

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mrs. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, we are just days away from catastrophic economic default. House Republicans are playing politics with the lives of the American people to further an extremist agenda.

Putting the American economy at risk is reckless and dangerous. In my district, default would eliminate 7,300 jobs, jeopardize Social Security for 93,000 families, and put health benefits at risk for 281,000 people who rely on Medicare, Medicaid, or VA health coverage.

Their proposals do not solve any of our economic problems. In fact, the default on America is an egregious bill that puts vulnerable families at risk. Their plan would be disastrous in my State of Connecticut, resulting in 2,800 kids losing access to preschool and childcare, 12,000 mothers would be blocked from food assistance, and it would threaten medical care for 57,000 veterans.

It is a disgrace that leading into Memorial Day, House Republicans have ghosted the city and left.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to come back to Washington, pay our bills, and end this now.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(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, we are days away from defaulting on our debt for the first time in our Nation's history. Extreme MAGA Republicans have needlessly manufactured an economic crisis and refuse to release their grip on the American people.

Why do I say the American people? Because the cuts that they want are going to cut 7 million jobs, deprive millions access to Medicare, and slash critical funding for education and food for children. For what? For the shameless protection of tax cuts that they put in their bill that have added \$3 trillion to the debt that they now want to cover off of the backs of the American people.

Shameless. They are shameless.

This flagrant disregard for the lives of everyday Americans and the economic stability of our country demonstrates the House GOP's corrupt and misguided priorities. Do not deprive our elders and children to meet the demands and the insatiable greed of your constituents, the rich American people.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mrs. FOUSHEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on my Republican

colleagues to stop playing ideological games and to do the job that they were sent here to do.

As our country teeters on the brink of an economic catastrophe, they rushed out of town and abandoned their responsibilities just like they want the United States to abandon our fiscal responsibilities.

House Republicans have made their message clear: Their needs come before the needs of hardworking families, seniors, children, students, and veterans. They are willing to hold our economy hostage and are willing to risk the livelihoods of millions of Americans with devastating cuts to vital programs that keep folks housed, fed, healthy, and secure.

However, Democrats are united. We stand ready to pass a clean debt ceiling and to do what is best for our country and the American people.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mr. TORRES of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, the failed wars in Afghanistan and Iraq added trillions of dollars to the debt and both began under a Republican President. The 2001, 2003, and 2017 tax cuts added trillions to the debt and each one began under a Republican President. The great recessions of 2008 and 2020 added trillions to the debt and each one began under a Republican President.

The Trump administration alone accounted for one-fourth of all the debt accumulated since 2000. The Republican Party is like an arsonist who burns down your home and then blames you for the fire while lecturing you on fire safety.

The fiscal responsibility of House Republicans is as fictional as GEORGE SANTOS. The House GOP is threatening to default on America unless it can extract draconian budget cuts against our seniors, veterans, essential workers, and families with children.

Madam Speaker, that is not a negotiation. That is an extortion of the American people. That is, in the words of MATT GAETZ, "a hostage taking." It is a hostage taking that will threaten to transform a Republican-made debt problem into a Republican-made debt crisis.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise for the millions of American families that will suffer due to the manufactured debt ceiling crisis. Defaulting on our sovereign debt will be a disaster from Wall Street to Main Street to streets in my district and to the kitchen table.

Our economy is being held hostage for so-called "work requirements" that

disproportionately harm women and people with disabilities and people of color. Just one example: Food insecurity is at the highest level in 4 years, but MAGA Republicans will only prevent a financial catastrophe if we cut SNAP benefits for families, for veterans, for students, and for our seniors.

This would only deepen the hardships that vulnerable Americans face. Shame on you, Republicans. There is a simple solution to averting catastrophe: Pass a clean debt ceiling bill. Quit playing games with our country's future and come on back to Washington and do your job.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, we are here on the last day of this session and Republicans have decided to skip town, but what this debt ceiling debate really is about is the fact that Republicans have run up a bill that they now do not want to pay. They have run up this bill with extremely excessive military spending. They have run up this bill with extraordinary tax cuts for the wealthiest people in this country and now when it comes time to pay for this bill, they do not want to pay it.

Not only that, but they are accusing Democrats of saying we spend too much. For anyone that wants to entertain that thought, I ask you to think about the last time a person has said in this country that the government does too much for them, that their Social Security check was too high, that teachers are paid too much. When was the last time anyone has heard or seen that?

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DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to demand that Speaker MCCARTHY and my Republican colleagues in the House return so that we can pass a clean bill to prevent a devastating default.

Let me be very clear. We, as Members of Congress, have a solemn obligation to pay our Nation's bills and to protect the full faith and credit of the United States.

We have never defaulted on our debt, but this time, House Republicans are refusing to address the debt limit unless we cut serious programs that Alabama families that I represent need most, like veteran benefits and food assistance for our seniors and children.

