

STEFANK and CHRIS JACOBS, in introducing legislation in Congress known as the Protect Local Farms Act to stop this misguided policy from taking effect.

If there are no farms, there will be no nutritious food to feed our State, our Nation, and, yes, the world, as we face a potential food shortage worldwide.

REDESIGNING THE MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Americans are divided. Our public discourse is broken. Instead of fostering open and honest political debate, our flawed information environment creates echo chambers and partisan silos.

At times, it feels like the very fabric of our Nation is being torn at the seams. This toxic polarization has infected the Capitol, too, where it is becoming increasingly difficult to get things done in a bipartisan manner.

The nonstop outrage and anger must end.

To begin solving some of these issues, I propose an idea, which I developed in partnership with my former science and technology policy adviser, Eric Saund, a phenomenal cognitive science and artificial intelligence researcher. Together, we call for redesigning what is popularly described as the “marketplace of ideas.”

As economists point out, markets are information systems. The invisible hand of supply and demand discovers the value of goods and services, and the equal access to information in a market yields collective efficiency.

Now, imagine a market where suppliers or, in this case, speakers of ideas hawk their wares in a public square, while consumers, or listeners, sample and choose the news, stories, and opinions they prefer. The best ideas would win by virtue of the audience’s discernment and collective wisdom, right?

But what if the market’s information architecture, the modes and pathways of information exchange and processing, is fundamentally broken? Just like a market wouldn’t function properly if the vendors’ loudspeakers and telephones were damaged, the algorithms, programmatic methods, and platform designs that govern our marketplace of ideas are clearly not working. When a market is broken, it is the responsibility of government to act.

How do we fix it? We start by leveling the playing field and modifying the shape, not the content, of our ideas marketplace to facilitate healthy exposure and competition among all ideas within our political discourse.

As it currently stands, our marketplace has been distorted to resemble a dome-like shape in which discourse is driven to the extremes of each side. Instead, we propose bending the dome

shape of our marketplace into a bowl shape, encouraging people to seek common ground and creating space for productive conversation among ideological foes and compatriots alike.

By leveling the playing field through tweaks to both the supply and demand side, we can create a marketplace of ideas where fairness and civility are rewarded and extremism is discouraged.

On the demand side, we can invest in civics education initiatives that teach children critical reading, listening, and thinking skills, like how to spot disinformation on social media. Adults, too, can lose awareness of how their buttons are being pushed by sophisticated propagandists.

As our Founders recognized, our democracy requires an educated citizenry. However, the demands of our modern media environment require our education system to grow and adapt accordingly.

We could borrow from the playbooks of other countries, like Finland and the Baltic states, which have developed robust civil defenses against insidious disinformation campaigns emanating from neighboring Russia. We can even motivate public awareness and engagement through playful, competitive, and financial incentives to reward people for knowing basic civics and following factual, unbiased news and information sources. We should encourage participation in nonpolitical areas of life, such as sports, hobbies, recreation, civics projects, and family activities, to reinforce the common bonds between us.

Solutions arise on the supply side, as well. In a traditional public square, each speaker’s identity is known and thereby can be held accountable for their speech. But on social media, phony accounts and troll farms can spread lies, disinformation, and distorted narratives without consequence. A solution may be found in modern technologies for digital identity tools, which can ensure that every social media account is held by a unique, real human being.

Congressman BILL FOSTER’s Improving Digital Identity Act of 2021, of which I am a proud cosponsor, advances associated frameworks and standards and promotes the adoption of privacy-preserving digital identity technologies.

This is a complicated issue, but I think it is worth giving thought to.

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 59 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:

Almighty and powerful God, our creator and defender, we call upon You this day to speak into the whirlwind of the life-threatening storm surge and catastrophic winds that now bombard the Florida peninsula and have left behind unfathomable destruction in Cuba.

As Hurricane Ian rages, those who are caught in its ravages are filled with dread. Their personal calamity is its own whirlwind around them. In their distress and anguish, they—and we on their behalf—pray to You for their safety and refuge.

For You alone have the power with but a word to cause the tempest to still and the wind and waves to be hushed. Speak Your word. Shine Your light into the darkness of these days.

Listen to these fervent prayers. Deliver the thousands of evacuees from their plight. Lead them to find shelter in You from all that threatens them this day.

And for all the National Guardsmen, first responders, and those who will provide security and offer assistance for yet another natural disaster, we pray for their strength and fortitude. Use them to bring Your hope to those who cannot see their way through the destruction of their homes and their lives.

