

the healthcare needs of people living in the northwest quadrant of Ohio, including the mentally ill.

Our Federal-State joint efforts in combined funding of over \$35 million awarded to Toledo's academic medical center at the University of Toledo through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have allowed UPMC to upgrade critical trauma care from trauma III to trauma II.

In addition, Congress appropriated over \$81 million in 2022 and 2023 to Ohio through the Substance Abuse and Treatment Block Grant.

This morning, I had the privilege of welcoming Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to Toledo, as we toured the University of Toledo Medical Center and the State's Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital. Governor DeWine is the first Governor to visit the State facility in the 21st century.

This important visit shows that Ohioans are continuing to make progress to strengthen critical medical assets for the region in a bipartisan fashion at every level.

Our medically underserved region must continue to champion medical advancements on every level. Onward Northwest Ohio, a community that cares for all people.

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#### HONORING SELENA QUINTANILLA-PEREZ

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise in the people's House to honor Selena Quintanilla-Perez, an icon and trailblazer from south Texas whose music has transcended borders, cultures, and generations.

Her unique blend of cumbia, Tejano, and pop has captivated audiences around the world and introduced my community's culture to millions of Americans over the last 30 years.

Selena's seamless mix of Spanish and English lyrics, combining Mexican folklore and R&B, perfectly captured the richness of a beautiful culture that is shared by millions of us who are both fully American and proud of our Mexican heritage.

Selena's music is essential to the soundtrack of our lives. That is why I am submitting, for nomination, her album, "Amor Prohibido," to the Library of Congress for historical preservation in honor of her birthday, which was yesterday.

May Selena's legacy be forever engraved in our hearts and our Nation's history.

#### MIDWEST ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY HYDROGEN HUB

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a letter recently sent to the administration from myself and my colleagues from Indiana in support of the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen proposal.

I was proud to support in the 117th Congress the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which established this Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs funding opportunity.

Northwest Indiana and our Midwest region have robust and well-established agricultural, manufacturing, and transportation infrastructure networks. We are a prime central location for the development of new hydrogen technologies and the delivery of hydrogen products.

I am grateful for the leadership of Senator YOUNG, Senator BRAUN, and my House colleagues for their vocal support. I look forward to continuing to work with them and all the stakeholders to advance this transformational proposal that will create new, good-paying job opportunities for everyone in Northwest Indiana, the region, and the Midwest.

#### CONGRATULATING JON RAHM

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise to offer my sincerest congratulations to Jon Rahm for his decisive victory in the 2023 Masters Tournament.

Every spring, the world's greatest golfers travel to Georgia's 12th District to play at the world's greatest golf course, Augusta National, a tradition like no other.

As people from all around the world make the trip to my district or tune in from the comfort of their homes, they get to experience one of the country's greatest competitions in the world of sports. In doing so, they get a glimpse into the beautiful city I am privileged to call home, Augusta, Georgia.

Many thanks to Chairman Ridley, the members of Augusta National, the staff and volunteers, for another magnificent tournament.

In winning this year's tournament, Jon Rahm joins an elite group of Spanish Masters champions that include Sergio Garcia, Jose Maria Olazabal, and Jon's very own role model, the late Seve Ballesteros.

In typical Masters form, Jon made his charge to the top of the leader board on the back nine on Sunday to finish with a 3-under-par 69 score to finish at 12 under. He did so on the 66th birthday of his role model, Seve Ballesteros.

Congratulations to Jon Rahm, a most deserving champion.

#### WELCOMING GREATER HOUSTON LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mrs. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome the Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce on their first trip to Washington.

I am so proud to represent so many thriving LGBTQ+ and allied businesses in my district and in the Greater Houston area.

This week, Chamber representatives are in Washington to advance policies that foster economic inclusion and equality for the LGBTQ+ business community. I want them to know how welcome they are here in Washington, in the U.S. Congress, the people's House. I want to recognize them for being here, for their efforts and engagement, and for being great partners and leaders.

The Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce brings the best of our diverse, dynamic, and inclusive community to Washington this week, and I could not be more proud to represent them or to welcome them here to the people's House.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF USS "THRESHER"

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 60th anniversary of the loss of the nuclear submarine the USS *Thresher*, SSN 593.

On that fateful day, on April 10, 1963, 129 sailors and shipyard workers went out on an engineering trial. They encountered engineering problems that they were unable to recover from and, tragically, all hands were lost.

The submarine service that I served in became much safer as a result of this tragedy, and I am honored, as the first nuclear submarine veteran to serve in Congress in 50 years, to remember those that were lost today.

Even more importantly, we remember the widows that were created that day and the children that grew up fatherless. We stop and we remember them and say thank you for the life that you have lived without those loved ones.

#### PROTECT WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to a Texas judge's attack on women's reproductive freedom. This ruling undermines proven scientific research and needlessly restricts women's access to healthcare.

Mifepristone is a safe and effective medication that has been used by millions since it was approved by the FDA two decades ago. Medical determinations should be left to medical professionals.

I am thankful for the work of the Healey administration in my home State to insulate Massachusetts residents from this decision. The Commonwealth must not let Texas set the agenda for women's healthcare.

I also strongly support the work of organizations like Mayday Health, who are informing and empowering women to make their own decisions about their reproductive health and working to get the medication across State lines.

On the Federal level, I joined my colleagues in submitting an amicus brief to the Supreme Court urging them to protect a woman's right to choose. I will not stop fighting to ensure access to safe, effective reproductive healthcare for all Americans.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO INVESTIGATIVE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to clause 5(a)(4)(A) of rule X, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members of the House to be available to serve on investigative subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics for the 118th Congress:

Mr. BENTZ, Oregon  
Mr. CLINE, Virginia  
Mrs. KIM, California  
Ms. LEE, Florida  
Mr. MANN, Kansas  
Mr. OWENS, Utah  
Mr. PENCE, Indiana  
Mr. ROSE, Tennessee  
Mr. ROUZER, North Carolina  
Mr. YAKYM, Indiana

#### CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, for the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues that are of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

I rise today for the Tennessee Three, who stood in the face of bigotry and vitriol to fight for the communities they serve.

After six lives were lost due to gun violence in Nashville, the Republican-

led Tennessee Legislature expelled two Black lawmakers who stood with families, teachers, and students to demand a solution.

What happened to Representative Justin Pearson and Representative Justin Jones is an utter disgrace. This expulsion was a blow to our democracy and underscored the legislature's flagrant disrespect for their First Amendment rights.

The families of those who lost loved ones in The Covenant School shooting deserve real legislative solutions, not bigotry and petty politics.

As elected officials, it is our solemn responsibility to keep our communities safe from gun violence. Extreme Republicans have other priorities; protecting the NRA instead of our children and silencing the voices of our Black leaders.

Extremist Republicans continue to look the other way as our schools become firing ranges; as our movie theaters become firing ranges; as our places of worship become firing ranges.

It should provide us with some comfort that both of these lawmakers expelled were recently reinstated with unanimous support. Local leaders in Shelby County and Nashville were able to see through the hatred and recognize that representatives Pearson and Jones were fighting for their constituents.

However, let's not forget that what happened in the Tennessee Legislature can happen in any community anywhere in our country. Any State could be next, including my home State of Florida.

We cannot forget about why Justin Jones and Justin Pearson were expelled in the first place. They were fighting for an answer to end the gun violence epidemic that wreaks havoc in all communities in our country.

Nashville, like so many other cities, has been touched by this crisis. Families in South Florida know it all too well after a gunman entered the grounds of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and took 17 innocent lives in 2018.

Enough is enough. I urge Congress to come together in passing an assault weapons ban before more lives are lost. This senseless violence can no longer be left unaddressed.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. JACKSON).

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to confront a multitude of challenges that have relentlessly gnawed at the very soul of our Nation, the devastating plague of gun violence, the erosion of our democratic values, and the insidious persistence of racism that continues to cast its dark shadow over our society.

As we stand today, hearts heavy with sorrow, we remember the innocent lives lost in the tragic mass shooting at The Covenant School in Nashville. Three young children and three adults were mercilessly taken from us, leaving a void in their families and communities that can never be filled.

The Metropolitan Nashville Police Department identified the victims as Evelyn Dieckhaus, 9 years of age; Hallie Scruggs, 9 years of age; William Kinney, 9 years of age; Katherine Koonce, 60; Cynthia Peak, 61; Mike Hill, 61.

In the wake of this unspeakable tragedy, the Tennessee State Legislature, a body that was meant to protect its citizens and uphold the values of this great Nation, chose to abdicate its responsibilities.

Instead of working tirelessly to keep their communities safe from the horrors of gun violence, they opted for an unprecedented and unjust course of action; expelling two Black members of the Democratic Caucus who stood with families, who stood with teachers, and who stood with the will of the students in their righteous demand for gun safety reform.

Representative Justin Jones and Representative Justin Pearson, two Black and duly elected representatives, were silenced, their voices snuffed out like candles in a storm.

The GOP-led House's actions have sent a chilling message that racism, the vile scourge that has blighted our Nation's history, is still alive and well.

My fellow colleagues, it is high time we stand up and speak truth to power. We must stand tall, shoulder to shoulder, and declare that we will no longer tolerate this blatant racism and anti-democratic behavior. We will not let the echoes of the past define our presence, nor dictate our future.

To truly understand the gravity of the situation in Tennessee, we must delve into the sordid history of State legislatures in the South and their treatment of Black lawmakers.

During the Reconstruction era, we saw the rise of Black political representation. However, this progress was met with fierce resistance from the white supremacists who sought to maintain their grip on power.

□ 1945

In Georgia, 32 Black legislators, known as the Original 33, were expelled from the general assembly in 1868. They were among the first African-American State legislators in the United States. Twenty-four of their members were ministers. Their only crime was the color of their skin.

This blatant act of racism sets a dangerous precedent for future generations.

In the turbulent times of the civil rights and antiwar movements, Mr. Julian Bond, a key figure in the founding of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1966. Amidst the struggle for justice and equality, the Georgia House refused to seat Mr. Julian Bond, alleging that his opposition to the Vietnam war rendered him unfit to serve.

It took a Supreme Court ruling to overturn the decision and affirm Bond's right to serve in the State legislature.