

Korea. Now, I am living my American dream.

Today, we celebrate the strength of Korean-American communities like those in southern California. We recognize the power and impact of our achievements, and we honor the shared heritage of Korean Americans across our Nation.

As one of the first Korean-American woman to serve in Congress, I am proud to recognize this important day and to honor the millions of Korean Americans who have contributed so much to the success of the United States of America.

#### COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM IN BRAZIL

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, it should not be a partisan issue to support democracies globally and, in particular, affirm the results of the free, fair, and credible Presidential election in Brazil last fall.

The radio silence of my Republican colleagues regarding the January 8 attack on Brazilian democracy is inconsistent with their professed concern over freedom.

On a bipartisan basis, we should denounce a would-be autocrat who refuses to accept the results of elections and is taking refuge within the United States.

Our contempt should also extend to American extremists who are undermining democratic institutions at home and abroad.

Our commitment to democratic freedom cannot be selective. Fascism and communism are two sides of the same authoritarian coin.

Standing up for democratic values is not just about standing up to the Chinese Communist Party. It is about condemning autocratic movements globally.

We must defend democratic institutions here and everywhere, including any conspiracy undermining Brazilian democracy.

#### CONGRATULATING SHINGLEHOUSE AMERICAN LEGION POST 503

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Shinglehouse American Legion Post 530 in Potter County on its 100th anniversary.

This Friday, January 13, will be 100 years since its charter was enacted.

In celebration of this monumental anniversary, Shinglehouse is hosting a weeklong open house for the public. Events include special meals, activities for all ages, and lots of prizes.

In the early years of the Shinglehouse American Legion, mem-

bers gathered at the drycleaning shop of "Shorty" Klinger. As time went on and membership grew, the post reached its top membership in 1999 when it had 284 members and 271 social members.

Today, it remains a traditional-style legion, with community engagement and a focus on projects that support the legions four pillars: Veterans affairs and rehabilitation, national security, Americanism, and children and youth.

The post continues to support community projects like Adopt-a-Highway, local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, and the Wounded Warriors.

Mr. Speaker, the Shinglehouse American Legion Post 530 continues to serve as a community pillar. From supporting local charities, to providing a meeting house for veterans of all ages, they remain an important part of the community.

Congratulations to all Shinglehouse American Legion members on their centennial anniversary.

#### NOT WHAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SIGNED UP FOR

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, after all the excitement over the Speaker's race last week, it was good to get down to work this week, or not.

Let's recap. The new Republican majority protected rich donors from paying their fair share in taxes, naturally, and in the process delayed working families from getting their tax refunds. Way to go.

Next up, a select committee on the so-called weaponization of the Federal Government. Nothing like a Joe McCarthy-style committee to stoke more fear and distrust of the Federal Government only 2 years after the attack on our Capitol. And then criminalizing women's healthcare, because, of course, that is why the American people gave the Republicans the majority.

The red wave the Republicans dreamed about never materialized because the American people rejected their far-right agenda up and down the ballot. Clearly, they didn't get the message.

Yet, they did nothing to tackle inflation, the biggest issue for the American people in the last election.

Mr. Speaker, this isn't what the American people signed up for. It is going to be a long 2 years if this is all they are going to do.

#### HONORING DR. JONATHAN FLORES

(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 my honor to stand here and celebrate the induction of Chief of Police Dr. Jonathan Flores from Alton, Texas, to

the National Law Enforcement Officer Hall of Fame.

Chief Flores has been both progressive and innovative by growing his partnerships within the community and surrounding agencies. His hard work and perseverance clearly demonstrate his dedication to the community. This momentous occasion truly reflects his great impact both as a law enforcement officer and chief.

On behalf of Texas' 15th Congressional District, I have the honor to thank Chief Jonathan Flores for his life of service to our community and to our country.

#### RECOGNIZING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the school board members from the seven school districts in my district in recognition of School Board Member Appreciation Month.

I am incredibly grateful for the extremely devoted school board members across my district from Aldine, Houston, Galena Park, Channelview, Sheldon, Pasadena, and Humble ISDs.

These folks are doing incredible work on behalf of the people and are the most important public servants I can think of. They are shaping the next generation of leaders by ensuring our schools are places where students can learn, explore, and dream.

I know that keeping our schools running smoothly and safely comes with plenty of late nights and a lot of behind-the-scenes work. I am truly grateful for the work of all these school board members and their service to the next generation of leaders. I thank them for always putting children over politics, classrooms over bathrooms, books over bullets, and teaching over talking points.

#### STEEL INDUSTRY IS THE BACKBONE OF OUR NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my district's leading industries that continues to grow and provide good-paying jobs to hardworking Americans.

