

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of eastern North Carolina.

Nearly 100,000 eastern North Carolinians do not have access to affordable healthcare, placing them in the Medicaid coverage gap.

Madam Speaker, more than a decade after the passage of the Affordable Care Act, 12 States have declined to expand coverage. This is simply unacceptable.

That is why one of my first acts as a Member of Congress included cosponsoring H.R. 31, the COVER Now Act. This bill, introduced by my good friend, LLOYD DOGGETT of Texas, is a critical piece of legislation that would allow local authorities to provide health benefits to residents of States that have not expanded Medicaid.

Madam Speaker, the hardworking people of eastern North Carolina make up more than 20 percent of our State, and we must do all that we can to keep them safe and healthy.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

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

Mr. MCGARVEY. Madam Speaker, when the Supreme Court overturned Roe last summer, they took away hard-fought rights from millions of women across our country.

Now women in Kentucky no longer have access to safe and legal abortions, even in cases of rape and incest.

The country responded at the ballot box, and my district overwhelmingly rejected a constitutional amendment to further restrict reproductive rights in Kentucky.

So how do we respond here?

Last night the House Republicans' first order of business was to make it even harder for women to receive abortions and for healthcare professionals to provide them. These decisions are best left between a woman and her doctor. But House Republicans have sent a clear message that more legislative attacks against women's rights are on the horizon.

I proudly voted against yesterday's attack on women and their doctors, and I will continue fighting for reproductive rights.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today for the first time as a Member of Congress to thank the folks back home in Cincinnati and throughout the First Congressional District. I couldn't be more energized to be serving all of you and the country that we love.

My commitment to you and my new colleagues, Madam Speaker, is to be

here as a new, transparent, bipartisan, and highly reliable leader.

We are already working with Republicans on legislative priorities that will help our children and families back home to cap the costs of insulin for children, to help folks pay their bills with an expanded earned income tax credit and a child tax credit, and to provide additional grants to communities to recruit more police officers and firefighters.

There will always be more that unites us than divides us.

My work will continue to find common ground working across the aisle to get things done on the issues that matter most to us.

STANDING UP FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

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

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, last November the American people delivered a clear message: Women want the right to make their own reproductive decisions.

My Republican colleagues must have missed that message because they just passed a bill that inserts politics into private family decisions.

That bill is an attempt to create a false and gruesome narrative to interfere with a doctor's care for her patients and to falsely suggest that doctors don't already have a legal obligation to provide the best possible care for their patients.

This fearmongering is dangerous. It could leave doctors fearful of providing the best care for patients who are facing devastating circumstances. It could cause further pain to families facing the heartbreak of a fetus with a fatal abnormality.

The real aim of this bill is to vilify and punish women and their doctors.

I voted "no" on H.R. 26. I will continue to stand up for women's reproductive rights.

NYSNA STRIKE

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

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate the nurses of Mount Sinai and Montefiore Medical Center who, after 3 days on strike, reached a tentative agreement for safe staffing ratios this morning. Our hospitals are facing extreme nursing shortages, and it is affecting patient care.

Montefiore Medical Center, which is in my district, has had 760 vacancies. But thanks to the tentative agreement and the courage and efforts of our nurses on the picket line, hospital management is now committing to an aggressive hiring plan and to immediately implement staffing ratios, in-

cluding an increase of over 170 nursing positions and a 19.1 percent wage increase and additional benefits to help with retention.

I thank so much the New York State Nurses Association, NYSNA, for their work. It is our privilege to stand in solidarity with them.

COMMEMORATING KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

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

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate Korean American Day tomorrow.

I am proud to represent Koreatown in Los Angeles, the largest Korean-American community of any congressional district in the country.

Tomorrow, we recognize the landmark 120th anniversary of the arrival of the first Korean-American immigrants to the United States, and we honor the enduring legacy, sacrifices, and contributions made by generations of Korean Americans.

This is why I urge my colleagues to support my resolution to recognize the ideals of Korean American Day and essential contributions of Korean Americans to American life.

Madam Speaker, it is a great honor to represent a community whose history and culture are so valuable both individually, and as a part of our larger, diverse American identity.

Since coming to Congress, I've made it a priority to ensure the Korean American community gets the awareness and support it deserves.

That is why I've pushed Congress to recognize the sacrifices of Korean and Korean American veterans throughout the last century.

It is why I recently fought to secure \$7 million for the creation of the Korean American National Museum, the first museum in the nation dedicated to honoring over a century of Korean American history and culture.

And it's why I am leading this year's efforts to recognize the monumental milestone of 120 years of Korean American culture, and the countless contributions Korean Americans have made to our country.

As I continue to work every day to represent and uplift the Korean American community in Los Angeles, I am grateful for the continued partnership of Korean American organizations in my district.

The Korean American Federation of Los Angeles, led by President James An, has and will continue to serve as a powerful voice and strong advocate for Korean Americans in the Los Angeles area. Their programs and services help form the backbone of Koreatown and have helped keep the community together and strong, overcoming decades of challenges, discrimination and titanic changes in our city.

The Koreatown Youth and Community Center, led by their Executive Director, John Ho Song, has spent nearly half a decade serving at risk youth in Los Angeles as the leading multiservice organization in Koreatown. Their support for Korean American youth and their families, especially recent immigrants and the economically disadvantaged is essential in ensuring everyone in Koreatown has access to healthcare, housing and education.

