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## CALOPTIMA FUNDING FOR YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend CalOptima Health's board of directors for approving up to \$25.5 million in funding for behavioral healthcare for Orange County students.

All 29 Orange County school districts could use this funding to hire additional staff, enhance training and development, and develop new respite spaces for children in K-12 schools. This funding comes at such a crucial time.

Children's mental health has declined since the start of the pandemic. In California, young people between the ages of 14 and 18 are suffering the most. CalOptima Health and the Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program are doing important work by partnering with Hazel Health, Children's Hospital of Orange County, and Western Youth Services to improve behavioral health among our students.

Mental health care is healthcare, and I applaud Orange County for prioritizing the health and well-being of our children.

## GAS STOVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, today I rise in opposition to President Biden's and the extreme Green New Deal Democrats' attempts to ban gas stoves and cooking appliances. I rise in support of H.R. 1615 and H.R. 1640, which would extinguish this egregious abuse of power.

Madam Speaker, natural gas stoves are currently the preferred cooktop appliance for nearly 40 percent of American households. In fact, nearly 187 million Americans use natural gas because it is a relatively affordable and reliable source of energy.

As Americans have been facing the gripping reality of surging prices for almost everything, thanks to the reckless and out-of-control spending of President Biden and Congressional Democrats, the last thing they need is to be forced to spend an additional \$1,068 per year from using only electric appliances.

During debate, Democrats will say, and have said that no one is trying to take away your gas stoves. That couldn't be any further from the truth.

In fact, a recent CNN headline read: "New York becomes the first state to ban natural gas stoves and furnaces in most new buildings."

While discussing gas stoves in January of this year, Consumer Product Safety Commissioner Richard Trumka, Jr., said: "Any option is on the table," meaning that banning gas stoves was certainly a potential option.

A month later, in February, seemingly following the Consumer Product Safety Commission's lead, the U.S. De-

partment of Energy issued a proposed rule that, if finalized, would set maximum annual energy consumption standards for electric and gas cooking tops manufactured and sold into commerce.

This proposed rule would have an estimated cost of \$183.4 million for manufacturers that will need to comply with the new standards. Somehow, the administration tentatively concluded that the new standards would be "technologically feasible and economically justified."

Give me a break.

Now, Madam Speaker, gas stoves in my home State of Tennessee may not be as common as they are in some other States. Given our relatively affordable electricity rates and our historical reliance on other forms of energy, Tennessee's use of gas stoves accounts for only 20.4 percent of households in our State. But even though only one in five Tennessee households use a gas stove, the Tennessee State legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, legislation that prohibits local governments from banning gas stoves. As a result, no localities in the Volunteer State have pursued this ill-guided policy.

All of this to say, Americans should be allowed the freedom to make this decision for themselves. The last thing they need is the Federal Government coming into their kitchen and telling them what appliances they should be using. Not only is it extremely costly and ineffective but it is another step toward becoming a socialist nanny state.

Lastly, Green New Deal Democrats in favor of banning gas stoves claim that it will save the environment and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The truth is that homes with natural gas appliances emit 22 percent less CO<sub>2</sub> than all electric homes.

Madam Speaker, let's call this what it is: a blatant overreach and abuse of power by Green New Deal Democrats and the power-hungry Biden administration.

Thankfully, House Republicans are taking action to protect America's freedom to choose for themselves whether a gas stove is the best choice for their needs by passing H.R. 1615, the Gas Stove Protection and Freedom Act, and H.R. 1640, the Save Our Gas Stoves Act.

It is a shame that we have to take these types of actions to push back against an overly aggressive regulatory state led by the Biden administration.

## EMANCIPATION DAY RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor my ancestors as we approach the 175th anniversary of our emancipation—the self-emancipation of the enslaved people of the Danish West Indies.

It is ironic that now in the United States, right now, there is a war being waged to censor and erase history and heritage, not just of Virgin Islanders but for Black and Brown people in this Nation.

The bloody insurrection of American revolutionaries to attain their freedom is celebrated, yet the history of resilience and strength, the story of the African Diaspora in this country, is attempted to be taken away.

