

How about the next thing? Have you seen the over-the-skin—as a matter of fact, I saw the article that a future Apple Watch is going to have a blood glucose meter in it. What would happen if our prediabetic population could watch what is happening to their body without pricking themselves, if they could see it right there on their phone? Would that change society if you could stabilize the prediabetic population? Remember, diabetes is 33 percent of all healthcare spending.

How about these GLP-1s? I have an article from the University of Southern California, which I am still upset they are moving to the Big Ten instead of the Pac-12, but that is a whole different discussion. The article basically says just the use of GLP-1s in the Medicare population, not Medicaid, would be a trillion bucks, a trillion-dollar impact to the positive. We need to study that. Is that Republican or Democrat, or is it just giving a darn?

I came here a couple of weeks ago about the company that has this incredible stem cell that they have tagged with CRISPR so the body doesn't reject it, so you don't have to have antirejection drugs. It is in phase one that actually gets a body producing islet cells again, meaning your body produces insulin again. That may be at the end of the decade, but because of the way they are doing it, you can do it in a biofoundry fashion, which means you could have a production line. It doesn't have to be designed to you.

Why wouldn't we, as we are doing the budget discussion and all these other things, set a decade vision saying we are going to stabilize prediabetic populations, that we are going to help our brothers and sisters get healthy again? Dear heavens, if it works, at the end of the decade, we could actually have people who rep parts of their body system to start producing insulin again. It would be worth trillions and trillions of dollars of less borrowing.

That is a vision, and this place is incapable, almost incapable, of processing vision, but the reality is upon us.

Annual spend for Medicare and Medicaid, this number is already not enough. By the end of the decade, it is functionally a trillion dollars more annually, and the majority of that money will be borrowed.

In a weird way, I wanted to close on this. We are still the shiny object in the industrialized world. We are still better off than people we compete with. We need to embrace that but not lay on our laurels. We need to stop the stupid types of conversations we have here on the floor where we talk about the shiny object instead of the things that take us down as a republic, which is debt, which is actually our economics.

Understand, this is what is called a dependency ratio, and it is not a derogatory term. It is an economic term of: Here is what I have in the labor market in a country, and here is how many

people I have not in the labor market. It is not complex math.

We hear the conversations about China, China, China. China is a problem, but China is on the verge of a collapse demographically. I am one of those who believes much of what we see China doing is they are running around the world trying to build annuities because with their one-child policy and all the other things they did, they are collapsing demographically. They start to roll over in the next couple of years, where, boom, their working population is collapsing.

Is that why you go out and buy ports and farmland, because you are trying to turn the world into an annuity so you have cash flow? It is worth thinking about.

Here is Japan. Japan is already way down here, and they actually sort of flatlined, but Japan has done incredibly creative things, incentives for seniors. If you are healthy and you want to, we are going to make it advantageous if you want to stay in the labor force. Adoption of technology—they have incredibly high savings rates. They are able to finance much of their own debt. We don't. We have a society where the majority of our population is living paycheck to paycheck, substantially because of inflation.

We fall, but we don't fall nearly as hard. Our demographic curve is ugly, but it is so much less ugly than Western Europe, Japan, and China. The reason we did these three countries, these are the number one, number two, and number three size economies in the world.

If we get the most basic tax, regulatory, immigration, adoption of technology policies right here, this can be a hell of a great decade. It can be a hell of a great century. This could once again be another American century.

□ 1215

I will argue it will be the decisions made in this timeframe, in this year and next year, because we are at the inflection.

You see it demographically in the chart. We are at the time of inflection. Do we actually step up and use an IQ around here, or do we still sound like it is the 1990s politically?

For everyone who is terrified of a chat AI, grow up. It could actually be one of the next generations of economic growth, if do you it right. Embrace it, learn it, get it right, and run with it.

The new stem cell therapies; the fact we might cure diabetes, the fact that there are things we can do. Understand it, learn it, run with it.

Fix this stupid immigration system. Close up our borders. Stop importing poverty. Bring in talent. There are just simple things.

