

vacuuming tax dollars out of the pockets of the private sector at a record pace.

Still, today, the majority will not even propose a budget, much less one that achieves balance, and instead, funds the government and inflates the currency through massive omnibus bills and continuing resolutions.

We need to return to regular order in this House and return to fiscal sanity to rescue this economy from a recession that looms large in what is likely to be a long, hot summer for millions of American families.

OUR ECONOMY IS BOOMING

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the record-breaking number of jobs created under President Biden's watch, his plan to lower costs for hard-working American families, and our plan to continue building a better America.

Since President Biden took office, the economy has added 8.7 million new jobs—8.7 million new jobs. That is staggering. Fun fact, Mr. Speaker, this is the most jobs added in any President's first 16 months. I repeat: The most jobs added in any President's first 16 months. This is historic.

The fact that the economy is booming is no accident. You see, President Biden laid the foundation for an amazing recovery through his American Rescue Plan and vaccination program. This plan got people back to work, kids back in schools, and helped the American economy bounce back.

Together, with President Biden, House Democrats are not only bringing back jobs, but we are growing paychecks for households across the country. Because of this, unemployment is near historic lows, and even better, the number of Americans relying on unemployment benefits has dropped by more than 90 percent. This is huge.

In short, our Nation has recovered 96 percent of the jobs lost during the pandemic and is on track to return to prepandemic employment levels before the end of the year.

Mr. Speaker, this is a direct result of President Biden's leadership, Congress' partnership, and the backing of the American people.

While many Americans are back at work, we have heard calls from hard-working families struggling with the cost of inflation. Sadly, Putin's war against Ukraine is now the biggest single driver of inflation, but we have a plan for this too.

I am proud to report that House Democrats and President Biden are acting to lower gas prices by fighting Putin's price hike. The United States is on track to produce a record amount of oil next year, and coming from Texas, that is music to our ears, and the President is working with the industry to accelerate this output.

Democrats are also laser focused on lowering everyday costs for families at the grocery store, and they are also improving the supply chain. We are fighting for everyday Americans by reducing the cost of everyday goods through the COMPETES Act.

This landmark legislation will lower costs and strengthen our supply chains by making more products right here in America: Made in USA. Again, this will create more jobs.

We also have great news on the Federal deficit. Biden is still on track to drop the budget deficit by \$1.6 trillion this year alone.

Mr. Speaker, another fun fact, President Biden has cut the deficit more this year than any President in history. I repeat, more than any President in history. In contrast, Mr. Speaker, the Trump administration increased the Federal budget deficit every single year they were in office.

All things considered, President Biden and House Democrats are not only working together to continue building a better America for all Americans, but we are delivering on that promise, and we will continue to do just that—delivering on our promise.

□ 1030

PUTTING AMERICANS LAST

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, as the 4-day tour occurs inside the Capitol on January 6, where a loaded, biased committee attempts to parse the words of the President on the day, we have many other crises to deal with in this country that are directly affecting and harming the American people, their ability to do their basic day-to-day operation of their homes, get to their jobs, get their kids to school.

So what are we doing? What are we doing? Chasing January 6. Look at our border right now, where under the current Biden policies, we are attracting the largest caravan ever of illegal aliens heading toward our border. The idea that we are going to get rid of title 42 or just the general porosity of the border anyway. It has been a giant magnet ever since January 20, 2021, when this President came in and started shredding our border policy.

We had success under President Trump, where we had the best control of the border we had in quite a while, with approximately 450 additional miles of rebuilt or new fence that was very effective in those zones.

So what do we have now? We have warehouses and stacks and pallets of fence material, millions of dollars' worth of it, lying about on our southern border being stored instead of installed.

We heard some chatter here a couple months ago from the Biden administration, well, maybe we should just go

ahead and put up those additional pieces there where there are some obvious gaps.

I had a chance to visit Yuma, Arizona a few weeks ago. It was pretty incredible because there would be miles of fence, but there would be these gaps occasionally, and that is where people would pour through illegally. Amazing.

We could rectify that by just filling a lot of the gaps, thereby making our Customs and Border Patrol job much easier by being able to focus on fewer areas instead of wide-open spaces or gaps all along our border.

But, no, it seems to be about some other agenda. 15,000 people possibly will crowd the border here soon under the idea that we are going to possibly let title 42 go. Thankfully, two different courts have stopped that.

So what are we doing? The terrorists come across our border really almost unchecked. They capture a handful of them, but how many are getting by that get away? We don't know that. Are they starting cells right here in our country? Why not?

As we know, in April, there were over 230,000 encounters, they call them, at the southern border. That is the highest in U.S. history for one month. Why is this? Because we have a giant magnet, again, turned on by this administration saying, come on across. You only need to have a sliver of an excuse for asylum.