Shackled and bound, over 120,000 of my ancestors, men, women, and children, were stolen and trafficked from the shores of Africa to the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John in the Danish West Indies, now known as the Virgin Islands of the United States.

From the early 1650s until 1848, the Danish subjected the people of the Virgin Islands to the atrocities of chattel slavery. Forgotten today, the Danes were notorious for having some of the most grueling and inhumane conditions in the Caribbean. Under these conditions and the watchful eye of the Danish, the people resolved to mobilize and seize their freedom.

On July 3, 1848, 9,000 enslaved and freed people on the island of St. Croix collected en masse at Fort Frederik and demanded their immediate and indefinite liberation. Under the superior leadership of Moses "General Buddhoe" Gottlieb, they had coordinated, strategized, and executed a plan for freedom.

Overcome by the people, the Danish surrendered by the declaration of the Danish governor.

The Virgin Islands became one of only two places to ever successfully gain their freedom through an organized slave revolt, armed insurrection, in the history of the Western Hemisphere. They would wait for no man to unshackle their chains.

This is what it means to be a Virgin Islander, to overcome the most harrowing of circumstances, to reclaim the power that which is kept seemingly out of reach, and to wait for no one to give us freedom, equity, or prosperity.

Malcolm X at the founding rally of the Organization of Afro-American Unity stated: "A race of people is like an individual man; until it uses its own talents, takes pride in its own history, expresses its own culture, affirms its own selfhood, it can never fulfill itself."

We, the people of the Virgin Islands, must not sit idle expecting that the same system that oppressed our ancestors, that continues to deny us rights, will solve the very problems of its creation. We don't need to look for others to solve our problems. We have within ourselves, within our own diaspora, all the answers to heal ourselves and grow.

Throughout the Virgin Islands and the United States and beyond, we are doctors, engineers, writers, educators, builders, economists, organizers. We are a people of immeasurable talent, borne from a history of strength and resilience, possessing a rich and vibrant culture capable of good things,

all of which are squandered if we continue to allow our mental slavery to bind our true freedom.

We may have the scars of countless injustices, but Virgin Islanders also have the blood of our ancestors that organized and were willing to give up all for freedom of self-definition and their own determination of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, 175 years ago, our ancestors abandoned their sense of "I" and adopted "we." Through ingenuity, bravery, and unity, they rejected the brutal reality forced upon them and reclaimed the power to manifest a present and future of their will and their creation.

We are the heroes of our own story. This is from which we are born. It is in our blood to rise.

#### CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN MIKE LAWHORN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Campbell County, Virginia's, finest: Captain Mike Lawhorn.

On May 30, Rustburg High School's faculty and staff named Captain Lawhorn the winner of this year's Hugh D. Pendleton Award of Leadership, which recognizes exceptional community leadership.

As a graduate of Rustburg High School, a lifelong resident of Campbell County, and a veteran of the United States Air Force, Captain Lawhorn has dedicated his life to bravely serving his Nation and his community.

Captain Lawhorn has climbed the ranks in the Campbell County Sheriff's Office, beginning as a school resource officer at Rustburg High School in 1998, and now serving as captain of the administrative services division where he has been dedicated to ensuring school and court safety since 2018.

Captain Lawhorn participated in the FBI National Academy in 2022, becoming the first only Campbell County Sheriff's employee to complete this distinguished and challenging program.

I am honored to represent such an outstanding member of the Campbell County community, and I thank and congratulate Captain Lawhorn for his lifetime of service.

NCAA DIII MEN'S BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP  
WINNER—UNIVERSITY OF LYNCHBURG

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary accomplishment of the University of Lynchburg's men's baseball team.

On June 8, the Lynchburg Hornets earned a 7-6 victory over Johns Hopkins University to win the NCAA Division III National Baseball Championship, representing the program's first national title.

In the third and final game of the championship series, the University of Lynchburg fell behind by four runs in the top of the first inning, but they

clawed their way back with two runs in the bottom of the first and second innings, and three in the fifth, to claim the lead for good and clinch the title.