These organizations, and many others like them are essential to sustaining and strengthening Los Angeles' Korean community and I am privileged to work alongside them every day to make sure Koreatown and all Korean Americans get the support they deserve from our federal government.

This Korean American Day, I hope all my colleagues, constituents and fellow Americans take the time to reflect on and fully honor the continuing positive influence and impact the Korean American community has on our Country.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 12, 2023.

I hereby designate the period from Friday, January 13, 2023, through Monday, January 23, 2023, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

Mr. SMITH, New Jersey, Chair
Mr. MCGOVERN, Massachusetts

UNLEASHING AMERICAN ENERGY

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the time to address the House.

Isn't it outstanding, Madam Speaker, to see the people's House open, once again, to the public, have the public in our galleries, and see the Capitol open to our families.

That is a big change after the years of the pandemic and our Chamber being closed from the citizens and families who send us here to Washington. So that is a great way to have seen this House under Republican majority leadership open the week.

As we close this first week under Republican leadership back in the majority on this House floor, it is also good to see my colleagues on the other side of the aisle put a premium on talking about bipartisanship.

I particularly like my friend from Ohio (Mr. LANDSMAN) and Mr. SORENSON of Illinois, two new freshman

Members on the House floor for the first time this week as fully sworn Members of Congress talking about their priorities as newly elected Democrats and seeking bipartisanship on this side of the aisle.

This week the House has taken two important steps regarding our strategic competition with the Chinese Communist Party, the CCP, and, Madam Speaker, those steps on this House floor were overwhelmingly bipartisan.

First, we created a Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the CCP, which is our vision of an integrated, open, and free world where people can celebrate their religion, people can travel, and people can trade. That strategic competition presses the Western values of Europe and the United States with the more narrow and authoritarian view of the Chinese Communist Party.

Secondly, we prevented oil being released from our Strategic Petroleum Reserve and that being sold to Communist China. Today over 320 Members of this body agreed with that by voting "yes" on H.R. 22.

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve has played an important role in U.S. energy and national security policy for four decades. It was created in response to the Arab oil embargo in the early 1970s which resulted in the tripling of oil prices at the time.

□ 1145

Since that time, the SPR has remained a backstop for the United States in case of oil supply disruption.

Madam Speaker, those on the other side of the aisle talked about America becoming the largest exporting nation in the world and that somehow that is a bad thing and that we freed our ability to export oil and gas outside the U.S., as if that were a bad thing. It is not.

They are two completely different issues. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is there for an emergency affecting the United States, our citizens, our households, our industry, principally in case of a Gulf hurricane or a disruption in a pipeline, or in some other aspect of oil and gas disruption from war or an accident somewhere in the world. It is not meant to be supplying oil, per se, to everybody besides the United States.

Just over the last year, President Biden has released 180 million barrels of our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, bringing it down to a 1985 level, a four-decade low. This is not smart economic policy or energy policy in this country.

In fact, Madam Speaker, over 1 million barrels went to a Chinese-affiliated company. At the same time, China is reportedly holding its own crude oil reserves of 900 million barrels.

Anyone with realistic knowledge and expectations in and around the debate about climate change or energy policy knows that this administration's energy policies have hurt American families and put our economy at risk while

at the same time weakening the globe's interest in fighting climate change.

President Biden's failed policies to shut down the Keystone XL pipeline, deny permits, discourage new drilling, discourage new pipeline construction, and, through his bank and securities environmental, social, and governance policies, so-called ESG policies, that, too, has discouraged badly needed capital investment to go to our energy industry and has weakened American global leadership and our strategic benefit, as referenced by my friends on the other side of the aisle, of energy independence. President Biden has weakened our energy independence.

Instead, the Biden administration has doubled down, even tripled down, on these bad policies that have not only raised costs on every American but do nothing in the long run to impact climate.

While President Biden's nanny-state regulators this week considered outlawing your gas stove in your home or in your kitchen or your restaurant, Republicans on this House floor began their first step at unleashing an all-of-the-above energy strategy.

We have to let that sink in, that a Federal regulator actually considered a serious policy proposal of banning you from having a gas stove in your home or in your restaurant. I mean, everyone in America was shaking their heads this week with the preposterous nature of that new idea from the Biden administration.

Republicans believe in an all-of-the-above strategy, which benefits America and benefits the globe, and we must continue to invest in energy development in order to make it through a full global transition.

First, we have to keep investing in natural gas. We have natural gas fields across our Nation from the West Coast to the East Coast, in the heart of Pennsylvania, and, of course, in the heart of New York State, where New York State's Democratic leadership refuses to let that be brought online, let that be developed, benefiting the New York tax base, New York workers, and New York consumers.

That gas field just in Pennsylvania and New York alone, Madam Speaker, some believe it is larger and more lucrative than the largest gas field that we know of in Qatar in the Persian Gulf. Yet, we will never see a pipeline from Pennsylvania to East Coast ports under this administration and possibly under any other future Democratic leadership.

If the war in Ukraine showed Europe and the world anything—anything—it is that Russia cannot be trusted any longer, if they were ever, to be a reliable source to Europe for their energy consumption needs.

The United States stands ready to export more liquefied natural gas to Europe, but the pipelines and other infrastructure don't fully exist in this country in order to have that impact