The Tax Code. Get it so it incentivizes risk taking and investment to grow. You don't need a Ph.D. in this stuff. You may be required to be literate. Maybe that is a problem.

Our running joke here is I work in a place that is a math-free zone. That was meant to be funny, but it is sort of sarcastic and cruel.

I believe really, really good things can happen. We have to get the policies right. My rage that I feel is I don't believe this place has even come close to actually having those pro-growth, those sort of growth is moral, what are we going to do-type conversations, and then to turn it into policy.

I am exhausted. I just don't know how to drag this place over the line so they actually think.

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

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I rise today, Mr. Speaker, with a departure from my message that I fully intended to give, one that I believe to be exceedingly important.

I rise today to deviate from my message because of circumstances that occurred in the course of events here at the House of Representatives.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we had a Holocaust remembrance take place. It is a memorial, if you will, a very special occasion that requires solemnity and commemoration; a commemoration for the victims of the Holocaust.

We were fortunate enough to have this opportunity to hear from victims of the Holocaust; survivors, if you will.

If you are a survivor, and a relative was lost, in my world, that makes you a victim too. Maybe all wouldn't agree with me.

This event took place in the Capitol Visitor Center, right in the area where the Statue of Freedom is. An appropriate place for it, I might add.

It was an event that I had been looking forward to because I had not attended this event in the years that have passed since I have been in Congress. I was looking forward to this for a multiplicity of reasons.

I was there at the event. The event started with the usual things that events will start with; music, bringing in persons who are to be recognized and commemorated.

The persons who are the survivors came in, a good many of them. The number I could not count because I came in as they were moving in, as well.

There were Members of Congress present. I wasn't the only one. We were there. As the ceremony proceeded, we had a vote, and I had to leave.

I am the grandson of a preacher. I was taught that there are some things that you don't do under certain circumstances.

In my church, you could not move when we arrived at a special portion of

the proceedings. When my grandfather was giving his message, there was no movement. So this is something that is a part of my DNA, to remain where you are.

I had to make a decision. There was a vote on, and it was something of importance. All votes are important, by the way, all are, but this was something of importance to a good many of my constituents.

I had to make a decision. Would I stay and honor the tradition that my grandfather instilled in me, or would I leave, walk out of the ceremony as it was taking place?

I want to apologize to the persons who were hosting this event. I want to apologize to the survivors who were present because I did walk out, and I did come, and I did cast my vote.

I would hope that ceremonies such as this would be recognized by us, we, the Members of this great body, the House of Representatives.

I would hope that they would be recognized to the extent that we could organize our much needed, much appreciated by our constituents, those votes that we cast.

I just believe that there is a way to have a Holocaust remembrance ceremony and not have votes at the very same time. I believe we can do it.

I went back to the ceremony after my first vote. I want to explain why I think it is so important to do this because as I sat there and we went through the ceremony, we had one speaker to give us a recitation about the Holocaust itself.

The thing that stands out in my mind were the words silence being at the root cause of Nazi Germany being able to proceed.

Silence when people knew, knew what was going on, intelligence was accorded to various countries, we knew, but the silence. Nobody stood up. The silence.

Sometimes silence can be perceived as consent. The silence. I will forever remember the words silence being at the root.

Here is what silence did. I made a note. I often take notes. The SS *St. Louis* was a ship with some 900 Jewish refugees; 900.

They left Europe. They were fleeing Germany. They were headed to Cuba, assuming that 900 people, some 900, could find a place of safety.

Women, children; this was not an army. These were people who were fleeing Nazi Germany. Cuba would not accept them; turned away. This is what silence does.

When you know something is wrong, and you will sit, stand, continue with your daily lives knowing that an atrocity is taking place, and not only are you silent, but those that you could extend the hand of friendship, you reject. Some 900 people.

They didn't stop there. The SS *St. Louis*, I am ashamed and embarrassed to say, took them to our coast. Rejected by us.

Silence can lead to unspeakable atrocities. Silence when one can speak up and should speak up, when one can make a difference, can cause great harm to manifest itself, but it also does this.

When you know and you are silent, and you have people who are reaching out and begging for help and you reject them, that in and of itself—that in and of itself is a means by which your silence and your failure to extend the hand of friendship becomes a part of the perpetuation of a problem, and this was more than a problem.

