

RECOMMITTING OURSELVES TO THE PROMISE OF THE ADA

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

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, disability should not keep any American from fully participating in public life.

This week marks the 32nd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA provides critical protections for jobseekers powering our workforce. It helps students thrive in our schools, and it empowers citizens to participate in our democracy.

But like any law, the ADA is only as good as our ability to enforce it. For too many, the ADA does not deliver accommodations that people with disabilities need.

I am working to strengthen the ADA, including for individuals with mental health needs. My Student Mental Health Rights Act will help universities adhere to ADA requirements, empowering disabled students to succeed.

As we celebrate the ADA, we recommit ourselves to fulfilling its promise of equal protection for all.

□ 2150

HONORING ARMY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS GARRETT HANAS

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Sergeant First Class Garret Hanas as Tennessee's Second Congressional District's July Veteran of the Month.

Sergeant First Class Hanas served his country for over 20 years assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division and spent a large chunk of his military career jumping out of airplanes, and he is probably the only person you will ever meet who has survived a parachute failure twice. He broke his back in the same three places both times, which left him with lots of health complications.

He didn't let any of this kill his spirit, though. He once said: "God had a bigger purpose for me, and that was to take care our veterans." After retiring from the Army after over 20 years of service assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, he dedicated much of his time to helping his fellow veterans. He got heavily involved with the Disabled American Veterans Knoxville chapter, where he now serves as its commander.

He was instrumental in raising funds to get a new DAV van to transport veterans to their doctor appointments at the VA Hospital, and he helped start a program to refurbish used scooters and wheelchairs to give to east Tennessee veterans who need them.

It is my honor to recognize Sergeant First Class Garrett Hanas as Tennessee's Second District's Veteran of the Month for his service to his coun-

try, his community, and his fellow veterans.

CREATING A BALANCED ECONOMY

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

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, when President Biden took office, we wasted no time getting to work to rebuild a devastated economy.

From the Build Back Better Act to the American Rescue Plan, we have taken bold steps to make possible the incredible economic progress we see today. Progress that made the United States the first major economy in the world to recover and exceed prepandemic levels of its GDP, and 2021 saw the most jobs created in American history, while keeping 3.7 million children out of poverty.

Whether it is more good-paying jobs or the cost of groceries and gas, our goal remains the same, to create a balanced economy so that Americans can thrive.

Together with President Biden, we are fighting every day to make it a reality.

NATIONAL HIRE A VETERAN DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, yesterday, we celebrated National Hire a Veteran Day. In 2017, the nonprofit Hire Our Heroes established the day to highlight the many talented men and women who served our country who are now seeking civilian employment.

Hire Our Heroes serves as a resource bank for veterans to seek professional advice, discover new training resources, and search for new job opportunities.

Veterans are an important part of our community. They sacrifice a great deal to ensure that we live in a Nation that is free and safe. While we may never be able to fully repay them for their sacrifice, the very least we can do is help ease the transition back into civilian life.

A big part of that transition is ensuring there are well-paying, family-sustaining jobs available for our men and women in uniform when they return home.

Our veterans are highly trained and highly skilled. They deserve our support while deployed and when they return home. One of the best ways to do that is to prepare them for the workforce outside of the military.

Madam Speaker, the best way to thank a veteran is to hire a veteran. The skills obtained during service are invaluable.

THE IMPACT OF INFLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 4, 2021, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) is recognized until 10 p.m. as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my 5 minutes for 1 hour under the House rules, which I don't believe is very helpful to my colleagues.

So let me begin that we are here to talk about inflation and the impact of inflation on our constituents.

I will start out briefly and talk about Melissa from Adona, Arkansas. She says: It is severely impacting us, with gas and grocery prices so high that we couldn't make our \$300 car payment last month because my husband had four doctor visits to make. We have to do without air conditioning unless it gets above 97 degrees. Our grandkids come over and say: We thought y'all bought groceries. And we tell them we did, but that is all we could get. My husband is a disabled veteran, and we could barely make it before. With the rise in prices, we just have faith in the Lord that we can meet our needs.

Madam Speaker, that is Melissa from Adona, Arkansas.

All of our constituents are suffering.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) to talk about the impact of inflation in his district.

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, whether it is Putin's price hike, corporate greed, transitory—depending on the day, Madam Speaker, these are just some of the false narratives in the laundry list of excuses President Biden and Democrats have used to try to explain away the impact of their disastrous economic policies.

The truth is, Madam Speaker, that this historic inflation crisis, the fastest rate of inflation in 40 years, is the direct result of policy errors.

The latest excuse from the President comes in this tweet from yesterday: Can you believe it? At current prices, the average driver will spend less than they would if prices had stayed at their peak.

The problem is, Madam Speaker, the peak was under his policies.

Here is the real—here's the real tweet: At current prices, Americans will spend \$1,200 more per person for gas and a whole lot more than they would have if Joe Biden had not been President of the United States.

The reality is, our country went from energy dominant to energy desperate, and gas prices have almost doubled in less than 2 years from \$2.36 per gallon to \$4.32 today.

Not only did that peak occur under President Biden's policy, but I think I

speak for all Americans when I say I never thought I would see the day when an American President would celebrate gas prices north of \$4 nationwide.

My story is Charlie from Fleming County, Kentucky. He is a farmer, and he cannot afford these diesel prices. He told me: I don't know, Congressman, where you come up with these numbers in Washington, D.C., 9.1 percent inflation. To us in America, it feels two or three times that much.