The asylum law needs to be changed if that is how they are going to enforce it because it has to be for a true threat. You also have to seek asylum in the country closest to you, if you are an asylum seeker and that is what you are really after, but one closest to you, not pick and choose what country you are going to move up to, basically the United States with all the benefits it hands out.

According to polling, when you ask the American people, who are worried about gas and groceries or whether another load of formula is going to come in from Europe on a military transport in time for their small children to be able to have the type of food that they are accustomed to, the majority of Americans disapprove of the Biden administration's operation of our borders, especially the elimination of title 42, which is a health risk issue.

When you talk about the issue of formula, we are putting Americans last, when the Biden administration prioritized shipments of pallets of baby formula to the border holding stations instead of across the fruited plain. It is pretty pathetic. Indeed, it was this administration whose FDA stepped in on the major producer of formula and said: We are going to shut you down because we had a couple of incidents that have been reported.

So what happens? The FDA didn't call back when the company that is the major producer of formula asks, What is it we need to do to be in compliance in your eyes? The administration knew about this, yet they prioritized what

formula was available to go down to the border stations there. Thankfully, recently, we passed legislation so that we could release more supplies to have them be eligible for those who are on assistance.

As we see the disaster on the border, I don't see a single remedy even being talked about by the Biden administration. They don't really care about the American people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, on this Flag Day, when we pause to acknowledge the symbol of liberty and democracy to which we pledge our allegiance, remind us of the significance of Your authority over this land of the free and the brave and the faithfulness to which we are called to give to You.

In this season when we celebrate with cookouts and patriotic festivities, when we stand and salute the national ensign held with great honor in the hands of scouts and veterans, may we pause first in homage to the author of our freedoms in whose hands our lives are held.

And as we consider the multitude of times this emblem of our country has draped the caskets of men and women who have worn the cloth of our Nation, having sacrificed their comforts, their security, their very lives in its defense, may we find strength in the covering of the peace You keep over our land and the solace You provide all those who grieve.

Almighty God, long may our flag wave under the banner of love You hold over us.

In Your sovereign name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) come for-

ward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TAKING ACTION TO END GUN VIOLENCE

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, 1 month ago today, my community of Buffalo was targeted by a racist mass shooter. The lasting toll and trauma of gun violence is evident and perhaps most compelling through the words of Buffalo students in Ms. O'Rourke's class.

Taniya wrote, "I want to be able to go to school and earn my education without the fear of possibly not making it back home because of the color of my skin."

NasZair describes feeling vulnerable because he is Black and worries, "Will my family be safe when we go to the supermarkets?"

Journey says, "I am 13 years old. It is unfair for a middle schooler to regularly think about these things." She asks, "What will you do and the government do to stop these attacks?"

Brianna pleads, "I want someone to do something. I want the government to do their job. Too many mass shootings happened in such a small amount of time."

For students and families in Buffalo and other communities forever changed by mass shootings, now is the time for Congress to do its job and take action to end gun violence.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1173

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Ms. Davids of Kansas.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Peters.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mrs. Cherfilus-McCormick.

Mr. JEFFRIES (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROTECTION FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

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

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Speaker, after three unanimous consent requests of mine that were blocked, Congress will finally vote to provide Supreme Court Justices and their families with more security.

I am glad this bill is coming to the floor as is. The Senate passed it unanimously, 100-0, more than a month ago. Madam Speaker, the House Democrats have delayed it for more than a month.

The question the American public asks is why? Why would you delay it?

We have all known that additional security has been necessary since the Dobbs opinion was leaked last month. Justice Kavanaugh was targeted by an armed and dangerous man who flew clear across the country to kill him. He had zip ties. He had a plan.

Far-left groups have plans to target Justice Amy Coney Barrett and her children. They put out where their children go to school. But Congress kept it here for a month—for a month. These unnecessary delays put the safety of the Justices and their families in danger.

By passing the bill as is, we are sending a clear message to the leftwing radicals: You cannot intimidate the Supreme Court Justices. I hope we all take that message to heart.

How can we forget what Senator SCHUMER said? He didn't just say it—he screamed it—on the steps of the Supreme Court. "You will pay the price. You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions."

I don't know what he meant by, "You will pay the price," because the Supreme Court Justices aren't up for an election. It couldn't be that they would lose at the polls. They are lifetime appointments.

Now, I don't know if that young man who came all the way from California to kill a Justice, if that is what he thought SCHUMER was saying, but what was he saying, "You will pay the price"?

I hope Senator SCHUMER understands that his words have consequences. I believe he should apologize for contributing to this heated climate.

With that said, again, I am glad this bill is finally coming to the floor. It should not have been this hard or taken this long. Every single person in the Senate voted for it: Republican, Democrat, Independent. It sat here for a whole month. Even though we came