

We denounced this wasteful abuse of our schools by passing H. Res. 461, which condemned the use of public schools and facilities to house illegal immigrants. We sent a clear and direct message to the American people and the President that this should never be allowed.

#### TIME FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CATCH UP

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago this week, Oregon became the first State to decriminalize cannabis. I was honored to be a part of that process.

It is time for the Federal Government to catch up.

We owe it to the generations of Black Americans targeted by the failed war on drugs.

We owe it to our veterans with their wounds, seen and unseen.

We owe it to thousands of workers and their employers who fail drug tests every day because they used State-legal cannabis weeks before.

We owe it to the large and growing cannabis industry, whose employees are targets for violent robbery because we deny them bank accounts.

We owe it to the American public who are not waiting for the Federal Government.

We need that framework to tax and regulate cannabis.

On the anniversary of Oregon's historic step to decriminalize cannabis, it is past time for the Federal Government to be a real partner and not a roadblock on the path forward.

#### SMALL BUSINESSES NEED AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE OPTIONS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, small businesses in this country have ranked the cost of health insurance as their number one problem for 32 years straight.

Democrat policies like ObamaCare have led to skyrocketing health insurance costs and a broken individual health market. ObamaCare costs taxpayers more than \$1 trillion a year while covering less than 5 percent of the population.

Small businesses are hardest hit by this as they often struggle to afford the absurdly expensive costs of healthcare.

The health insurance market is over-regulated, and power is concentrated in just a few large insurers. This is not a free market.

Medicare itself will be on the rocks in just a few years unless we change this tide.

To ease the burden on small businesses, House Republicans will intro-

duce and have introduced the CHOICE Act, which will enhance the flexibility and affordability of healthcare for small businesses.

Small businesses are a cornerstone of our American economy and are essential against corporate tyranny, which we see happening these days.

House Republicans will not let small businesses be crushed to death by rising costs and these failed policies.

#### CHILDREN IN AGRICULTURE MUST BE PROTECTED

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight my bill, the Children's Act for Responsible Employment and Farm Safety, or the CARE Act. This bill will protect children in the agricultural industry by creating the same child labor protections that children have in all other industries.

Farm labor is the most dangerous occupation in our Nation, and there are no child labor protections. As a result, three kids get injured a day, and every 3 days, a child dies from injuries sustained in the fields.

Between 2001 and 2015, nearly half of all fatal injuries to young workers occurred in agriculture.

As an emergency physician, the son of farmworkers, and someone who grew up in an impoverished farmworker community with friends who left school to help financially support their families, I want to protect farmworker children across the country.

My bill aims to stop the alarming rate of farm labor injuries and deaths by raising the age of employment and limiting the number of working hours during the schoolday for children—the same as all other industries.

We must protect children. As a father, doctor, and son of farmworkers, I implore my colleagues to join this effort and cosponsor the CARE Act.

#### NATIONWIDE BAN ON ABORTION IS THE GOAL

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs will have been the cruel law of the land for 1 year.

In that short time, 14 States enacted near-total abortion bans, and others are trying to do the same.

Wasn't that the goal?

This is not about being pro-life or being for States' rights. The goal is a nationwide ban on abortion. The goal is control over women and girls. The goal is cruelty.

Healthcare providers, the medical experts actually in the rooms with patients who know them by name, have

said many times, and it bears repeating, abortion care is healthcare.

Yet, one in three women and over one-fifth of the American public is now living without abortion access.

Mr. Speaker, 68 percent of OB/GYNs say the management of pregnancy-related medical emergencies is now worse, and 70 percent say Dobbs has widened the racial maternal healthcare gap.

Dobbs puts the physical and mental well-being of millions at risk.

Judges and legislators are grossly unqualified to make personal medical decisions for millions of women.

I have three daughters-in-law and three granddaughters. I will not rest until their full rights, until the rights of all women and girls in this country, are restored.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RUTH YARBROUGH

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Ruth Yarbrough of Dry Fork, Virginia.

Mrs. Yarbrough was born on July Fourth, 1923, in Dry Fork, where she continues to be an active member of her Pittsylvania County community.

She is the mother of four sons and has been blessed with an abundance of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

While raising her four sons, Mrs. Yarbrough accompanied her children to their school, Stony Mill Elementary School, so frequently that the principal offered her a job as a dietician. She held that position for over 30 years.

Mrs. Yarbrough lives a vigorous life, still living independently and hosting many visitors in her home. She is steadfast in her faith in God and is currently serving as a deaconess at Guildfield Baptist Church.

We can all learn from the wisdom that Mrs. Yarbrough graciously shares, often stating that the secret to longevity is to "love the Lord, be nice to others, and smile."

I am honored to represent such outstanding constituents like Mrs. Yarbrough. Please join me in celebrating Mrs. Yarbrough's birthday and the long-lasting legacy that she continues to hold.

#### CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month and stand with all members of the LGBTQ community.

June celebrates the LGBTQ community and the Pride movement's progress. It also reminds us of our history.

