

order to enact Green New Deal policies that fail to meet our energy needs, fail to meet the needs that, right now, in the heat of July, are expanding.

It has become abundantly clear that solar panels and windmills cannot produce the power needed to keep the lights on and keep the air-conditioners humming.

This failed pivot to radical energy policies that could lead to rolling blackouts and has led to skyrocketing electric bills across the country needs to be addressed and needs to be addressed right now.

It is time for the Biden administration to protect our energy grid, and it is time to ensure that we are using the resources that we have right here at home to serve the American people. It is not time to turn to OPEC for additional support when we have the resources right here in America. It is time that we come together and serve the American people with the resources that are right here in America.

WHITE HOUSE IS MISLEADING AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, on July 2, the President of the United States sent out this message to small business owners across America: "My message to the companies running gas stations and setting prices at the pump is simple: This is a time of war and global peril. Bring down the price you are charging at the pump to reflect the cost you are paying for the product, and do it now."

When I first read this message, I was perplexed. After all, the President should know that gas stations already offer their fuel at a price just slightly above what they buy from wholesalers. There is basically no room for cost savings at this final step in the supply chain. In fact, most gas stations make their money on what is sold in the convenience store and not at the gas pump.

This ill-advised message does nothing to help solve the problem but only confuses and angers the small business owners who own gas stations and convenience stores. Even billionaire Jeff Bezos called out the White House, saying: "Inflation is far too important a problem for the White House to keep making statements like this. It is either straight-ahead misdirection or a deep misunderstanding of basic market dynamics."

I agree with Mr. Bezos. This is far too important of an issue for the White House to keep misleading the American people. Apparently, President Biden missed the lesson on economics the day they studied it in class, or maybe he has just forgotten what he learned.

The bottom line is that the President needs to take this issue more seriously and stop pointing the blame at others.

First, it was Russia; then, it was the oil companies; and now, it is the gas station owners. It is only a matter of time until the President finds a way to blame this on Republicans or perhaps former President Trump.

Ultimately, the buck stops at the White House, and the President must take responsibility for his anti-energy policies that have made it more and more difficult to explore and drill for oil right here under our feet in the United States.

BAD BEHAVIOR AT NLRB

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the National Labor Relations Board, NLRB, under the Biden administration is so tightly wound around the little finger of union bosses that the circulation has been cut off entirely. Workers and employers are getting stifled at every turn.

Under Republican administrations, the NLRB took practical measures to protect the rights of workers and job creators. The times have indeed changed.

The current NLRB's radical leftward lurch proves one solitary thing: Democrats will always twist themselves into a legislative pretzel to push the progressive policies of Big Labor.

We are seeing a concentrated effort by the NLRB to expand Big Labor's power. For instance, the NLRB is exhuming policies from days gone by like the Joy Silk doctrine, which would allow unions to organize a workplace without ever receiving majority support in a secret ballot election. By eviscerating the secret ballot, a hallmark of democratic elections, card check makes workers more vulnerable to harassment from union organizers.

Don't forget, a prominent union leader testified before the House Education and Labor Committee that union workers need workers' personal information to harass them at the grocery store or in their own homes to pressure them into supporting the union. Their admission tells you all you need to know about the political hackery of unions today.

The Biden-appointed NLRB general counsel has also challenged longstanding precedent regarding employers' rights to educate their employees about the downsides of union representation. General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo believes that such efforts are at odds with the fundamental labor laws of this country.

Yet, this precedent was established in 1948, and no other general counsel ever found reason to challenge such a significant precedent. Coincidence? I think not.

With a union cheerleader as the NLRB general counsel, the current NLRB is hell-bent on supporting the agenda of union bosses. Abruzzo is a

former union executive and is pushing radical pro-union policies.

Having former union employees serve in a union-regulating agency creates a clear conflict of interest. But under the Biden administration, this is the norm, not the exception.

Every level of the NLRB, and the Biden administration, is packed with former union employees. Even his Labor Secretary was a former union boss who still walks the picket lines.

But such actions are totally on brand for this administration. President Biden swore to be the "most pro-union President" in American history, and Big Labor is now the kingpin of this administration. At this rate, President Biden might as well be a stooge.

Republicans must work to rein in the NLRB union's zealotry. Its heavy-handed actions infringe upon the freedoms of workers and hamstring employers.

□ 1215

INFLATION DENIAL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, President Biden has allowed the American people and Main Street businesses to suffer while his reckless spending policies continue to make things even worse.

With this crisis weighing heavy on us all, the President and Senate Democrats are pushing to add a trillion dollars in higher taxes on Main Street small businesses. That will only lead to more higher prices, wage cuts, and supply shortages, exacerbating the inflation problem significantly.

Instead of working to address America's inflation crisis, House Democrats will spend this week pushing for trillions more in government spending, which will only worsen America's inflation crisis further.

Instead of addressing the economic crisis, Democrats are prioritizing liberal initiatives and increasing Federal spending with some accounts receiving double-digit and triple-digit percentage increases.