The Hornets' 48 wins this season set an Old Dominion Athletic Conference record for victories and reflects the countless hours of discipline and dedication required to reach this pinnacle of success.

I congratulate the Lynchburg Hornets for their victory in the NCAA Division III National Championship, and I am honored to represent this championship team from my hometown and the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia.

#### A PATH TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the number one responsibility of the House of Representatives is to secure and protect the fiscal stability of the United States of America. What that means is we are protecting and ensuring our ability to meet our obligations, to fund our government, and when necessary, to borrow to meet those needs in extenuating circumstances.

We just came through a debt ceiling battle where the debt ceiling was raised unconditionally through January of 2025, and there was the scary narrative that was used that we were facing some kind of a national default if we didn't raise the debt ceiling.

However, there was not going to be any default because there is more than enough revenue coming in to meet the approximately \$70 billion a month that it takes to pay the interest on the Nation's debt, to service our debts, and to prevent an actual default.

However, if we do not make true reforms and cuts in spending, we will surely have a national default in the near future.

Madam Speaker, it is incumbent upon us that we use the upcoming budgetary process, the appropriations process, to cut our spending and put us on a path to fiscal responsibility.

As the new Republican majority, we must ensure that the appropriations process reflects the priorities of our majority: that we secure our border; that we strengthen our military; that we defund climate extremism; that we restore American energy, reliable and affordable energy; that we defund DEI; that we defund CRT; that we defund LGBTQ programs; that we defund abortion; and that we defund indoctrination in our education systems.

This will have the result, as we restore fiscal responsibility, of reducing inflation that is crushing the purchasing power of the American people; that we reduce the interest rates, we allow the Federal Reserve to stop raising interest rates because we are reducing inflation, and those interest rates that are crushing the cost of housing and mortgages for Americans across the country; that we reduce gas prices that are crushing middle-income, lower income, and fixed-income Americans; that we help our farmers to reduce the

grocery prices that are making it so hard for Americans to put food on the table; and that, again, we restore fiscal responsibility to ensure the fiscal future for our children and our grandchildren.

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#### REMOVING THREATS TO SALMON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. PEREZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PEREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak on a huge threat facing salmon and other fish in Washington State.

Salmon are not just a fish for us. They are a cultural touchstone, an economic bedrock, and also a huge part of meeting our Tribal obligations.

In Washington State, we have a long series of dams along the Columbia River and others, and that slows the speed of salmon as they travel up to spawn.

Sea lions have figured this out. There is an all-you-can-eat buffet waiting for them at the dams, and they are exploiting that. These are not cute, Disney-level sea lions. These are about the weight of a Volkswagen Bug, about the size of a bear. These are serious creatures, and they are not just a small predation risk.

Almost one out of two fish at Merwin Dam on the Lewis River is returning with sea lion bites out of it. Sea lions come up the river, chunk up on the salmon, and then go back out to the ocean to breed. Other sea lions see this, these glossy guys, and they say, "Hey, where did you get that?" and they follow them back up.

There is a massive amount of recruitment. There was actually a really interesting natural experiment on the Willamette River, where there was a smaller number of sea lions. They were able to effectively remove all of them at once and end this cycle of recruitment.

Right now, our Federal policies don't allow the effective removal of these sea lions, so the recruitment continues.

As a result of the actions at Willamette, fewer sea lions died, and more fish were saved. We have to act faster, in a more rational way, to end this cycle of recruitment.

#### CELEBRATING TENINO'S 150TH JUBILEE

Ms. PEREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th Jubilee of Tenino, Washington.

Jubilee is not the kind of word you are going to hear a lot if you visit Tenino, Washington. It is one of those words my grandpa would say costs a quarter when a nickel will do.

Folks in Tenino are really proud of our working-class heritage. It is originally a town based on logging and quarrying, and it is actually where my great-grandparents are buried. It was built on the determination of people who believe in hard work.

They are creative thinkers. When the traditional currency collapsed during