We have made progress in our efforts to further the LGBTQ movement and

promote nationwide allyship, yet anti-trans legislation continues to be presented in legislative bodies across the country, and hate crimes targeting LGBTQ communities continue to rise.

The LGBTQ community and its allies will not be silenced.

The cities of Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., both hosted their annual Pride parades on June 11 and 9, with thousands participating in both. It is a beautiful sight to see such strong, growing support in our hometown of Los Angeles and right here in our Nation's Capital.

Let's recommit to defending the rights and privileges of all LGBTQ people as they face a hate-filled wave of anti-equality legislation across our country.

For all this and more, I stand and celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month this June.

□ 0915

#### BLACK MATERNAL MORTALITY CRISIS

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for Tori Bowie. Tori was once called the fastest woman in the world. She dazzled before international crowds with her remarkable speed on the track. She brought home Olympic medals. She was a role model for young Black girls who were just learning how to lace up their sneakers.

Tori was just 32 years old when she was taken from us. She was 8 months pregnant. She passed away due to complications that included respiratory distress and eclampsia.

Eclampsia is a rare and severe complication of preeclampsia. Multiple studies have shown that Black women are disproportionately at risk for preeclampsia.

Tori's story is unfortunately not unique. A Black woman can be well-off, well-educated, and well-connected, and she is still more likely to die from pregnancy or childbirth complications. This is a crisis.

Black mothers and babies are dying at intolerable rates. Every woman deserves the best quality of maternal care, no matter what they look like or where they come from.

I urge my colleagues to honor Tori's memory by committing ourselves to ending the Black maternal mortality crisis. Action is our only option.

#### MIDDLE CLASS BORROWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2023

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 3564.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 524 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3564.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0916

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3564) to cancel recent changes made by the Federal Housing Finance Agency to the up-front loan level pricing adjustments charged by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac for guarantee of single-family mortgages, and for other purposes, with Mr. NEWHOUSE in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in the first section of House Resolution 524, and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON).

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3564, the Middle Class Borrower Protection Act, will undo a bad policy implemented at the worst time. Americans are struggling to afford housing. I am talking about the loan level price adjustments that the Federal Housing Finance Agency, FHFA, put into effect on May 1 of this year. This policy essentially implemented a cross-subsidy to individuals with lower down payments and lower credit scores.

Loan level pricing adjustments are up-front fees which adjust the final interest rate charged on mortgage loans based on different risk characteristics associated with individual loans. The most notable characteristics would be the mortgage's underlying loan-to-value ratio and the buyer's credit score.

While such fees may be necessary for Fannie and Freddie Mac, collectively known as the GSEs, to raise capital and adequately hedge against credit risk, the adjustments announced by FHFA would disproportionately hurt individuals with credit scores of 680 or greater.

To put that into perspective, the average credit score is around 710, and nearly 19 out of 20 Americans have credit scores above 680. The other thing is credit scores alone aren't a proxy for

wealth or income. Therefore, most Americans would likely be hurt by these fees.

However, those with a credit score below 680 will benefit from lower rates than the prior LLPA assessments. This fee change violates the fundamental principle of risk-based pricing: Lower-risk borrowers should pay lower prices than higher-risk borrowers for access to the same credit.

Despite the FHFA's opaque approach to assessing LLPAs, the result of their new policies speak for themselves. The Middle Class Borrower Protection Act would reinstate the old LLPA prices that were in effect prior to May 1, while also directing the Government Accounting Office to complete an independent study of the processes and data used by FHFA to change the prices, including the impact of those changes on the safety and soundness of the GSEs, which, I will add, have been in conservatorship under the Federal Government for 15 years. Then GAO would report to Congress within 1 year of the study.

FHFA would be prohibited from changing the LLPAs until 90 days after the report, after which it would be required to: one, follow the basic agency notice-and-comment procedure for making any new changes to the LLPA fee; and two, ensure that future fee adjustments be made based on the actual risk posed by the mortgage.

FHFA would also be prohibited from imposing any new fee on borrowers based on their debt-to-income ratio, which was an idea they considered implementing effective August 1.

Finally, I will acknowledge that over the past weekend, the Congressional Budget Office scored this bill, and they assessed a cost of \$1.8 billion for implementing this bill. I believe the fact that CBO says this bill costs a single penny is absurd and exposes a glaring flaw within our legislative process.

Perhaps CBO has a rebuttal, but that would require them to show their work, which they have not. This is why I have long advocated for another bill of mine, the CBO Show Your Work Act.

This past week exemplified just why we need transparent processes when legislating. The reality is these fees aren't even going directly to the Treasury. While the GSEs are in conservatorship, the money is supposed to go to the balance sheet of Freddie and Fannie so that they can accumulate capital.

As this rule is announced, the explicit purpose was to grow capital on the balance sheets of Fannie and Freddie. These were taken over by the Federal Government in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. They have remained in the conservatorship of the Federal Government. The revenue isn't coming in directly to the Treasury, it is meant to actually free the GSEs from control of the Federal Government.

These revenues were not imposed by Congress, so there really isn't a need