

Earlier this year, I joined my friend from California, Representative MIKE GARCIA, to introduce the Inflation Prevention Act to ensure that Congress doesn't pass bills that add to inflationary spending until the year-after-year rate drops below 4.5 percent.

Last week, I introduced the SALT Deductibility Act to repeal the current cap on State and local tax deductions that is unfairly making my constituents pay more taxes.

I will keep fighting to make sure that life is easier for folks in California's 40th District and across the Nation.

CHAMPION OF THE WEEK, TAYLOR MIKESELL

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, as the Congresswoman for Ohio's 13th Congressional District, the birthplace of champions, I rise today to congratulate Ohio's 13th District Champion of the Week, Ms. Taylor Mikesell.

Taylor was selected by the Indiana Fever in this year's WNBA draft, and she is the third Stark County player to be drafted by a WNBA team.

Taylor is an extremely talented shooting guard who honed her skills at Jackson High School before playing at the University of Maryland and the University of Oregon, and finally concluding her college career at The Ohio State University.

She was a two-time All-Big 10 selection with the Buckeyes and ranked among the top five in the Nation in 3-pointers made per game in both seasons.

Taylor helped lead Ohio State to the Elite Eight for the first time since 1993, hitting seven 3-pointers to match a career high, and scored 25 points in her final game.

As we have seen women's basketball continue to grow in popularity, I am proud of Taylor's contribution to women's sports. Taylor's success serves as an inspiration to young athletes who dream of pursuing a career in professional sports, and she has paved the way for future generations of young athletes to follow their dreams.

Once again, congratulations to Taylor Mikesell, the Ohio 13 Champion of the Week. I am confident that she will continue to make our community proud as she takes her talents to the national stage.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. JAMES LEROY "JIM" SUTHOFF

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

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. James Suthoff, or, as we who knew him well called him Jim. He was a husband, a fa-

ther, a grandfather, and a community leader who passed away, sadly, on March 25, 2023.

Jim was born and raised in Jefferson City and later worked as an anesthesiologist in Springfield.

He loved hunting and fishing, but most importantly, he loved his family and his friends. He was married to his wife, Diane, for nearly 40 years, and is survived by Diane, their two children, two grandchildren, and six siblings.

Jim was a dear friend, and he will be deeply missed by everyone.

I ask the body to consider them in your prayers.

CUTS TO VETERANS SERVICES AND THE VA

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, every single American who ever raised their right hand, as I did, to serve in uniform signed a blank check to this country, to lay it all on the line, if asked; to put this country before their lives and their families.

America has a sacred obligation to all of us. And let me be clear: The Republican plan to slash billions of dollars from veterans and the VA is an absolute betrayal. It is a disgrace.

They are threatening to blow up our economy, to push us into default unless we agree to cuts to the VA and resources for veterans, and so much else.

There is not a single protection, not one for veterans in their bill. It will mean massive cuts for veterans. Millions of veterans are going to be screwed over by this plan. They won't get the care they have earned. They are going to have to wait longer for their claims, and so much else will happen.

My fellow veterans should know we are going to fight hard to protect our healthcare, our VA, and the benefits they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, it is a BS plan.

RECOGNIZING INLAND PORT DILLON'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Inland Port Dillon's 5-year anniversary.

South Carolina ports are a huge driver to a robust economy in our State, and I am proud that the Seventh District in the Pee Dee plays such an integral role in our State's port system through the Inland Port Dillon.

When I visited there last month, Mr. Speaker, I witnessed firsthand how the port connects South Carolina businesses to a global marketplace.

I thank the dedicated team at the Inland Port Dillon for their work to import and export thousands of container ships every year.

This port is as beneficial to the Pee Dee as it is to the rest of the State. It is a huge driver for job growth and economic development in this underserved area of South Carolina.

I look forward to seeing the port's future success and positive impact in our region.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I first want to take a moment to honor an esteemed pastor in my district, Pastor Ricky Bell, who has passed away after a valiant, strong, and vigorous fight against devastating cancer.

I offer my sympathy to the members of the Forest Lawn Baptist Church, and to say to them, he was more than a giant in northeast Houston and in Houston, to his first lady, First Lady Bell, and to his family.

I thank Pastor Bell for being a champion of veterans, for providing veterans housing, for being a force for education, and for being a spiritual leader.

As we mourn Pastor Bell, and as we attend his going-home services, we honor the life that he led.

I ask Members of this House to honor him and mourn him in their own silent way.

Mr. Speaker, let me also acknowledge, at this time, that I ask my colleagues to join me in a resolution condemning the inaction by the Islamic Republic of Iran in addressing the poisoning of Iranian school girls—yes, poisoning the daughters of the Iranian Revolution and the formation of the Iranian Congressional Caucus.

Over 500 people have been killed in the mass revolution of women and girls. Let me say this: Stop the poisoning of Iranian school children.

TITLE IX MUST BE DEFENDED

(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, I am glad to rise today in support of Congressman STEUBE's H.R. 734. It is amazing how contorted this argument has become.

This is simply about protecting women and girls in sports. We have seen what has happened when we don't. We have seen in women's cage fighting, where you have a biological male cracking the heads of the women in there. It is so uncompetitive.