In Your sovereign and saving name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. OWENS 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following

enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro tempore RASKIN on Tuesday, September 27, 2022:

S. 2293, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

CONCERNS ABOUT OUR STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, as Hurricane Ian barrels toward the Florida coast, residents are boarding up their homes, packing up their families, and rushing to evacuate.

Across the State, FEMA is unloading barrels of fuel from our Strategic Petroleum Reserve on evacuation routes to help those leaving to fuel up. That is the correct intent of our Strategic Petroleum Reserves, to help people in the event of a severe weather event or other disaster.

But there is reason to be concerned now that the SPR, as it is known, is now at its lowest point since 1984 because of President Biden's policy. For nearly 2 years he has been halting leases for domestic oil and gas production, paused pipeline development, and launched a regulatory assault on U.S. energy development and financing, all while releasing our strategic reserves—in order to combat rising prices—thinking that amount is really going to do so. They have been shipped overseas in some cases.

This is unconscionable. We are in the middle of a hurricane season. What will we do when our reserves are eventually depleted and people are actually stranded?

In my district in northern California we don't have hurricanes, but we are too familiar with natural disasters. Each summer residents are forced to flee due to catastrophic wildfires, and this winter they were even trapped in their homes without electricity due to snowstorms.

We need plentiful electricity: natural gas and oil. It is a matter of life and death for many, and SPRs need to be used properly.

BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY IN UTAH

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

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on December 2, 1982, the medical team from the University of Utah successfully implanted the first permanent artificial heart in the world.

Forty years later, Utah remains a trailblazer in healthcare innovation. Over the past 2 years, I had the pleasure of visiting many Utah businesses at the forefront of the healthcare industry. Ortho Development Corporation,

Xenter, Canyon Labs, and Ultrudent are among the leading biotech firms that call Utah home.

BioHive, a collaboration of 1,100 companies representing Utah's life science and healthcare innovative ecosystem is the driving force behind the Beehive State's success.

Additionally, the bioscience industry in Utah supports 130,000 local jobs, accounts for 8 percent of GDP, and produces hundreds of patents for lifesaving medical devices.

Behind these extraordinary accomplishments are the pioneering spirit, grit, and kindness of Utahns. I am proud to represent my State and know that we will continue to lead the Nation.

WJAG'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of America's first radio stations, WJAG-AM, licensed to Norfolk, Nebraska. It is celebrating 100 years this year.

In 1922, radio pioneer Gene Huse established WJAG as one of the first radio stations west of the Mississippi River.

The station became and remains an important part of everyday life for Nebraskans. Gene Huse realized that most people did not own a radio, so he printed instructions in his local newspaper on how to build one. Many more went to the movie theater or the fire station to hear play-by-play of the World Series, dance to music, and receive agricultural news.

Today, his grandson, Bill Huse, continues the tradition of service. WJAG has been owned by the same family since its start in 1922. The station is an American original.

On behalf of the First District of Nebraska, I congratulate WJAG on 100 years of service and wish those at the station another 100 years of success.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 8446.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) as cosponsor of H.R. 8446.

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

There was no objection.

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.

SBIR AND STTR EXTENSION ACT OF 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4900) to reauthorize the SBIR and STTR programs and pilot programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4900

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "SBIR and STTR Extension Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms "Administration" and "Administrator" mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCY; PHASE I; PHASE II; PHASE III; SBIR; STTR.—The terms "Federal agency", "Phase I", "Phase II", "Phase III", "SBIR", and "STTR" have the meanings given those terms, respectively, in section 9(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)).

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS AND PILOT PROGRAMS.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by striking "2022" each place that term appears and inserting "2025".

SEC. 4. FOREIGN RISK MANAGEMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 9(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13)(B), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(15) the term 'covered individual' means an individual who—

"(A) contributes in a substantive, meaningful way to the scientific development or execution of a research and development project proposed to be carried out with a research and development award from a Federal research agency; and

"(B) is designated as a covered individual by the Federal research agency concerned;

"(16) the term 'foreign affiliation' means a funded or unfunded academic, professional, or institutional appointment or position with a foreign government or government-owned entity, whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary (including adjunct, visiting, or honorary);

"(17) the term 'foreign country of concern' means the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, or any other country determined to be a country of concern by the Secretary of State;

"(18) the term 'malign foreign talent recruitment program' has the meaning given such term in section 10638 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (division B of Public Law 117-167); and

"(19) the term 'federally funded award' means a Phase I, Phase II (including a Phase II award under subsection (cc)), or Phase III SBIR or STTR award made using a funding agreement.".

(b) DUE DILIGENCE PROGRAM TO ASSESS SECURITY RISKS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(v) DUE DILIGENCE PROGRAM TO ASSESS SECURITY RISKS.—