

FIREARMS SAFETY

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, right now virtually anyone in our country can walk into a store and purchase a firearm they don't know how to use or store.

I rise today in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. It studies weapons training, safety, and storage standards in the military to see how we can implement them for civilians.

Through our Armed Forces, the United States has developed a system capable of ensuring the safety and training of gun users. Look at all of the steps our servicemembers must take before they can carry a gun. This is what our servicemembers must go through before they can even pick up a gun.

Hundreds of people die every year from unintentional shootings. Why not take our military's best practices in firearm safety and apply them to civilians so we can reduce gun accidents and save lives? That is exactly what my amendment seeks to do, and I urge folks to support it.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
JEREMY STUTSMAN

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

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jeremy Stutsman, who recently completed his tenure of dedicated service as the mayor of Goshen, Indiana.

Before stepping down last month, Jeremy had served as mayor of Goshen since January of 2016, and he holds the distinction of being the youngest mayor elected in Goshen's history of nearly 200 years.

Prior to becoming mayor, Jeremy also served on the City Council and Redevelopment Commission, and his record of serving Goshen runs over two decades deep.

Jeremy and I might belong to different political parties, but I couldn't be more proud to count this good man with a servant's heart as a friend.

Since leaving the mayor's office, Jeremy has hit the ground running in his new role of CEO of Lacasa, a local nonprofit that helps lower-income Hoosiers attain affordable housing and achieve financial stability.

I saw Jeremy just a few weeks ago at a ribbon cutting ceremony for some of Lacasa's newly renovated homes, and I can attest that Lacasa is indeed in very good hands.

We congratulate Jeremy on a job well done as mayor. May he keep up the good work in his new role. May God bless him and his family.

UPDATING U.S. TRADE REMEDY
LAWS AND COMBATING UNFAIR
TRADE PRACTICES

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Leveling the Playing Field Act 2.0, legislation recently introduced by my colleague Congresswoman SEWELL.

As vice chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, I was proud to join her and other colleagues in a Steel Caucus hearing recently with representatives from the domestic steel industry and the United Steelworkers. These representatives of the industry were united in their support for this critical legislation that will update U.S. trade remedy laws and combat unfair trade practices.

Every effort must be taken to ensure that American workers can compete on a level playing field and thrive in our global economy.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to continuing to work with all of my colleagues to advance this critical legislation to support the ability of all American workers to grow our economy and provide for our national security.

OVERSEEING THE BIDEN
ADMINISTRATION

(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, one of the cornerstones of our responsibilities in Congress is oversight of government operations, whether that is the agencies, the White House, courts, or ourselves.

What are we looking at right now with the Biden administration? They can't even keep the White House clean and orderly and honorable. The story coming out on this cocaine issue is embarrassing for the country, and it is embarrassing that the leader of the free world will not investigate and provide answers on that and some other tawdry activities that have gone on on the lawn there during other events.

Accountability is extremely important for people to have faith in what their government is doing, and to see the Department of Justice either not doing its job or being weaponized against individuals they disagree with politically really lowers the faith that people and we as legislators have in the process here.

We have to do better, and that starts with our ability to have oversight hearings that are attended and questions that are answered here in this House, but also maybe a little better self-governance by the White House and this place of acting right, of doing right, and being honorable in their jobs.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF
JACKIE ROWE-ADAMS

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

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Ms. Jackie Rowe-Adams and her inspirational life and remarkable accomplishments.

Jackie suffered the devastating loss of not one but two sons to gun violence in her Harlem neighborhood. Rather than succumb to her sorrow, she turned her heartbreaking pain into a powerful purpose by founding Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E., an organization dedicated to ending the traumatic scourge of gun violence in this country.

Always dressed in brightly colored matching outfits, Jackie is a fixture in her community, having served on multiple community boards, as president of her school board, and on a number of other boards and commissions. However, it is her dedication to her neighborhood's youth and her activism in ending gun violence that has drawn the admiration and respect of everyone in New York City.

It is an honor to know Jackie and a privilege to consider her a friend, and it is an even greater honor to be able to share her inspiring story here on the House floor. I wish her the happiest of birthdays.

UNLAWFUL USE OF THE CBP1 APP

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to highlight the important work the House is doing in the 118th Congress to hold the Biden administration accountable.

My colleagues are familiar with all we are doing with regard to looking at student loan agreements, the abusive pandemic-era policies, but today, I want to focus on something the administration is doing at the southern border that it has no business doing.

Their new unlawful use of the CBP1 app is allowing an even greater number of people to come across our border. In addition to people, the got-aways, in addition to the family units, in addition to the unaccompanied minors, we have people using an app to sign up and wind up coming into our country.

In the current fiscal year, in each one of the 9 months, we had for that month an all-time record number of people coming here. I think in part because of the use of this app, the slumbering press corps is not paying attention to that.

Let me repeat that one more time. In each of the last 9 months, we had an all-time high in the number of people coming into the United States.

This is an absolute scandal. I am glad our committee is taking it on, and I

hope the press corps pays a little bit more attention to this invasion.

ENDING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS MEAN-SPIRITED

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, and I will continue to work with them and proceed to analyze the very wrongheaded decision that was made by the United States Supreme Court on the question of affirmative action.

I thank the gentlewoman from Florida, the gentleman from New York, and, certainly, the gentleman from Nevada for their leadership.