Girls in college sports or women's sports when they step up to the starting line in track meets feel already defeated because there are two biological males running against them.

Are we going to protect women and girls in sports and the rest of life or not?

This legislation simply goes in the direction of allowing sports to be competitive once again for women and

girls. This legislation is not about all the other things that the folks on the other side of the aisle are trying to turn it into.

It is simple and it is really essential if we want to have our women and our girls not feel defeated right out of the chute.

I don't know where the feminists are, but there are a lot of us men that feel strongly about this, supporting this, and supporting Title IX, and the whole concept that men and women are different. Girls and women deserve the same chance as everybody else.

C-SPAN STUDENTCAM WINNERS

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate students from my district, Orange County, California, for winning C-SPAN's 2023 StudentCam documentary film competition. Congratulations.

This competition invites high school and middle school students to make documentaries on issues of national importance.

This year, they were asked to answer the question: "If you were just elected to Congress, what would be your priorities?"

Amber Khaub, Darwin Lopez, Evan Spence, and Christian Kim made exceptional films engaging with issues of artificial intelligence, agriculture, and the environment. Their films were among the best and few of those that actually won an award out of nearly 3,000 entries.

It is inspiring to see them grow and be so successful.

Congratulations to all of them. We are very proud.

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TODAY'S R&D DOLLARS CREATE TOMORROW'S JOBS

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

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the American Innovation and R&D Competitiveness Act.

Our country is filled with talented innovators who put their heart and imagination into new ideas that advance our Nation. Through research and development, their incredible breakthroughs can come to fruition.

Unfortunately, the R&D immediate expensing tax provision expired at the end of 2021, removing the incentive to prioritize research and development in the United States.

By disincentivizing R&D here at home, American tax policy encourages manufacturing and production to move abroad. That is why I am reintroducing bipartisan legislation that encourages R&D throughout the country.

Sixty-four original cosponsors have joined me and Congressman JOHN LAR-

SON to make R&D immediate expensing permanent, cementing this critical tax provision and reestablishing the United States as the leader in research and development.

Today's research and development dollars create tomorrow's jobs, and we need to keep R&D dollars inside our country where they can help strengthen American businesses and workers.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in advancing this critical legislation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ERIN O'QUINN

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

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to my chief of staff, Erin O'Quinn.

Erin and I met just a week after I was elected to Congress. This was in November 2018. It was an overwhelming time. There was a lot to organize, and job number one was to find a chief of staff.

Dr. AMI BERA suggested that I meet his deputy chief, Erin. We sat down to coffee and hit it off. I never looked back. I knew right away I could trust Erin to guide me through this whole new world of Washington, D.C., which was quite a contrast from the life of a community pediatrician.

I still remember that first meeting when she asked me what I wanted The Seattle Times editorial board to say about me in 2020. It was a way to figure out my values and goals. Wouldn't you know it? Two years later, the comments made by The Seattle Times endorsement board were remarkably similar to what we set out to achieve.

Erin understands the value of a strong team, remarkable constituent services, outreach, and townhalls. She made sure I was everywhere in the district and that we hired the best team members with hearts of gold and a dedication to service.

With a background in social work, she kept our team in sync and collaborative, and several of our staff are still here today.

I couldn't have done it without Erin. We could not have done it without Erin. I thank Erin and wish her all the best in the next chapter in her life. We will miss her.

MIFEPRISTONE SHOULD REMAIN APPROVED AND ACCESSIBLE

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day after a week of chaos and confusion following the Supreme Court's decision to allow mifepristone's status to remain as it has been: approved and accessible.

Let me be clear. The fight is not over. The Supreme Court needs to do

its job and reject this ridiculous effort to thrust unjustified grudges into the FDA approval process and further limit access to abortion.

Women deserve safe and fair access to medication when they need it. Women deserve to have medication without interference from judges and politicians. Women must be treated as equals and have agency over our bodies and our lives.

Mr. Speaker, mifepristone's approval is still in jeopardy. The Supreme Court Justices should keep their bans off our bodies. Access to this medication must be protected. Our rights must be protected.

This fight is not over, and we will never concede.

UNITED NATIONS IGNORES AUDITORS' REQUESTS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have a lot of committee hearings and a lot of subcommittee hearings here every week, and the press is not able to adequately cover them all.

I highlight the committee hearing in which we examined the current assistance of the United States toward what is left of Afghanistan.

The United States, being the United States, even after we left that country, gives from \$4 billion to \$5 billion in aid, which should be humanitarian aid to help the Afghan people. In the hearing, we heard from the inspector general, who is somewhat of an auditor of American programs, as to what was becoming of the money.

Our wonderful United Nations, together with the State Department, together with the Department of Defense, together with the USAID, some of these agencies breaking the law, refused to open up their books and tell our auditors what they are doing with the money.

I hope, as we head into appropriations season, we do not forget that when we give money to the United Nations, they ignore our requests to find out what is happening to the money. I hope the American public also remembers what the Departments of Defense and State are doing.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

(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, I rise today in recognition of National Alcohol Awareness Month.

This Nation is in the midst of a war for the protection and longevity of our children. We have found ourselves battling epidemics at an unprecedented magnitude, many of which are plaguing our youth: violence, suicide, mental health, and, most notably, substance abuse.