

He has also emboldened Putin by removing sanctions on the Nord Stream 2, therefore making Europe more dependent on Soviet-style energy.

President Biden hasn't taken responsibility for his failed policies. Instead, he is trying to cover them up or blame others.

We must flip the switch on American energy production and reverse the Biden failed energy agenda. Putin is making a killing because of this.

We have the wherewithal in this country to influence world prices by producing ourselves.

INCREASE REPRESENTATION OF AAPI COMMUNITY IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

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

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, during Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we recognize that diversity is more than a cultural exchange that enriches our Nation. It is a tool that we can use to save lives.

Despite being the fastest-growing minority group in our Nation, AAPI communities remain underrepresented in medical research. In 2019, NIH invested less than 1 percent of its budget to support clinical studies in AAPI communities. That is not enough.

In Orange County, our institutions recognize the need to reach all of our communities with medical research. UC Irvine recently received \$750,000 in Federal resources to increase diversity in clinical research, and that money is going to help AAPI communities benefit from the university's groundbreaking Alzheimer's research.

A medical innovation is only a miracle when it reaches patients in need. The Nation should follow Orange County's lead and work to provide the benefits of publicly funded research to all communities.

AMERICANS ARE HURTING

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, for the millions of Americans struggling under skyrocketing prices, President Biden's attention to this issue is a day late and many dollars short.

For the first year in office, he denied inflation existed and then dismissed it as transitory. Now, he is blaming Putin, even though inflation was already at 7½ percent before Putin's army invaded Ukraine.

It took President Biden almost a year to speak up because he doesn't see inflation as a threat to families. He sees it as a threat to his political problems and his political party's problems.

Since Joe Biden became President, inflation has risen 11 percent; gas prices are at an all-time high; real

wages have gone down 2.6 percent; and our economy is shrinking. This is the result of the President's policies: high prices for food and energy, lower wages, and now a baby formula shortage.

Americans are hurting, and the President's policies are making it worse.

DENOUNCE WHITE SUPREMACY

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. And I rise today to say that those who tolerate hate, perpetuate hate—it is not enough, Mr. Speaker, for us to prosecute the purveyors of the hate. Those who pull the trigger, those white supremacists, it is not enough to prosecute them individually. We have to prosecute hate itself. If we fail to do so, we fail our country.

This is a country that allows us the freedom to move about, to go into stores and to other places of business. Business itself is going to suffer if we don't stop this.

I beg the business community, the Chamber of Commerce: Come out of the shadows.

Where is the business community? Denounce this white supremacy.

Where is the clergy? Denounce this white supremacy.

Join me in a moment of silent prayer for all of those who have suffered.

PROTECT THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, as a Christian and father of four, the issue of abortion is personal to me. I believe an unborn child is a human life, fearfully and wonderfully made and worth protecting.

In the last 50 years, scientific advancements have taught us a great deal about the early stages of life. As early as 5 weeks, babies in the womb have a heartbeat.

Roe v. Wade is an inherently flawed opinion. Nowhere in our Constitution exists the right to abort a child.

Recently, we watched the far left and liberal media attack our Supreme Court Justices after a leaked draft opinion shows that the Court might overturn Roe and give the States the power to decide this issue.

Never content to let a crisis go to waste, the Senate Democrats tried to advance a radical and inhumane bill that would guarantee the right to abort a baby up until the moment of birth—until the very moment of birth.

Shouldn't a debate like this take place in the States, where citizens will have more input on this important issue?

I will continue fighting for the unborn, as well as the radical propaganda

coming out of Washington. We must stop extreme attacks and protect the sanctity of life at all costs.

□ 1230

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAYMOND WADE, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of a beloved member of the Charlton County community, Raymond Wade, Jr.

Tragedy struck our First District community this past week when we lost Raymond, a football star at Charlton County High School. A rising senior, Raymond played cornerback and wide receiver and was a respected leader on his team.

No parent should ever have to bury their child, and when we lose a young man or woman our entire community suffers. Young people bring life, energy, and new ideas to the table, and Raymond was no exception. Among his peers and classmates, Raymond was respected and loved.

Charlton County High School had just begun spring practice and Raymond's football coach, Russ Murray, was excited for what Raymond could do in the fall.

