

cut unless you are willing to wipe out government to get us anywhere close to balance. We are now heading toward the death spiral of interest.

The argument we make is if the pre-dominant driver, almost all of the driver of spending is healthcare, we have got to come up with a way to revolutionize the cost of healthcare.

When was the last time you saw Members, both Democrat and Republicans, get behind this microphone willing to have a discussion about obesity? When have you seen us get behind this microphone and talk about the stunning growth of diabetes in America?

Diabetes, it is type 2. Diabetes is 33 percent of all healthcare spending, 31 percent of Medicare. Maybe the discussion of our brothers and sisters are dying in this country, there is something horribly wrong, but we are not supposed to talk about it. These are the same people that 30 years ago made the moral argument that stopping people from smoking was good for society and good for those individuals, but today we are not allowed to talk about the fact that we have about 3½ million prime-age males missing from the labor force. Some of the best data we have says the number one cause is probably obesity and number two is drugs.

Now, it is complicated. People are complicated. When we look at the data and what we did during COVID of forcing people to stay home, the stunning growth of morbid obesity in the United States, is it moral? Is it moral that we are not willing to talk about it? Do we care so little about our brothers and sisters that we are not going to reach out and save them?

You have some opportunities. You have the farm bill coming. Are we willing to think like revolutionaries both in what we grow and what we do for nutrition support? Is it moral to hand someone an EBT card, which is the replacement of Food Stamps—it is the newer, better, faster, whatever way—and say you can use that EBT card to go buy onion rings?

I believe you should be able to eat whatever you want, smoke your cigarettes, but you should also carry your own cost, not pawn it off on the rest of society. If you are willing to cover your own cost, have a party. If the rest of us have to pay for it, because right now it is borrowed money—I have an 11-month old at home we are adopting. That little boy, when he is functionally 23 years old, his taxes have to be doubled. Is that moral?

Make the moral decision today. Change the farm bill. I know it is politically hard. I know it is a balancing act. Democrats have to care about people, too. At least I hope they do.

Second thing I would do, there are now over-the-skin blood glucose monitors. We are told that there is actually now—forgive me. I won't say the company. One company already now has it in the watch. There is another one that

actually has something that would actually calculate your calorie intake. We are told a couple of generations from now, even the Apple Watch will have blood glucose on it.

If we could stabilize prediabetic populations in the United States, it is one of the most dramatic things you could do to stabilize debt.

Have we ever had a conversation about that? Can we get the Budget Committee to actually put that in one of their footnotes that here are a couple positives? Republicans and Democrats—because I don't know if we have made that partisan yet—could actually work with each other to say we need to stop having our brothers and sisters in the country dying.

The third one—and this one I will get crap for—is the new GLP-1s. The data is remarkable on how they are as appetite suppressants. We are doing math right now, and it is going to take us another month because it turns out the math is hard if you are going to do it like adults.

If you took your populations of Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Services, VA—these are government-paid-for populations—took those who were morbidly obese and said: We actually love and care about you. We are going to give you access to these because we want you to live. We want you to be able to participate in society.

Here is one of the punch lines. On Monday, we had maybe the Nation's leader in healthcare statistics do a little forum down the hall. His data says—remember, this is the guy with 70 million U.S. health records, and it is used for mining and used for setting up drug trials, but he is sort of the demagogue of data. He said there are functionally 4,000 human diseases. Of those, 2,000 have direct relationships to obesity. That is half the human misery.

So we are a moral body, right? We care about people. We are going to have a—oh, we are not allowed to talk about it, except an idiot like me who is willing to get behind the microphone.

Would it be good for productivity? Of course. Would it be good for people's future economic vitality, their ability to save for retirement? Of course. Would it be good for the debt and deficit? Of course. Would it be good for my little boy's future, not having to pay for the borrowing of today? Because that is what we do. We borrow today so our kids and grandkids can pay it off tomorrow.

That is number three, the willingness to actually do the math. What would happen if with the GLP-1s we made a government decision that the math is so compelling, the economics are so compelling that we are going to roll these out in our populations who are suffering.