They didn't stop here. They went on to Canada. Rejected. Now, these were innocent people, fleeing Nazi Germany, rejected by Cuba, turned away at the United States, not allowed to proceed to Canada, back across the ocean where hundreds died.

This is what the Holocaust perpetrated upon humanity; a sense that if you just keep your mouth shut and stay in your place, things will go away eventually.

I am not sure that is what people were thinking, but the optics would connote that this was possible. This was possibly what their thoughts were.

So I sat there. By the way, I confess. I and persons next to me and behind me we were all sobbing as we listened to what was happening; their story.

All of us, tears welling in our eyes, rolling down our faces, and then, of course, we had another vote. I came back to cast my vote because I represent people who expect me to be here to vote, so I came back to cast my vote.

I don't have a perfect voting record. I have missed votes. I came back to cast my vote, and I went back. When I went back, we were shown pictures that were in the hands of Holocaust survivors, these persons who were there today to share their stories.

I have pictures. They had in each of our seats pictures of people. These are some of the people that were given to us in some way associated with the Holocaust.

Here is a baby. I assume that is his mother and father. The names are given here, but they don't indicate exactly who they are here. There is another young man. It looks like a family.

□ 1230

Along with the pictures that were given to us, this survivor had pictures of relatives, and they told their stories. In one photograph, one person said: "This is a picture of my mother and my father." Please forgive me if I don't get it entirely correct. I was there, but it was tough just being there. Mother, father, and she said: "My brother was in the stroller."

I am standing over here and each one told us how the family or some family member was taken away, how they suffered the ultimate horror of the Holocaust.

I cannot tell you how moved I was because some things are inexplicable.

There are no words. Someone would ask: Well, AL GREEN, are you a Jew? No, I am not. But I am a human being. I am a human being.

The suffering of any one of us is suffering that every one of us ought to abhor. We ought not allow suffering to take place and not want to do something about it. We cannot be silent in the face of suffering.

This is why I came to this floor just a few days ago to speak on the subject of young people, at least one of whom was killed under circumstances that make no sense. It makes no sense for a person to be killed who pulls into a driveway of another person's home or property. That makes no sense.

It makes no sense for a person to ring a doorbell and be shot, miraculously surviving, but shot, not once but twice, ringing a doorbell at the wrong address in the wrong driveway.

It makes no sense for cheerleaders, the innocence of youth, to simply get in the wrong car and someone ends up in the emergency room at the hospital. It makes no sense.

Who among us can say that you have never made such a mistake?

There may be some, but a good many of us have. When we made that mistake, we were able to walk away. I did. I have done similar things. I was able to walk away. These people were shot. One is no longer with us. Ringing a doorbell, getting shot; pulling up into the wrong driveway, mistakenly getting into the wrong vehicle, and shot.

I ask this question quite regularly: What is wrong with us? What is wrong with us?

We should be in mourning. The country should be in mourning, just for these folks. The unfortunate circumstance is, we know that it will happen again and again and again.

As a result of our knowing, because we have seen the past and we have already prognosticated that what has happened would likely happen, so we believe it will happen later, and we now have normalized this kind of behavior, literally.

It has become something that is anticipated. When we watch the news now, we are waiting for the next edition.

What is wrong with us?

We didn't learn the lessons of Nazi Germany and what silence does when wrong is being perpetrated? We saw what can happen when wrong is perpetrated and lives are lost senselessly and needlessly.

Now, I am not comparing what happened here to what happened in Nazi Germany. It is totally different, but the silence isn't. The silence is not. The fact that this House, the place where we can make a difference, officially, we have done nothing to make that difference. Silence.

I refuse to be silent. I refuse to be silent when these kinds of atrocities are taking place in this country. Yes, one of them was Black, but this is not about his color; it is about his life. Yes,

there were females, but it is not about their sex; it is about their lives. There was one that was just eviscerated, all of their future gone.

Who knows what she would have done had she had the opportunity?