According to the World Steel Association, more than 6 million people work in the steel industry across the Nation. In Mississippi County, Arkansas, thousands of men and women are employed at steel mills and are some of the highest paid workers in my district.

The steel industry is the backbone of our Nation's infrastructure whether it is used to build roads, freight rail,

schools, or even green energy projects. Steel is at the heart of it all, and its growth will only continue.

In 2017 alone, the American Steel and Iron Institute found that the industry was responsible for \$520 billion in economic output, and that number continues to rise.

Recently, U.S. Steel announced the biggest capital investment in the history of Arkansas right in my district, bringing with it 900 new jobs.

As the chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, I will fight for policies that support the growth of the steel industry and promote exports of American steel. I am committed to working with the industry to get our steel on the market at home and across the globe.

#### HOUSE DEMOCRATS ARE UNITED

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand in this well and represent the people of Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Last week, for the first time in 100 years, the House failed to organize on opening day. As a new Member of Congress, I found it to be a sad day for this body as an institution, a sad day for democracy, and a sad day for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, House Democrats are united and prepared to try to find common ground with the other side of the aisle to solve problems on behalf of the American people, but I am not sure if I will find a willing partner across the aisle because of extreme viewpoints.

The start of the 118th Congress has, in its short time of existence, seen some sad days. These sad days must stop now. Let's get to work.

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#### PROTECTING AMERICA'S STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE FROM CHINA ACT

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 5, I call up the bill (H.R. 22) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from sending petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUTHERFORD). Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 22

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

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act".

##### SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SALES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FROM THE STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE TO CHINA.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Energy shall not draw

down and sell petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve—

(1) to any entity that is under the ownership, control, or influence of the Chinese Communist Party; or

(2) except on the condition that such petroleum products will not be exported to the People's Republic of China.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS).

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 22.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 22, the Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act.

America is suffering through the worst energy crisis in decades. President Biden and the Democrats' radical rush to green agenda is making life unaffordable for people all across this country. It is driving record inflation, straining household budgets, and weakening our electric grid.

Under President Biden and the Democrats' control of Congress, gas prices rose to the highest levels in history. Some were forced to pay more than \$6 per gallon. Gas prices are still 40 percent higher today. Diesel prices are up almost \$2 a gallon more than when President Biden took office.

The Federal Government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers, especially when it makes us more dangerously dependent upon China for critical minerals, solar panels, and batteries to produce our own energy and electricity, and strengthens Russia and OPEC's grip on world oil and gas markets.

Now, to cover up his failed policies driving our energy and inflation crisis, President Biden drained our Nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve at an alarming rate. America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve, once the world's largest stockpile, has been depleted to the lowest levels since 1983.

President Biden released an unprecedented 250 million barrels of oil in less than 2 years, more than all former Presidents combined. As we know, much of that oil went to China because our refineries and pipelines are full. It now has nowhere to go here.

In April, the Biden administration sold a million barrels directly to a state-owned Chinese company. Millions more barrels went to overseas traders, who eventually sent it to China.

We also know that China is ramping up its purchases of crude oil from Russia and the U.S. to boost its own reserves. China now controls the world's largest government-controlled stockpile of oil, with almost a billion barrels, at the expense of American taxpayers and our energy security.

America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve is meant for true energy supply disruptions, like those caused by hurricanes and natural disasters, not to help China. Draining our strategic reserves for political purposes and selling portions of it to China is a significant threat to our national security.

The administration is not just hurting our own ability to respond to emergencies and national security events; they are actively bolstering the oil reserves of our most dangerous geopolitical adversary, the Chinese Communist Party. This is unacceptable, and it must stop.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and prohibit the sale and export of Strategic Petroleum Reserve crude oil to China.

H.R. 22 prevents the Secretary of Energy from selling any products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to any entity owned by or under the control or influence of the CCP, or selling to any other entity that intends to export to China.

Enacting H.R. 22, preventing the Biden administration from wasting our strategic reserves, is the first step toward flipping the switch and unleashing American energy production.

America has led the world in reducing carbon emissions and promoting innovation by utilizing our abundant, clean, affordable, and reliable energy. We can restore this leadership without sacrificing our energy security or making everyday life unaffordable for people.

That starts by enacting smart, workable, all-of-the-above strategies that build on this legacy by lowering costs and emissions across the country. It includes making our infrastructure and electricity grid more resilient and unleashing innovation for cleaner natural gas, emissions-free hydropower and nuclear power, and carbon capture technologies.

Republicans support a level playing field with a balance of energy sources but without handing the keys of our energy future over to the Chinese Communist Party.

It is time to cut the red tape, expand energy production here at home, modernize our infrastructure, invest in new technologies, and create opportunities for jobs and economic development right here in the United States of America.

I look forward to passage of this bill today, and I am eager to get to work