The fourth thing, on Monday, we had one of the teams here that is about to begin their phase 1 on a cure for type 1 diabetes that they believe is applicable to type 2. It is a stem cell that does not require antirejection drugs. They lay it

into the lining of the tummy, and apparently it produces these islet cells which produce insulin.

At the end of the decade, we may have an actual cure. The math is like this. If someone is a type 2—type 2 is actually complex. There are lots of things within it. If it is the traditional type 2, obesity is the driver. If that weight gets back down, in about 70 percent of Americans, their bodies will start to produce insulin again. Thirty percent, the damage is done. For that 30 percent, at the end of the decade, it looks like there is hope.

These are four simple, moral steps that are great economics. We are going to come here and complain about the debt and deficit, but at least I am standing here giving you one idea that actually can pass this body, unlike some of the fake budgets that the left, and even some of my friends, will roll out here that will just be pretty words, no math, and we will say: You see? I can get you there if we just pretend that we are going to grow at this rate and get rid of all of government.

I will argue, and I have the math to prove it, that the path of taking on diabetes and its primary causes is the most elegant, most moral, and something that can pass and get a Presidential signature.

If someone else has a better idea that equals trillions and trillions and trillions of dollars of savings in 10 years, please send it to me. I am happy to steal brilliant ideas.

Mr. Speaker, how do we get our brothers and sisters, who are all smart—some are smarter than others—but our brothers and sisters that work here, whether it be staff, whether it be elected Members, to understand that sounding like it is the 1990s policy-wise isn't going to save us. The numbers are crashing dramatically faster than any of us even expected a few months ago.

There is a path. There is hope. The hope only exists if we actually start dealing with the realities of a path that is actually doable.

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

□ 1200

COUNTERING CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY THREATS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 50 years ago, during the Cold War, Soviet Russia was the enemy of the people and the biggest threat to the free world.

Fast forward to 2023, and it appears that history is repeating itself once again as the threat of nuclear annihilation comes full circle as two opposing ideological blocs dominate the world.

General Secretary Xi Jinping has imitated Soviet Russia's playbook ever since he came to power more than 20

years ago. The Chinese Communist Party has built a cabal of global partners through predatory and oppressive investments in foreign countries, political strong-arming, stealing American technology, and strengthening ties with anti-American tyrannical leaders.

This plan is taken straight from the Soviet's playbook. Only this time, China is infinitely stronger than the Soviet Union ever was.

The United States must recognize and take immediate action against China's push for influence in the developing world. The Soviet Union used military might and territory conquest to forge strategic alliances and expand its influence past the Iron Curtain. However, China mainly uses economic sway and exploits our globalized economic system to expand.

Over the past two decades, China has emerged as the critical trading partner for many regions and developing countries across the globe, and it is not by coincidence. China is intentionally targeting less-developed countries to popularize its authoritarian model and undermine developing democracies worldwide.

China's strategic approach is rendered explicitly in Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative, aka the BRI, a lending gambit that grants China's allies, over 140 nations, billions of dollars under the pretense of economic integration and interconnected development.

China has bought up so much copper, pork, and soy, and constructed so many roads, trains, power grids, and bridges, that it has surpassed the U.S. as South America's largest trade partner, and it is now Brazil's, Chile's, and Peru's single largest trading partner.

Compared to the U.S. and the EU, Latin America's bilateral trade in goods with China grew dramatically from \$14.6 billion in 2001 to \$315 billion in 2020. That is a 21.5-fold increase since Beijing joined the World Trade Organization.

These insidious tactics have made China an undeniable economic superpower through unbounded dishonesty and underhanded manipulation.

In 2019, China, an active trade partner of the U.S., allowed the yuan to fall below the 7-to-1 yuan to U.S. dollar peg it had maintained since 2015. This action set off a day of intense selling in global markets. In the U.S., the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 2.9 percent, its worst daily decline all year.

By devaluing its currency, China could effectively undercut competitors in the marketplace by offering lower prices on its exports and, according to the U.S. Treasury Department, gain an unfair competitive advantage in international trade.

Intellectual property theft, corporate espionage, forced technology transfer, widespread product dumping, and currency manipulation are just a few of the economic warfare tactics used by the Chinese Communist Party.