I rise today as a clear recipient of affirmative action, particularly in higher education. I may have been admitted on affirmative action, both in terms of being a woman and a woman of color, but I can declare that I did not graduate on affirmative action. This is my personal story, but as I read the Supreme Court opinion led by Justice Roberts and a number of Justices reading their opinion aloud, they really skewed and misdirected what affirmative action is.

Affirmative action is affirmatively selecting out of the group excellent persons who happen to be people of color who would not have been noted, recognized, or accepted heretofore, and that is evident because that did not happen in the 20th century, in the 19th century, when African Americans, in particular, were not admitted to institutions of higher learning such as Ivy League and other schools.

This very mean-spirited decision will close the door of opportunity to many, from Latinos to Asians to African Americans to Anglos.

My plea tonight is that this Congress looks squarely at ensuring that America and her cities are open to equal opportunity and that, affirmatively, we ensure that everyone has a seat at the table of empowerment.

HELPING TO REPAY VETERANS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I represent nearly 50,000 veterans across North Carolina's First Congressional District, more than 10,000 of whom sustained injuries while serving our country.

Because of their sacrifice, I introduced a bipartisan Veteran Caregiver Application and Appeals Reform Act of 2023, or the CARE Act of 2023, for the specific purpose of helping to repay our veterans who can never fully be repaid.

The CARE Act, introduced with Congresswoman JEN KIGGANS of Virginia and Congressman JUAN CISCOMANI of Arizona, allows veterans service orga-

nizations and other accredited agents to advocate for disabled veterans while directing the VA to hire medical specialists to review applications.

We must allow servicemembers who nearly died for this country to assess the resources they need to apply for assistance. We must always keep our country's promises to our heroes in eastern North Carolina and across this Nation.

MATH AND THE U.S. DEBT

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I am going to actually have one positive and lots of things that are just terrifying, so let's have some fun with some math.

Mr. Speaker, we often start with this board just because it helps everyone sort of visualize what we are talking about. A couple of weeks ago, I actually beat up on some of the Republican ideas in regard to where the debt was coming from. Tonight, I am going to beat up on some of my brothers and sisters on the left on tax proposals and how little they actually do, but first, if you are not terrified right now about what is going on with U.S. debt, you don't own a calculator.

I have used this board for years. It is actually the 2022 board, but the concept is really simple. Mr. Speaker, you see this blue and the green. That is all we vote on. This wedge right here, that is all we get to vote on. That is what we call discretionary. The red is mandatory. That is Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security. Those are the things that are on a formula. Recipients get those because they worked a certain number of quarters. They get those because they turned a certain age, are part of a certain Tribal group, or fall below a certain income. These are formula-driven.

This wedge over here, defense and nondefense discretionary, when we were here a couple of weeks ago, our math said every dime of that discretionary, defense included, was going to be on borrowed money this year.

The Supreme Court made its ruling in regard to student loan debt. That backs off roughly \$300 billion of spending this year. We are having to redo the interest calculations because of what happened in interest over the last 10 days, and then there is the discussion of what we call paying back the extraordinary measures.

When we were having the battle over the debt ceiling, one of the ways they kept the government running is they borrowed from all sorts of trust funds. Well, now they have to sell lots and lots of debt. Remember when we borrowed a trillion dollars in a week? That was actually selling bonds to function-

ally pay back those extraordinary measures, and I am going to show some charts on that. Those bonds are now at the much higher interest rates. I haven't had the time to actually do those calculations.

The good news I am going to show on a chart is we may not borrow \$1.8 trillion this year. It could be \$1.5, \$1.6 trillion. I am a little more dour. I think it is going to be closer to \$1.7 trillion. We haven't done all that.

The point of the matter is, give or take a couple hundred billion dollars, all discretionary is pretty much borrowed this year. Think about that. If you are part of the brain trust that walks in—this is me beating up on myself and some of my friends—you walk in and say that we can balance the budget by getting rid of foreign aid. A couple of weeks ago, I showed the chart. That is like 12 days of borrowing.

Let's play a game. In your head right now, the last 12 months, how much have we been borrowing per second? What is the burn rate? What is the borrowing rate the last 12 months, not the fiscal year but the last running calendar 12 months? What have we been borrowing per second?

If you said \$63,000 a second in your head, you are really good at math because, in the last 12 months, we have borrowed \$2 trillion. That is over \$63,000 every second.

There is a delusion that debt doesn't matter. Maybe it doesn't matter until it does. When it does, it is the poor and the working middle class that are getting their heads kicked in. It is immoral what is going on here.

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In 9 years, when the Social Security trust fund is empty—and I am going to show the trust funds in a little bit—and grandma takes a 25 percent cut in her Social Security check, we double senior poverty. Is that moral?

Once again, you have heard me gripe about that, when the President stood behind that podium and made it toxic to have an honest conversation of trust funds being empty.

Remember, the Social Security trust fund will be emptied in this 10-year window. The transportation, the highway transportation trust fund is empty in just a couple more years. The Medicare trust fund is empty.

How many times today did you see people get behind these microphones and talk about the math?

Last week, when we were at home, I had a great conversation with a reporter from one of the big cable news networks. She had all sorts of questions, but they were personality, who's fighting with who, who doesn't like who. I stopped her and said: Do you realize how much of this year's discretionary spending is borrowed? She said: Yes, David, I watched part of your speech the other day. Understand, none of my national audience cares. My producers don't care.