I won't be silent. I refuse to let the world believe that I, in any way, would stand for allowing the kind of lethality that we have across the length and breadth of this country to be there without some degree of regulations.

What is wrong with us?

Do we believe that this level of lethality is going to somehow cure itself?

That seems to be the argument. The answer to people who shouldn't have guns, who are doing these ugly things, the answer is, let's everybody get a gun. That is not the answer.

For fear that someone did not clearly understand what I just said, I will say it again: It is not the answer. More guns will not solve the problem of these people who have been hurt and some died. That is not the solution.

Allowing the NRA to bring legislation forth, among others, which would grant the gun manufacturers immunity from prosecution, civil prosecution, can't be.

The gun manufacturers can with impunity place this lethality in the public domain. Immune. The Congress of the United States of America granted immunity to the purveyors of this lethality.

What is wrong with us?

To say now that we are moving toward a world where you can buy a gun, all you need is money. That is where we are headed.

If you can afford it, you will be able to buy it. That is where many would have us go. I am not one of them, obviously. They don't want a background check. As long as you got the money, you got a deal. There is no desire to get some sense of who this person is that will walk away with the lethality that can take a person's life in a second, instantly.

Now, I am not saying that the persons who had those guns in all these other circumstances, I don't know how they acquired them, so this is not about them, specifically. It is about us and this House, and where are we going and why are we silent and why are we allowing this to happen, to be able to purchase lethality without a background check and to be able to purchase lethality that belongs in some distant war—hopefully, never one here, hopefully never one any place. Never.

I am antithetical to war. But this level of lethality for people who engage in mortal combat, we would allow this to be among the people without any kind of background check?

What is wrong with us?

I assure you—and I need not do so—but when I spoke on this initially on the floor a couple of days ago now, I believe it was, I said: "It can happen to your child or you." It really can. None of us are safe.

Yes, you can pack, you can carry your weapon, but you are not safe.

If you think having a bigger weapon is going to cause you to be safe, you are just wrong because that means that this level of lethality is out there and in the hands of people without background checks, without red flag laws to signal that somebody shouldn't have something with this level of death and destruction associated with it. These are instrumentalities that produce deadly force.

I will not be silent. I am not silent because I just realized that it doesn't end with one person. The siloing of this in our minds is a mistake. There is connectivity, so I won't be silent.

I am always going to speak up. I am always going to speak out. I do so not because I am Black, and a Black person was shot. I do so not because I have Jewish friends and I am not Jewish.

I do so because it is humanity that we have to protect, and we ought to live up to our Pledge of Allegiance: liberty and justice for all.

There was no liberty and justice for all for those folks who were in that driveway; for those cheerleaders who were there when one of them got into the wrong car. No liberty and justice for all for that young man who rang the doorbell at the wrong house.

Liberty and justice for all. That is our promise in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I want us to live up to our promise and let us not be silent on the great issues of our time. Let's not schedule events that merit the degree of solemnity and commemoration that Holocaust Remembrance Day so richly deserves. Let's not schedule votes when these events are taking place.

□ 1245

Let's not do that. Someone would say, well, you know, you are going to make people angry with you for coming to the floor with this.

Friends, we all have to suffer slings and arrows when we are right. This is a righteous position, and sometimes you have to stand alone. I have found it is better to stand alone than not stand at all.

I beg that next year, when we have Holocaust Remembrance, and it will happen again next year, that we respect the solemnity and the need to commemorate those lives that were lost by at least scheduling such that there is no conflict and there are no votes.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, April 24, 2023, at 11 a.m.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 2733. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to require the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive training developed by the Inspector General of the Department on reporting wrongdoing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating with the Office of Inspector General of the Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 2734. A bill to provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 2735. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation preparedness and response program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. SYKES, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. PORTER, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. EVANS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. CHU, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. BALINT, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2736. A bill to prohibit disinformation in the advertising of abortion services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mrs. BOBBERT, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 2737. A bill to require the President to suspend the entry of aliens into the United States when the average number of "encounters" exceeds a certain number, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H.R. 2738. A bill to amend section 235(b)(2)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 2739. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to establish a public-private partnership for near-term quantum application development and acceleration,