This inflation is hurting Americans. Time to reverse course and end these disastrous policies of war against American energy.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Kentucky for his strong words.

While Mr. DONALDS is coming forward, I got a note from Ron in Little Rock. He is a 100 percent disabled veteran. He is not eating well. He is not able to go places because of the cost of gas in this country. He has to conserve his gas money in order to go to the VA for his primary care.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS), my friend from Florida's 19th Congressional District.

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for yielding.

Energy prices are up over 35 percent. Groceries have surged more than 11.9 percent. The consumer price index is up 9.1 percent. The producer price index is up close to 12 percent.

None of this was happening before the American Rescue Plan was passed by Congressional Democrats and signed into law by Joe Biden. Before that time period, our inflation rate was holding steady between 2 and 3 percent.

What happened? What happened was the Congressional Democrats and the President of the United States, Joe Biden, unleashed a labor shortage on the United States. People did not have to go to work in order to continue to buy goods. So what happens when you take people out of the workforce is that they have money to spend, but there is not enough supply in the economy because enough people are not working to provide the products for enough goods. So if there are not enough goods, but everybody has money, prices go up. It happens every single time.

This is very simple. Even Lawrence Summers, who was an economic adviser to Bill Clinton, said that the American Rescue Plan was going to unleash a massive inflation in the United States. House Republicans said if you pass that bill, it is going to unleash a massive inflation the United States.

So the American people need to know and understand that it is the policies of Congressional Democrats and Joe Biden that have unleashed the worst inflation most Americans have ever seen in their lives.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), who will tell us how inflation is impacting her constituents.

□ 2200

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, FRENCH HILL, for yielding.

Families, workers, and small businesses are hurting from the highest inflation in over 40 years, and in Southern California where I am from, everything is more expensive.

Inflation doesn't discriminate. It impacts every American and hurts small businesses and workers with less income the most.

For example, Raul and Rosalina Davis, owners of Tlaquepaque Restaurant in Placentia, in my district, told my office: "Higher gas prices and issues with our supply chain are leading to increasing costs from everything from beverages to meat for ingredients, to workforce shortages. As a restaurant, we run our small business with very tight revenue margins, and a small change in prices can really hurt our bottom line. If we have to pass on higher costs to our customers, it puts us in a tough place when we are competing against bigger restaurants that can absorb higher costs."

While the Biden administration calls inflation temporary and seeks to redefine the long-established meaning of a recession, I have introduced bills to combat inflationary spending, lower taxes on Californians, and support job creators.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. KIM of California. Policies from Congress should make life more affordable, not less.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, Thank you, Congressman HILL for taking the time to put together this special order.

From Arkansas to South Florida, every hardworking American is facing the same dilemma under Biden's presidency.

Look, we all know the facts. Record high inflation, 9.1 percent, a shrinking economy.

But what we often overlook is just how devastating this Biden's inflation is on everyday people and the real-life, practical impact it has on hardworking families. Inflation is the worst tax on American workers.

Over the last week, my office has been hearing a lot about Biden's inflation. Many families desperate to make ends meet, having to choose between feeding their families and putting gas in their car.

Genevieve from Cutler Bay reached out to my office saying quote: "we were already living paycheck to paycheck with very little savings. Now we are dipping in our savings just to make ends meet. I am worried that I will not be able to pay for after school services for my children when the school year starts."

Marianela from Miami shared similar concerns, saying quote: "I have less money to save or spend. My groceries are to a minimum. Costs of gas are a consequence of Mr. Biden's executive orders which have a domino effect on everything we have to buy."

Maria from Key West also reached out to us saying quote: "Constantly negative in the bank because bills have doubled in price, had to use credit cards after being debt free because

of how expensive everything is. I was a stay at home mom and will have to return to work sooner than planned."

When you go out and talk to people at the grocery store, at the gas pumps, parents at our schools, they all share the same stories. Biden's 9.1 percent inflation isn't just some fictional economics stat.

It means Americans are 9.1 percent poorer today than they were a year ago. Hardworking Americans are feeling the heat. It's time President Biden grow a backbone and do the work needed to increase our domestic energy, arrest the out-of-control spending, and get our economy working again for all Americans.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, Six hundred and seventy-seven dollars.

That's how much more—per month—Georgians are spending on everyday goods due to Biden's inflation crisis.

That's gas. Groceries. Retirement. That's money people need to live their lives.

Instead, they're using it to subsidize Biden's far-left agenda.

And unlike the President, the American people can't just change the definition of a word and watch their problems go away.

Regardless of what the White House's latest blog says, we are headed towards a recession. In fact, we may already be in one.

The single mom trying to feed her family and the trucker paying more for diesel are feeling the sting of this Administration's policies daily.

Recession isn't just a word to them—it's a lived reality that leads to lost income, jobs, opportunities, and even hope.

Where the White House sees the so-called "strength" of the economy, my constituents see weakness.

That weakness is emblematic of a failed President who is willing to look us in the eye and say that we are not in a recession, that the \$4.30 you're paying for gas is a gift.

He's wrong.

Washington Democrats' one-party rule is robbing Americans blind.

We know how to fix this! Unleash American energy independence, rein in the runaway spending, and pass a budget, which was supposed to happen months ago, so that the American people know what their elected officials value and how their tax dollars are being spent.

It's time to put the American people first.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 144.—An act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 10 a.m.