

the oligarch that owns Burisma. Not only did Joe Biden take a \$5 million bribe, so did Hunter Biden.

What did Joe Biden deliver as Vice President of the United States?

He got Viktor Shokin, the Ukrainian prosecutor general, fired from his job.

How did Vice President Joe Biden get that done?

He threatened to withhold \$1 billion of USAID to Ukraine until Viktor Shokin was fired.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? He was fired.

In 2016 Joe Biden himself bragged to the foreign council and told them that he got him fired. He bragged about it. It is on video.

Even so, that is not all they have done. Hunter Biden has also gotten his father on the phone over two dozen times to talk with his business partners and talk with them about the business that they are doing.

Even more so, in our possession through our investigations on our Republican-led committees, we also have a WhatsApp chat from Hunter Biden which says: I am sitting here with my father, and we would like to understand why the commitment made has not been fulfilled.

Who is his father?

Joe Biden.

It continues on: Tell the director that I would like to resolve this now before it gets out of hand, and now means tonight.

What I am demanding is that the Republican-led House of Representatives move forward on an impeachment inquiry on Joe Biden because this type of corruption should never be allowed to stand.

We must expunge President Trump's wrongful impeachments, and we must impeach Joe Biden.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURNS CHEVROLET THROUGHOUT SOUTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Burns Chevrolet throughout South Carolina.

C. Weldon, otherwise known as C.W. Burns, was inspired by his grandfather to learn to become a mechanic. His family's dreams became a reality as he graduated from the Rahe Automobile and Tractor School in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 5, 1919, at the young age of 19.

Upon completing the program, C.W. returned to Pageland, South Carolina, to work in a garage. The owner gave C.W. a raise after his first week because he did far more work than any other mechanic there. Soon afterwards,

C.W. opened his own service station, eventually starting his first Chevrolet dealership in Pageland on July 15, 1923—100 years ago today.

In 1927, C.W. expanded his business and bought Ellison Chevrolet in Lancaster, South Carolina, with a partner, Mr. W.H. Cato. They originally named it Burns & Cato, Inc. Later C.W. bought out Mr. Cato's shares for \$5,250 on February 5, 1930; therefore, owning the entire branch.

Following the success of the Lancaster branch, C.W. bought Kershaw Chevrolet with his brother Jimmy R. Burns and W.H. Shaw, Jr., in 1931.

In 1959, C.W. realized there would be far too much family for Lancaster Motor Company to absorb shortly after his twin sons graduated from college; therefore, C.W. sent his son, C. Weldon Burns, Jr., to Rock Hill, South Carolina, to open Burns Chevrolet there. Weldon purchased the Chevrolet dealership in Rock Hill on July 17, 1959.

Weldon then partnered with Claude W. Burns, III, and D. Frank Polk, Jr., in Burns Chevrolet in Rock Hill. Weldon then opened Burns Chevrolet Oldsmobile in Gaffney, South Carolina. A few years later in 1989, Weldon bought out Frank in Gaffney and C. Sam Burns partnered with Weldon in Gaffney, South Carolina.

Weldon and his three sons applied for the Ford dealership in Lancaster and were appointed Ford dealers on February 17, 1994. Robert W. Burns bought out his dad and brothers in 2003 to have sole ownership of Burns Ford in Lancaster.

To usher in the new generation of Burns to the family business, Claude W. Burns, III, added the Cadillac brand in Rock Hill to the family collection on June 30, 2000. Additionally, D. Frank Polk became the Buick GMC dealer in Gaffney, South Carolina, shortly after in 2005.

In 2010 Charles Samuel Burns became the dealer at Burns Chevrolet of Gaffney and sole owner, until he appointed his son, Charles S. Burns, Jr., a partner and dealer in 2020.

On January 27, 2017, Weldon's sons, Claude and Robert, along with Claude's son, James R. Burns, added a new Ford dealership in York, South Carolina. James R. Burns continued to become the dealer of the Burns Chevrolet Cadillac in Rock Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the century of dedication and service the entire Burns family has brought to the automotive industry in South Carolina. The Burns family has set the gold standard for what has made America the greatest nation known to man: our free enterprise system. For over 100 years, the Burns family continues to serve and gain new customers. Again, from all of us who live and reside in South Carolina, we send thanks to the Burns family.

SILVER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, last month, back home in Sellersburg, Indiana, Silver Creek High School's baseball team made history by winning the program's first-ever class 3A State title.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to recognize Silver Creek High School on the House floor. This is not only an impressive victory, but a testament to the guidance and leadership of Coach Joe Decker and his coaching staff who worked diligently to mold these young men not only into State champions—but future leaders.

I hope Coach Decker enjoys this well-deserved retirement.

The players' countless hours of practice, preparation, and teamwork has finally paid off and will, without a doubt, inspire future generations of players and coaches to strive for both excellence and good sportsmanship. They have not only made their school proud but the entire community and their Congresswoman.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward with great anticipation to see what they will accomplish next.

I congratulate them, once again, on their first-ever State championship win. I am sure it won't be their last.

ACTIVIST PROPOSALS AT THE SEC

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Financial Services Committee, a member of the ESG Working Group, and the Representative of the Ninth District of Indiana, I can say with certainty that we need the Securities and Exchange Commission to be transparent and accountable to the American people.

In my work with committee, one issue I have been particularly focused on is the shareholder proposal process. In the current system, activists can persistently resubmit similar far-left proposals year after year despite those proposals being previously rejected by a majority of shareholders.

This shift in focus toward advancing environmental, social, and political policies distracts from the primary purpose of our public markets which is to enable companies to raise capital, foster economic growth, and provide a return on investment for everyday investors.