Some of these out-of-touch woke spending priorities include taxpayer-funded abortion. Funding for FDA—the same agency that failed to prevent the infant formula crisis—has increased 10 percent. And partisan climate change initiatives, even though the American people are facing the highest gas prices on record.

The American people don't need any of these far-left priorities.

They need a responsible spending plan.

They need the Biden administration to unleash American energy independence and domestic production.

They need the Republicans to stop the Biden administration's radical policies from driving our Nation straight into another recession.

President Biden's denial of inflation that his policies have created are leading the Nation straight into said recession.

Last week, June's Consumer Price Index score came out and revealed that inflation has soared 9.1 percent. That is right, the largest 12-month increase in over four decades. I kind of believe 9.1 percent might be a lowball number when it gets right down to kitchen-table issues that regular, everyday Americans have to deal with. So even though inflation is up by 9.1 percent, the American people are paying far more for just about everything, such as gas, approximately 44 percent; airline tickets, 33 percent; used cars, 23 percent; hotels, 23 percent; suits, 22 percent; bacon, 18 percent; oranges, 17 percent; tires, 16 percent; furniture, 15 percent; milk, 15 percent; coffee, 14 percent; deliveries, 14 percent; bread, 14 percent; baby food—if you can find it—13 percent; soup, 13 percent; cereal, 12 percent; eggs, 10 percent; dry cleaning, 10 percent; then the rents on their homes and apartments and such, averaging about 30 percent.

And we saw that a little over a year and a half ago, lumber had gone up quadruple. It is coming back, but it is still double of 2 years ago for lumber in order to build homes and build anything else.

So where are we at? These outrageous prices are crushing the American Dream.

Last July, the President claimed that inflation was only transitory; that if we continued down this administration's path, then prices would go down again.

Certainly. Right.

Obviously, that was false.

Now it is the blame game: Putin. The war in Ukraine. Gas stations. Or Republicans. We are not the ones doing the big spending.

Inflation is indeed a tax on all Americans. It is caused by Biden and the House Democrats' out-of-control spending—trillions without accountability.

Small businesses can't afford the increase of input costs across the board. Farmers' fertilizer and all the other things that you would use to grow something, build something, manufacture something, are driven at their core by high energy costs. That is at the base of everything, energy costs.

So workers are effectively—because of all these costs—really seeing their wages cut. Even though they have seen some increases on paper, the higher costs of doing everything is hurting low- and middle-income Americans badly.

What I hear coming out of Sacramento and out of the White House doesn't seem to be helping. It seems to be more focused on a handful of agenda items. The religion of climate change—which, by the way, I will remind you again, carbon dioxide is only 0.04 percent of our atmosphere.

So we have to get back to business and rely on Americans to do business

and produce things domestically. Let's not import all this stuff from China. We don't need their stuff. We can make it here. We can make it efficiently. We can make it more ecologically sound with our energy than it can be done anywhere else in the world.

Madam Speaker, let's put Americans back to work and let's get the government off their backs and out of their wallets.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, call us into Your presence this day, that we, with full abandon, would run into Your loving embrace and receive the plenteous gifts You desire to lavish upon us.

What an image. Your love is so welcoming. Your concern for our welfare so strong, and Your generosity overwhelming. We are humbled by Your grace.

Held in Your everlasting arms, may we find the courage to ask for Your wisdom and guidance, that we would receive; to seek to discern what is good and right, that we may find; and to knock on doors barricaded by doubt and despair, that even these would be opened to us.

O God, You are the source of our every hope, the answer for all we seek, and the treasure we hope to be opened to us. In this knowledge, may our joy be complete.

In Your loving name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. PLASKETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

JOB EXPANSION

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this June, the private sector added 372,000 jobs to the economy, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

I would recognize the leadership of the Biden administration and my Democratic colleagues in Congress for taking swift action to strengthen the economy through robust job expansion.

Since President Biden took office, the economy has added over 9 million jobs, and the unemployment rate has decreased from 6.4 percent to 3.6 percent after losing 3 million jobs during the pandemic.

The price of oil is decreasing due to the leadership of President Biden. Despite high inflation rates, today, we are seeing the strongest economy for American workers in decades. People are receiving higher wages, increased benefits, and better jobs overall.

House Democrats will keep working to develop the labor market, underpin economic progress, and prioritize expanding accessible and inclusive employment opportunities for American people, because that is who we care about.

RECOGNIZING TOM LANIER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a very soothing, informed, and familiar voice in the High Country in North Carolina: Tom Lanier.

On July 23, Tom will be celebrating his 50th year on the air at WATA in Boone—a monumental milestone.

In both Boone and surrounding areas, he is highly regarded as a true staple as he continues his early morning radio program without fanfare. With half a century of serving the High Country, you would be hard-pressed to find someone who does not know of Tom and his commitment to keeping people informed.

Tom, the service you continue to provide to our community is invaluable, and it is a testament to the caliber of person you are.

Congratulations, and here is to many more years on the air.

CELEBRATING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWSRADIO 600 WMT

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

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Newsradio 600 WMT on the upcoming 100th anniversary of the station being on the air.