Madam Speaker, this is a manufactured crisis. Republicans could pass a clean debt ceiling bill but chose not to. We passed such a bill three times under the Trump administration.

Today, Republicans have chosen to send us home instead of doing our job.

Our job is to protect the American people and to make sure that the full faith and credit of the American Government stands. It has never been in default and shouldn't be in default now. This is a dereliction of duty.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today reporting for duty to our country, to our communities, to our Constitution, and most importantly, for New Mexico.

As you can see, Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I can't say the same for my Republican colleagues right here, who hightailed it out of town because they decided that their weekend plans were more important than showing up for the American people.

It is reckless. It is disturbing. It is fundamentally irresponsible.

Here we are, on the verge of an economic crisis, and they are demanding that we cut programs for housing, food, and our veterans.

Let me say this to my friends on the other side of the aisle: If you are so concerned about people getting to work, how about you show up to do your own job?

How about you show up for the American people?

How about you show up and do the job you were elected to do?

Let's pass a clean debt ceiling and ensure that we save our economy and serve our communities.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that the validity of the public debt shall not be questioned.

We made a commitment to every Social Security recipient in America, to Medicare and Medicaid recipients, to the veterans, to the bondholders of the United States, that we would pay our debts, as we are fiscally, morally, politically, and constitutionally required to do.

Yet, Donald Trump has issued the order. He said it is inevitable, default on the debt of the United States for the first time in American history, crash the economy, lose 9 or 10 million jobs.

Now, in the words of Florida Representative MATT GAETZ, who appears not to be here right now: The GOP will not negotiate with their hostage.

Who is the hostage?

The American people are the hostage. Our government is hostage. The Constitution is hostage.

I introduce to the MAGA Republicans who have split today, but who increased the debt ceiling three times under Donald Trump, who gave us a

quarter of all the debt of the United States between George Washington and Joe Biden, I introduce them to the Constitution of the United States: The validity of the public debt shall not be questioned.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, do you see what I see?

No Republicans.

They are not here to do their job, so America's jobs are at risk.

Madam Speaker, 8.3 million American jobs can be lost because Republicans want to hold us hostage and force a default.

Madam Speaker, 30,000 Nevadans who are struggling right now to keep their jobs, to pay their rent, to afford their mortgage, will see the effects if Republicans are successful in causing a default on America; 60,000 veterans in my district could lose their health benefits; 73,000 families and children in Nevada could lose SNAP food benefits; 253,000 kicked off health insurance on Medicaid; and 1,300 preschool and childcare slots, which are vital.

Madam Speaker, I would have time if the Speaker of this House would call us back into session. I will continue to do my job to speak on behalf of my constituents who sent me here to work on their behalf.

Madam Speaker, call this House back to session. Let's do our job.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to condemn the extreme Republicans' action to hold our economy hostage and their refusal to pass a clean bill to raise the debt.

Today, we are 7 days from defaulting on our Nation's debt, 7 days from seniors losing their Social Security checks, 7 days from our veterans losing their healthcare benefits, 7 days from our country losing all financial credibility.

Not only are the Republicans determined to cut billions from vital programs, they are also now telling Members to go home for the weekend. Hard to believe.

We came to Congress to work on issues important to our States and our country. American families are depending on us to pay our bills on time, just like they do every single month. But as our Nation is on the brink of an economic tailspin, Republicans are headed to the airport.

Well, America is running out of runway to avoid a default. It is time we acted like it.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, we stand on the precipice of a self-inflicted crisis precipitated by Speaker MCCARTHY's loyalty to the most extreme members of his caucus. These far-right members are refusing to negotiate in good faith. They have continuously moved the goalpost time and time again.

Now there is no time to spare. Seven days until we reach X-date. We need an agreement now to raise the debt limit and to take it off the table for future hostage holding.

We would all love to be with our families right now, to be home for the weekend, celebrating and marking and observing the solemn occasion of Memorial Day. Our constituents would like to see us there, but they need us here.

Democrats stand ready to do what is necessary. Republicans have all gone home.

As we mark the memories of those who served our country, who made the ultimate sacrifice, let us think of the sacrifice we are willing to make to put America's full faith and credit back in good standing.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, news flash: Extreme MAGA Republicans hold the Nation hostage, put America's full faith and credit in jeopardy, and flirt with economic disaster.

Imagine seniors not getting their Social Security checks, unemployment spiking, small businesses closing their doors, 401(k) accounts and pensions tanking.

President Biden has been negotiating in good faith, agreeing to future spending caps and other concessions, but they want more. They want to cut programs for seniors, veterans, and children, all while protecting tax cuts for the very wealthy.

So I ask: Will Republicans make a deal or cause a disaster?

I am asking for a few million hard-working central Floridians.

Mark my words, if you break it, you own it, and we will make sure the American people know about it.

DEBT LIMIT CRISIS

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

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Madam Speaker, we are at the brink of defaulting on the U.S. debt, bringing economic devastation to the world economy and downgrading our credit rating, which increases our debt.