The SEC's recent proposals would make this problem worse by allowing more and more politically motivated shareholder proposals to be considered.

This busy work provides no benefit to business.

So why would we allow these already decided upon political topics to plague our boardrooms?

It is simply not fair to companies, including the ones across my district, to have to continuously invest resources in fighting or litigating activist proposals that clearly do not benefit the company or its shareholders, especially when similar proposals have already been rejected.

The SEC proposals defy logic and sound investment strategy. That is why last week I introduced the No Expensive, Stifling Governance Act, or

the No ESG Act, as the very first bill of its kind to be introduced in Congress.

The No ESG Act would stop this burdensome rule from being enacted and help put an end to redundant and onerous shareholder proposals.

More specifically, for companies listening back home, this would address the SEC's proposed amendments on rule 14a-8.

While the current system benefits a small group of activists over everyday investors, this proposed rule would increase the burden on shareholders and businesses and divert attention away from the issues that actually matter.

The bottom line is that southern Indiana companies shouldn't be forced to become political platforms where politics overshadow sound financial decisionmaking.

When I said that my priority was to improve the financial landscape for the Ninth District, I meant it. Accomplishing that depends heavily on putting forth legislation that would make a real difference, and the No ESG Act is that kind of legislation.

I am glad to be contending on behalf of the State of Indiana to solve this problem that has been overlooked for far too long.

TUCSON PASSPORT CENTER AND WESTERN PASSPORT CENTER

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the monumental effort happening in my district of the Tucson Passport Center and Western Passport Center.

The employees here are working around the clock—sometimes 7 days a week—to help Americans across our country receive their passports during an unprecedented surge in demand and clear the backlog of applications.

These men and women are not only helping Americans in a timely manner, but they are also coming up with creative and innovative solutions so travelers' plans are not disrupted.

A record one-half million passport applications are being submitted every week—every single week—by our friends and our neighbors. Families going on vacation, students studying abroad, business travelers seeking trade opportunities, whatever the reason, Americans are traveling abroad like never before, and they aren't going to get very far without a passport.

The Western Passport Center is seeing upwards of 200 in-person emergency and urgent traveler counter appointments per day.

The Tucson Passport Center has ramped up organizations to print 80,000 passports per day, working in tandem with their colleagues in Arkansas to supply the 29 passport agencies and centers across the country.

Last month alone, Tucson printed 1.1 million passports—eclipsing the million they printed the month before.

I am honored to have these passport centers in Arizona's Sixth Congressional District. These individuals are really stepping up on behalf of myself, my constituents, and all the people they have helped. I thank them for a job well done.

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POWER OF THE PURSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCHIN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I am reminded of the old hymn, "There Is Power in the Blood," "power in the blood, wonder working power." It also reminds me of something else, that Congress has the power of the purse.

Madam Speaker, yesterday, before I returned to D.C., I had a meeting with a local county official. I thought we were going to discuss infrastructure and workforce problems. He wanted to talk to me about veterans, homeless veterans, how it was increasing so much in his county, and the fact that we have borders that are just porous, with record numbers of people crossing those borders. Here we are, setting them up in rooms and with food, yet we have veterans all across this country living under bridges.

Madam Speaker, when I got to the world's busiest airport, I ran into a dear friend, a marine, on his way to his next assignment. I thought it was very ironic because here we are this week, discussing the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. That is right, the power of the purse.

We owe our veterans a debt of gratitude that we can't ever repay. We also owe our military, our current members of the military, all the tools that they can get in their toolbox.

That is why, this week, we are going to be discussing things. We are fully funding the health program for our veterans and fully funding the veterans benefits in all the VA programs. We are also focusing on infrastructure investments for our current military.

There is another thing we have with that power of the purse—not just funding, but cutting. See, we are going to cut out of our military DEI and CRT, which are hurting recruitment and killing morale.

Madam Speaker, as we go throughout this week and have this debate, for their salvation, I encourage my colleagues to focus on that power of the blood, but I also encourage them to focus on the power of the purse for these appropriations bills.

ENSURING A SAFE AND SECURE FOOD SUPPLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, this week, in this great House, we are set to consider this year's agriculture appropriations bill, a piece of legislation that will impact not only our farmers but every American across this great Nation.

This legislation put forward by my colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee represents a critical step forward in safeguarding our Nation's food and drug supply, supporting our farmers, and ensuring that all Americans, including those in rural communities and low-income families, have access to essential nutrition programs.

If we learned anything from the pandemic, it is that we should have a strong domestic supply chain so that we aren't relying on foreign countries for things like food and medication. This bill demonstrates our commitment to strengthening our national security and food supply by making strategic allocations for agricultural research, rural broadband, and programs focused on animal and plant health.

These are not just budgetary allocations. They are investments in the future of our Nation. By providing sufficient funds for a strong supply chain and for safe food, drugs, and medical devices, we reaffirm our dedication to the well-being of every American.

This legislation further protects our national security by ensuring that agricultural land remains out of the hands of foreign adversaries, such as Communist China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran, safeguarding our national interests.

Our efforts to rein in wasteful spending and bureaucracy are paramount. This bill would redirect funds from partisan bills, such as the Inflation Reduction Act, and utilize them to support our producers in our rural communities.

I personally met with dairy farmers, grape growers, and other agricultural producers in my district to understand the unique challenges faced by our farmers in our rural communities.

I am proud to support this year's agricultural appropriations legislation and to demonstrate our commitment to our hardworking farmers, rural communities, and all Americans who rely on a safe and secure food and drug supply.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand together in support of this critical legislation.

FUNDING AGRICULTURE AND MILITARY PRIORITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today to comment on the two appropriations bills before the House this week and to point out that I would like to thank the Appropriations Committee for doing a good job on both bills.