those drugs are not going to stay in those border towns. We saw that this year. We are losing about one person every 5 minutes to fentanyl overdoses. We are setting a new record level.

There were a lot of sad mothers on Mother's Day this past Sunday. I talked to a physician friend of mine in a college town, and she warned me. She said, Barry, we are seeing a lot of young people who see these drugs online. They might think they are getting Xanax, and they are getting something laced with fentanyl.

That is one of the warnings that we are issuing here today: The drugs are coming to a town near you.

The other thing that this policy of crossing our southern border, this open border policy of the Biden administration, the other thing it is doing is creating human trafficking.

We heard a briefing yesterday morning. What happens now is, used to, they would at least separate the child from the mother and do an interview to try to get to the bottom of: Are these people really related, or are these children being trafficked into America?

The Border Patrol agents are so overwhelmed right now on our southern border—the text I heard was “broken arrow,” I believe was the term. They don't even interview now. We are putting these children on buses. We don't know what cities we are sending them to.

I remember asking an admiral at Fort Bliss: Sir, what are we doing with these children? Where are they going? He said: Well, we are shipping them to addresses.

My question was: Why don't we send them back to where they came from? Now, these are kids who are 14 to 17 years of age. His response to me was: Well, they don't really have an address where they came from.

You are telling me they lived there most of their life, but we are going to send them to a Google address in America?

We are creating a crisis in this Nation, and I hope I am wrong, but I am afraid I am not. The drugs are coming to your community as the left wants to defund police.

These people are making payments. Most of this money now, the indentured servants and the human traffic, the ones who don't traffic the drugs across in a backpack, they are making installment payments to the cartels south of the border. Most of the money that is being made is being sent south of the border.

We have a ton of statistics here, and I don't want to try to go through this, but let me say this: Under this administration, instead of every 30 years, about every 30 to 40 days, we are seeing a new historic event, whether it is inflation, gas prices, the border crisis, or the number of deaths as a result of drug overdoses.

Again, I hope I am wrong on this, but let me say this for all of our friends: I

hope you will go see the border. I would encourage the President, the Vice President: Please, go see what is going on.

We have an invasion on the southern border. We do not have operational control anymore of the southern border. The drug cartels are controlling our southern border, and it is estimated that they are going to make close to \$100 billion on just human trafficking across the border alone. That does not count their drug profits.

We have a crisis on our southern border, and I will say this: A closed border is a compassionate border.

EXTREMELY DANGEROUS DECISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PINGREE). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Mrs. TRAHAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, our colleagues in the Senate held a key vote on legislation to codify women's reproductive rights that have been guaranteed under Roe v. Wade for the past 50 years.

Senators had the opportunity to go on the record to show their support for protecting the health and safety of every woman in America. That vote failed.

Madam Speaker, 51 Senators voted against the Women's Health Protection Act, joining the 211 House Members who, in the wake of the Supreme Court's draft opinion overturning Roe, support rolling back women's rights.

Madam Speaker, as a woman, I am horrified by what has taken place in the past week. As a mom, I am terrified for what the future holds for my two young girls.

As a Member of this body, I am infuriated by those who will stand here on this floor in the people's House and tell women that the rights we have cherished for the past 50 years were a mistake, that they should be undone with the stroke of a pen.

Make no mistake: This decision from the Supreme Court, or anything remotely close to it, is extremely dangerous. For tens of millions of women, it will mean losing access to lifesaving reproductive health services, and it will happen overnight.

In States like Texas and Alabama, it will mean that the victims of rape or incest will be forced to carry their traumatic, unwanted pregnancies to term.

To my colleagues who support that kind of future, I ask you if you can face your mother and explain to her why, if you can look at your daughter or your granddaughter in the eyes and say that she doesn't deserve the same rights as her brothers or her male classmates.

Over the past week, I have heard those who support Judge Alito's draft opinion in my home State say that we live in Massachusetts, so we don't have anything to worry about. However, that stance is flawed.

Yes, women in Massachusetts and other States that have done the right thing by codifying Roe will be safe, but for how long? Anti-choice activists and elected officials across the country, including many in this Chamber, have made it clear that they want to ban every woman in America from accessing abortion care.

They don't care about States' rights. They want to override State laws that protect our reproductive rights because they want to eliminate our ability to control our own bodies.

Well, I have news for those folks. History has shown us, with brutal clarity, that you will never ban abortions. You will just ban the safe ones.

Women, particularly women of color and those from low-income backgrounds, will be forced into the alleys for their abortion care. Many women will die from unsafe procedures.

While families mourn an empty seat at the dinner table, the wealthiest in America, including many who cheered on Judge Alito, will find ways to access that same care. But they will do it in secret to avoid the prosecution they want for others and the display of their own hypocrisy.

□ 1100

That is not the America I want my girls to grow up in. It is not the country I want for any of our daughters to grow up in.