There were nearly 100 people involved in the search for Raymond, exhibiting the impact that he had made. His loss is a tremendous one that has impacted many.

I will be praying for the Wade family and for the Charlton County community, as well as Raymond's friends.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

LACTATION SPACES FOR VETERAN MOMS ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5738) to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5738

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act".

SEC. 2. LACTATION SPACES IN MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 1720K. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the Department

“(a) LACTATION SPACE REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall ensure that each medical center of the Department contains a lactation space.

“(b) NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize an individual to enter a medical center of the Department or portion thereof that the individual is not otherwise authorized to enter.

“(c) LACTATION SPACE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘lactation space’ means a hygienic place, other than a bathroom, that—

- “(1) is shielded from view;
- “(2) is free from intrusion;
- “(3) is accessible to disabled individuals (including such individuals who use wheelchairs);
- “(4) contains a chair and a working surface;
- “(5) is easy to locate;
- “(6) is clearly identified with signage; and
- “(7) is available for use by women veterans and members of the public to express breast milk.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item related to section 1720J the following new item:

“1720K. Lactation spaces in medical centers of the Department.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out section 1720K of title 38, United States Code, as added by this section, not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 5738, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in strong support for H.R. 5738, as amended, the Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act introduced by Chairwoman LURIA. The purpose of this bill is to ensure that each Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center contain a hygienic lactation space that is not a bathroom.

This legislation requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide essential spaces to serve nursing individuals and veteran mothers which are shielded from view, contain a chair and work surface, are free from intrusion, and are accessible to disabled individ-

uals. These spaces should also be easy to locate with clear, identifiable signs, and readily available for veteran moms.

This bill is endorsed by numerous veterans service organizations including the National Veterans Legal Services Program, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Women veterans make up the fastest-growing community within the veteran population. In order to adequately meet their needs, VA needs to provide culturally competent care and resources to ensure they will feel comfortable when they seek care at a VA facility.

This legislation, which ensures safe, dedicated spaces for lactation, further advances VA's mission to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment at its facilities.

Women veterans face many challenges accessing essential VA care benefits. The Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act ensures VA eliminates barriers that may discourage veteran moms from utilizing those benefits.

A vote in support of this bill is a vote for women veterans and shows our dedication to ensuring VA delivers equitable and safe spaces for veteran moms.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5738, the Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act. One of my priorities is strengthening services for women veterans. This bill would do that by ensuring that VA medical facilities have safe, clean, private spaces for them to use for breastfeeding.

VA is already required to create these spaces for VA employees. It is only right that we give veteran mothers who use VA facilities the ability to take care of their families this way as well.

I am grateful to Congresswoman LURIA and Congresswoman HERRERA BEUTLER for their work on this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of it today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA), my good friend, author of H.R. 5738, and the chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, as a mother myself, I rise today in support of the Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act, a bipartisan bill that would ensure every medical facility managed by the Department of Veterans Affairs contains a lactation space.

Representative JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER joined me in introducing this bill in 2021, and I thank her for her leadership on this issue. This is an issue where Congress has worked together in a bipartisan manner, and we

know that more work like this needs to be done.

In 2019, the Fairness for Breastfeeding Mothers Act was signed into law. That legislation required public buildings containing public restrooms to also provide a hygienic space, other than a restroom, for mothers to express milk, not only for employees, but for members of the public as well.

Today, there are 90 VA facilities across the country with designated nursing rooms, but today these spaces are for employees of the VA only, not veteran mothers as well.

The bipartisan Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act expands access to clean, safe, and convenient lactation spaces for all VA medical facilities throughout the country for women who have served our Nation and our military families.

My legislation requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that every medical facility managed by the VA contains a lactation space which is a hygienic place, other than a restroom, is shielded from view, is accessible to disabled individuals as well, contains a chair and a working surface, and is available for use by female veterans, employees of the Department, and members of the public.

Congress must do more to support our veteran mothers and the Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act will improve the quality of life for many of the women who have served our Nation and our military families, while they are accessing VA facilities.

I am grateful for the overwhelming support from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for this important issue, and I advise my colleagues to advance this legislation favorably and ensure that the resources are available for every woman who visits VA facilities.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing this very important legislation, H.R. 5738, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5738, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. 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.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

MST CLAIMS COORDINATION ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill