

should protect them. This bill is horrible. All should stand opposed to it.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I have spoken to the absurdity of this debate, but let me conclude by clarifying what this bill does and does not do by reading two paragraphs of this bill—it is one page long.

“Section 901 of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d)(1) It shall be a violation of subsection (a) for a recipient of Federal funds who operates, sponsors, or facilitates athletic programs or activities to permit a person whose sex is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for women or girls.

“(2) For the purposes of this subsection, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person’s reproductive biology and genetics at birth.”

All of these ridiculous things that we have been accused of are not in this bill. This bill does not discriminate against anyone. It does not exhibit any hate toward anyone.

What it does is prohibit Federal funding to institutions that “permit a person whose sex is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for women or girls.”

The reason for this is simple. Men have certain physiological advantages over women, such as more size and speed. Because of that, allowing biological males to compete against women and girls robs females of equal athletic opportunities and fair playing fields.

H.R. 734 restores the integrity and fairness of women’s sports.

Mr. Chairman, Republicans, contrary to what our colleagues have said and accused us of, Republicans love all God’s children, male and female, born and unborn. Do not question our commitment to fairness to life or to treating people equally. We hate no one.

As my colleagues have pointed out, it is ridiculous that we have had to stand here today to defend the rights of women and girls to participate in sports against other women and girls and they not being taken advantage of by biological males.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues across the aisle to do what is best for America’s women and girls and support this important bill.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chairman, I include in the RECORD a Statement of Administration Policy from the administration.

#### STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 734—PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORTS ACT OF 2023—REP. STEUBE, R-FL, AND 93 COSPONSORS

The Administration strongly opposes House passage of H.R. 734.

For students nationwide, participating in sports and being part of a team is an impor-

tant part of growing up, staying engaged in school, and learning leadership and life skills. H.R. 734 would deny access to sports for many families by establishing an absolute ban on transgender students—even those as young as elementary schoolers—playing on a team consistent with their gender identity. Schools, coaches, and athletic associations around the country are already working with families to develop participation rules that are fair and that take into account particular sports, grade levels, and levels of competition. As a national ban that does not account for competitiveness or grade level, H.R. 734 targets people for who they are and therefore is discriminatory. Politicians should not dictate a one-size-fits-all requirement that forces coaches to remove kids from their teams. At a time when transgender youth already face a nationwide mental health crisis, with half of transgender youth in a recent survey saying they have seriously considered suicide, a national law that further stigmatizes these children is completely unnecessary, hurts families and students, and would only put students at greater risk. Discrimination has no place in our nation’s schools or on our playing fields.

Instead of addressing the pressing issues that families and students face today—such as raising teacher pay, keeping guns out of schools, addressing the mental health crisis our youth face, and helping students learn and recover academically from unprecedented disruptions—Congressional Republicans have instead chosen to prioritize policies that discriminate against children.

If the President were presented with H.R. 734, he would veto it.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to this cruel and discriminatory bill. If Republicans really meant to protect women and girls in sports, they would make it so more women and girls could play, not play politics with children’s lives.

I submitted an amendment to award federal grants to start new school sports teams for women and girls and to break down existing barriers to participation.

My amendment invested in women’s sports so more people could play, more people could participate, but Republicans chose politics over participation. There are real problems impacting women and girls in sports, including pay inequality, sexual harassment and assault, and unequal facilities and resources. This legislation addresses none of these issues.

Instead, we will be voting on a horrific bill to nationalize the cruel bigotry Republicans are implementing in states around the country.

This bill will harm our kids’ mental health, make our schools less welcoming, and prevent trans students from living the full lives they deserve.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, I am in strong support of H.R. 734, the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, which I am proud to cosponsor. I thank the Congressman from Florida, Mr. STEUBE, for his leadership on this effort.

Over 50 years ago, Title IX was enacted to level the playing field, and ensure that women and girls were given fair opportunities to participate, perform, and achieve in education. One of the primary areas that has been impacted by this law is in the area of women’s sports. Since then, female participation in

sports has increased by 1,057 percent at the high school level, and 614 percent at the post-secondary level.

Women and girls deserve the confidence of stepping up to the plate, onto a field, into a court, or on a track, knowing that the competition will be rule-bound and fair and that their safety has been prioritized. They deserve to have confidence that they are fairly competing against another biological woman.

And most of all, they deserve the chance to be champions.

The actions of the Biden Administration have entirely sacrificed equality in the service of their political agenda; and today I hope my colleagues will join me in voting in favor of this legislation, and restoring the soul of Title IX, that has given so many women and girls life-changing opportunities.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. LAMALFA). All time for general debate has expired.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) having assumed the chair, Mr. LAMALFA, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 734) to amend the Education Amendments of 1972 to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of such Act in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person’s reproductive biology and genetics at birth, had come to no resolution thereon.

#### ADDRESSING THE DEBT LIMIT

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, the American people have elected a divided government. Our government is designed to find compromise. That is why the House, the Senate, and the White House should be negotiating a responsible debt limit increase right now.

If you gave your child a credit card and they kept maxing it out to the limit, you wouldn’t blindly just raise the limit, you would change their behavior. That exact same thing is true with our national debt.

We need to lower inflation, reduce our dependence on China, and lift Americans out of poverty. America has a \$31 trillion debt, and Washington is on the clock.

What are Democrats doing?

President Biden is skipping town to deliver a speech in Maryland rather than sitting down to address the debt ceiling. He is giving America’s debt the southern border treatment: Ignore it and hope that it goes away. In fact, he has been avoiding the issue for 77 straight days and counting.

Senator SCHUMER is just missing in action. Rather than find common ground with the House, Senator SCHUMER is having the Senate vote on a nonbinding resolution commending and congratulating the University of Connecticut Men’s Basketball Team for

winning the 2023 men's basketball championship.

That is not all Senator SCHUMER has been doing. Last month he approved March as Maine's Maple Syrup Month. Talk about taking on big issues. I wonder what May's month will be about.

While President Biden and Senate Democrats waste time, House Republicans are taking action.

Today, I am proud to announce that we are introducing the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023.

This responsible legislation will be led by our Budget Committee Chairman, JOEY ARRINGTON, and would responsibly raise the debt limit into next year and provide more than \$4.5 trillion in savings to the American taxpayers.

Here is how we do it.

First, we limit government spending. Our plan would return discretionary spending to pre-inflationary fiscal year 2022 levels, and then limit the growth of spending to 1 percent per year.

Mr. Speaker, these are the same levels we had just 4 months ago. I didn't hear a single Democrat complain about that level of spending.

The spending limits are not draconian. They are responsible. Federal spending exploded in the past 2 years when Democrats controlled all, and that doesn't include the trillions of COVID-era spending.

By limiting government spending we will reduce inflation and restore fiscal discipline in Washington. If Washington wants to spend more, it will have to come together to find savings elsewhere—just like every single household in America.

Second, we are going to save taxpayers money.

Mr. Speaker, the pandemic is over. House Republicans have already passed the bill to officially end the pandemic, and President Biden signed it into law just last week.

Our bill would actually claw back billions of dollars of unspent COVID money that has sat for the last 2 years. The American people are tired of politicians who use COVID as an excuse for more extreme, inflationary spending.

If this money was authorized to fight the pandemic but was not spent during the pandemic, it should not be spent after the pandemic is over.

Our proposals also repeal Biden's army of 87,000 IRS agents. That will save taxpayers \$70 billion, and it is going to protect families and small businesses from a weaponized IRS.

It would end the green giveaways for companies that distort the market and waste taxpayer money. Goldman Sachs did an analysis. They said the savings from ending the green giveaways are as much as \$1.2 trillion.

We would prohibit President Biden's student loan giveaway for the wealthy. That would protect the 87 percent of adults without student loans from paying the loans of the 13 percent who do.

□ 1430

Finally, we will grow the economy so we are less dependent on China.

Our proposal will restore American energy leadership, make it easier to build things in America, make us less dependent on China, and bring jobs back to America.

It will also help lift millions of Americans out of poverty. Right now there are more job openings than people looking for work, in part because the Biden administration has weakened some of the very work requirements that then-Senator Joe Biden previously supported.

Our plan ensures adults without dependents earn a paycheck and learn new skills. By restoring these common-sense measures, we can help more Americans earn a paycheck, learn new skills, reduce childhood poverty, and rebuild the workforce.

It will also protect and preserve Medicare and Social Security because more people will be paying into it.

We will prevent President Biden's executive overreach to spend money outside the normal process, which President Biden has abused to the tune of \$1.5 trillion in unilateral executive actions.

We should welcome and celebrate the benefits of a strong, growing economy, for with a strong, growing economy, we will no longer be dependent on China. We will no longer be victims to inflation, and we can leave a better future for our kids and our grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are taking action to lift the debt limit, limit government spending, save taxpayers money, and grow the economy.

President Biden and Senator SCHUMER have no right to play politics with the debt ceiling. Their extreme position risks provoking the very crisis they claim to want to avoid. They need to sit down, negotiate, and address this crisis.

Now that we have introduced a clear plan for a responsible debt limit increase, they have no more excuse to refuse to negotiate.

I think the Senate can honor maple syrup and basketball teams and negotiate on a debt ceiling at the same time.

We owe it to the American people to use this moment in history to deliver the future they want, need, and deserve.

House Republicans have a plan. The Senate does not, and the President is ignoring the debt crisis.

President Biden has a choice: come to the table and stop playing partisan political games, or cover his ears, refuse to negotiate, and risk bumbling his way into the first default in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this plan to get our Nation back on track so, yes, we then can curb inflation, end our dependency on China, and strengthen and protect Social Security and Medicare.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.J. Res. 42; and

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1149.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

#### DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 229, nays 189, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 188]  
YEAS—229

Alford	Burlison	DesJarlais
Allen	Calvert	Diaz-Balart
Amodeli	Cammack	Donalds
Armstrong	Carey	Duarte
Babin	Carter (GA)	Duncan
Bacon	Carter (TX)	Dunn (FL)
Baird	Chavez-DeRemer	Edwards
Balderson	Ciscomani	Ellzey
Banks	Cline	Emmer
Barr	Cloud	Estes
Bean (FL)	Clyde	Ezell
Bentz	Cole	Fallon
Bergman	Collins	Feenstra
Bice	Comer	Ferguson
Biggs	Craig	Finstad
Bilirakis	Crane	Fischbach
Bishop (NC)	Crawford	Fitzgerald
Bost	Crenshaw	Fitzpatrick
Brecheen	Cuellar	Fleischmann
Buchanan	Curtis	Flood
Bucshon	D'Esposito	Foxx
Budzinski	Davidson	Franklin, C.
Burchett	Davis (NC)	Scott
Burgess	De La Cruz	Fry