So I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stop thinking about the political ramifications of supporting women and to start thinking about what could happen to the women in your own life if you succeed.

There is still time to do the right thing. So join us, or at the very least, get out of our way. Our daughters are depending on us.

CONGRATULATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS AT PELLA HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of some outstanding students in my district.

Recently, the Principles of Engineering Class at Pella High School won the high school division of the Build Iowa's Future Design Challenge. This design challenge asks students to create innovative projects to improve their community.

Pella is the home of some global, worldwide excellent manufacturing facilities, such as Pella windows and Vermeer manufacturing, so the students drew inspiration from their own hometown.

The class designed an advanced manufacturing lab to be created at the Career Academy of Pella to provide experiences and opportunities for students looking to pursue a career in manufacturing.

Congratulations to Isaac, Crista, Jack, Stephen, Kaysar, Emmalee, Grace, Wyatt, and Jackson on the win. I am thrilled to acknowledge these high school students and to see them introduce innovative solutions to the growing field of manufacturing, and I am excited to see these students become leaders of tomorrow.

Recognizing Sarah Watson

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sarah Watson.

Sarah is a University of Iowa graduate, where she was editor of the student-run newspaper, The Daily Iowan. Sarah took her talents to Quad-City Times following graduation where she reports on politics and elections.

During Sarah's time at Quad-City Times, she has reported on pertinent veterans' issues and the full breakdown of legislation introduced at the local, State, and Federal levels.

Sarah's commitment to journalism has not gone unnoticed. Recently, Sarah was awarded the Jay P. Wagner Prize for Young Journalists by the Iowa Newspaper Association. This award is dedicated to the late Jay P. Wagner, an Iowa newspaper reporter and editor who had a passion for encouraging young reporters to report on local communities. This award is awarded to journalists 30 years old or younger who display a deep passion and love for Iowa and its people.

I can think of no person more deserving of this award than Sarah. Her drive to inform the community on issues and topics in their government is unmatched, and I am proud to have journalists like her reporting on issues in my district.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JOSEPH AND MATTHEW MARTINO

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I would also like to take a minute to recognize the birthday of my nephews, Joseph and Matthew Martino.

Happy birthday to Joseph and Matthew.

REMEMBERING WALTER MONDALE

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

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, the memorial service for former Vice President Walter Mondale was held last week.

Unbeknownst to him, Mondale had a major impact on my life and on the lives of other refugees fleeing violence and oppression in Southeast Asia. The moral courage he displayed then should influence and inspire world leaders now as we confront a new refugee crisis spawned by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The Carter-Mondale administration took office in 1977 in the aftermath of the end of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war. Because my parents had worked with American and South Vietnamese forces during the war, they faced persecution by the communist government that had taken over.

In 1979, we were finally able to escape by boat. Unfortunately for us, we ran out of fuel in international waters. But, fortunately, a U.S. Navy ship responded to our distress call, and the sailors gave us the fuel and supplies we needed to reach a Malaysian refugee camp. We were the beneficiaries of American power and generosity.

My family's physical journey from Vietnam to America and our emotional journey from darkness to light was only possible because of policy decisions made by this Nation's leaders.

After Saigon fell to communist forces in 1975, President Ford permitted about 130,000 South Vietnamese citizens into the United States. But after that, America's gates were essentially closed to refugees from Southeast Asia, even though the situation on the ground continued to deteriorate.

Former U.S. allies were being sent to what was called reeducation camps. They were essentially hard labor camps, and many of them didn't survive.

When Carter and Mondale entered the White House, many Vietnamese families, including mine, were taking their chances on the high seas. We were collectively known as the Vietnamese boat people. There was debate within the U.S. Government about what to do. Some policymakers thought America had done enough. Others believed this country could do more. Carter and Mondale ultimately sided with the advocates for additional action, even though the weight of public opinion was against them.

Mondale chaired a meeting during which he grew impatient with officials from the Defense and State departments. "Are you telling me that we have thousands of people drowning in the open sea, and we have the 7th Fleet right there, and we can't help them?" he asked.

Although some Navy officials were reluctant to use American ships to rescue refugees, Mondale overruled them, and the Navy soon came to cherish their humanitarian role. As one ship commander involved in a rescue operation told Mondale: "I thought it would demoralize my sailors, but I was dead wrong. It's going to make a difference to the way those people think about America. Because when their life was at risk, they saw this ship with an American flag come up and these young guys go down and pick them up . . . It's hard to stay mad at a policy like that."

Of course, saving refugees was only half the battle. Refugees also needed to find countries willing to accept them. Again, Mondale led the country and the world.

In July 1979, Carter sent Mondale to Geneva to address a U.N. conference where Mondale delivered an eloquent and effective speech. He invoked the inadequate efforts taken by the international community to assist European Jews fleeing Nazi Germany. In that case, the consequences of inaction were the death camps.