This brings me to my point. One of China's most recent efforts to desta-

bilize the United States involves forging an unofficial alliance with Russia to maintain Vladimir Putin's power at all costs. China is also the top trader with Russia and Ukraine.

Before Russia invaded Ukraine, China had already surpassed Germany and the U.S. as Russia's most significant commercial partner and the largest consumer of its oil and gas. China has provided a financial lifeline to Russia over the past year by buying goods that the West won't and helping Russia continue to access financial markets despite harsh Western sanctions.

China not only accounted for the highest year-over-year rise in export volume to Russia of any country in 2022, but it was also the largest exporter to Russia overall.

Moving on, it is no secret that Putin and Xi are determined to end the U.S. and create what Xi called a new model of major country relations.

Sure enough, they have had great success in forming the BRICS bloc and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, whose citizens comprise two-thirds of the world's population.

China has been expanding its military production capabilities and is now the world's fourth largest arms exporter. There has been a drastic 80 percent increase in Chinese military sales to regions across the globe throughout the last decade. A growing number of United States defense officials are expressing concerns about China's swift military modernization.

At this rate, the United States cannot keep up with their prices and turnaround, especially in regions like the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. Between 2017 and 2020, Chinese arms exports to sub-Saharan Africa outpaced the United States by a ratio of nearly 3-to-1.

China has spread its malevolent influence this far simply because China is determined to bolster our enemies and supplement them with whatever they need to undermine democracy and our sovereignty.

China has allied with other iron-fisted regimes that are presently in the crosshairs of U.S. sanctions, including some of the world's most monstrous dictators, such as Nicolas Maduro of Venezuela and Russia's Vladimir Putin.

China has shipped more than \$12 million in drones to Russia since it invaded Ukraine, indicating quiet collaboration between the two.

Recently, Chinese state-affiliated entities sold metals and centrifuges to corporations affiliated with Iran's Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics to aid in constructing Iran's first hypersonic missile, which amplifies Iran's nuclear capabilities.

Despite debt-trapping Venezuela, China has remained their steadfast ally, negotiating payment grace periods and concealing trades.

China has even gone so far as to support a veto of the 2019 U.S.-backed resolution in the United Nations calling

for free and fair presidential elections. The Maduro regime has become reliant on China for disinformation campaigns and social control programs, including an ID card that serves as a scorecard of loyal Venezuelan citizens to the regime.

Close to \$68 billion in loans has been given to Venezuela by China since 2007, plus around 490 agreements have been signed in diverse areas of investment. The exact nature of these investments is still yet to be made public, but essentially everything comes down to extracting Venezuela's rich mineral supply.

In addition, some of these quiet deals encompass state-affiliated entities that have sold over \$615 million worth of weapons to Venezuela in the past 8 years.

This is the perfect example of the kind of mischief destabilization the CCP is known for—preying on other countries via unsustainable and corrupt lending while ignoring global labor and environmental standards for their own economic gain.

Even with their own country, the CCP will only continue to enhance their economic development. Forced labor has become common practice and part of the CCP's plan for Xinjiang's economic development, which includes making it a hub of textile and apparel manufacturing.

In fact, tens of thousands of Uyghurs detained in concentration camps for religious persecution were sent to factories throughout China linked to 83 global brands. To cover up a mass genocide and enslavement of the Uyghur people, Chinese officials called the policy "poverty alleviation."

More than a million Uyghurs are locked up in camps in their homeland or blindfolded and transported to prison by truckloads. Brutal crimes against Uyghur women, including forced sterilization and abortion, have been carried out to diminish the Uyghur population. Children are taken away from their parents and under pressure to deny their Uyghur ancestry.

China's deep pockets have left its partners notably silent. Prioritizing their economic ties and strategic relationships with China, many other foreign governments continue to ignore human rights abuses.

Taking another page out of Soviet Russia's book, propaganda, censorship, and disinformation are pillars of the CCP's grand strategy toward world domination. Their goal is to make the state and its objectives appear favorable to the world while simultaneously manipulating markets, lying, cheating, and stealing to fuel its ceaseless attacks on democracy.

The COVID pandemic was the perfect example of what kind of propaganda the China Communist Party is known for. Millions of Americans died of the coronavirus. The epidemic was first reported in Wuhan, a city in central China. However, instead of alerting the

global community in the early stages of the outbreak, the CCP sought to cover up the severity of the coronavirus outbreak but also to carry out a great propaganda campaign downplaying the severity of COVID-19, attempting to shift responsibility and hide the origins of the virus.

I would hope the Biden administration and Congress would be willing to step up to the plate and finally take a different approach toward prevention and protecting the American people from the CCP's unrelenting attempts to infringe on our national security. I hope that as leaders of the free world we will take proactive steps to counter the CCP's threat toward democracy and efforts to infiltrate our sovereignty.

This is why I have introduced several bills that would hold China accountable and protect our Nation's innovation, ideas, and way of life.

Instead, we have senior officials of the DOJ colluding with the CCP to have Chinese political asylees exiled from the United States to be tortured and killed by CCP agents.

We have a President who promises to buy American but vetoes legislation that has reinstated tariffs on solar panels from Chinese companies in Southeast Asia. We have an administration actively allowing the CCP to dodge responsibility for COVID.

□ 1215

Drug traffickers are smuggling fentanyl produced by China into the United States through our unsecured borders killing millions of Americans while benefiting China from a weakening America due to the fentanyl epidemic.

There are ways we can legislate to make a safer, more secure, and better America for the next generation. Here are 10 measures I have introduced to counter the threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party:

H. Con. Res. 51 is a concurrent resolution that makes it the opinion of Congress that the Chinese Communist Party is the greatest threat to freedom and the free world.

H.R. 4001 is a bill which includes a provision to prohibit the United States from selling weaponry to the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

H. Con. Res. 52 is a concurrent resolution condemning Cuba and the Chinese Communist Party for discussing and implementing an agreement to build a Chinese Communist Party spy base on the island of Cuba, 90 miles from the United States' coast.

H.R. 4000 is a bill to authorize the United States to bring civil actions against the Government of the People's Republic of China for harm suffered by the state as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

H.R. 3757 is a bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to institutions of higher education that fund the Confucius Institute.

H.R. 3664 is a bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to the World Health Organization pending the conduct of an investigation relating to the influence over such organization by the Chinese Communist Party and for other purposes.

H.R. 3598 is a bill to direct the Secretary of State to conduct a comprehensive study assessing the Chinese Communist Party's role in the distribution of fentanyl in the United States.

H.R. 3597 is a bill to direct the President to impose sanctions on the People's Republic of China.

H. Con. Res. 48 is a bill condemning the Chinese Communist Party for the Wuhan Lab leak causing the deadly COVID-19 epidemic.

H. Res. 421 is a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Chinese Communist Party should be held accountable for present-day efforts of knowingly and intentionally manipulating their currency.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 16, 2023, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1235. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting a Selected Acquisition Report titled, "MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft System", pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4351(f); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1236. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Technical correction — Fair Housing Rule, Consumer Protection in Sales of Insurance Rule (RIN: 3064-AF89) received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1237. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Administration's 2022 report to Congress, titled, "Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Programs", pursuant to Public Law 108-355, section 3(d); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1238. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Make Non-Substantive Editorial Revisions to Part 2 [ET Docket No.: 23-108] received June 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1239. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2023 [NRC-2021-0024] (RIN: 3150-AK58) received June 13, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1240. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328), pursuant to Public Law 117-103, div. K, title VII, Sec. 7071; (136 Stat. 682); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1241. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination under section 7034(I)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328), pursuant to Public Law 117-103, div. K, title VII, Sec. 7071; (136 Stat. 682); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1242. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute", pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2373(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1243. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's Semiannual Report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General, from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1244. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress No. 86, which covers the six-month period ending March 31, 2023, pursuant to section 5(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1245. A letter from the Senior Advisor, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting notification of a nomination and a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1246. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period ending March 31, 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-452; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1247. A letter from the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, transmitting the 2022 management report and financial statements of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)); (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1248. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's Office of the Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023, pursuant to section 5(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1249. A letter from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's FY 2022 No FEAR report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note;