

veterans improved access to the care and resources they need to lead fulfilling lives after their service.

Beyond funding, we recognize the need to address the challenges our veterans face as they transition back to civilian life. Our focus remains on preserving and strengthening programs that assist veterans in finding meaningful employment, educational opportunities, and mental health support.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to show our veterans the same unwavering dedication that they have shown to us.

#### JUDGE KAPLAN'S RULING

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, on July 19, 2023, Federal Judge Lewis Kaplan rejected Donald Trump's request for a new trial and confirmed that Donald Trump raped E. Jean Carroll.

I must submit this court ruling into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I will read what the judge found. On page 43, the judge wrote: "Ms. Carroll testified that the sexual assault—the 'rape'—of which she accused Mr. Trump involved especially painful, forced digital penetration. . . ."

The judge further writes: "The testimony of the outcry witnesses, [Mses.] Birnbach and Martin, corroborated the essence of Ms. Carroll's account of a violent, traumatic sexual assault."

On page 44, the judge wrote: "The jury's finding of sexual abuse therefore necessarily implies that it found that Mr. Trump forcibly penetrated her vagina."

The judge further writes: ". . . in other words, that he raped her. . . ."

Mr. Speaker, Judge Kaplan's memorandum opinion denying defendant's rule 59 motion can be found at: <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.nysd.590045/gov.uscourts.nysd.590045.212.0.pdf>.

#### RECOGNIZING PELLA WINDOWS

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Pella Corporation of Pella, Iowa, for being named one of "America's Greatest Workplaces of 2023" by Newsweek.

This designation focuses on categories such as professional development, job satisfaction, compensation, work-life balance, and other categories. Pella has been a mainstay in our community for 98 years, a family-owned business, and employs over 10,000 people nationwide.

Pella is one of the most innovative companies in the United States and has over 150 patents. They actively work to create space for professional development and employee empowerment.

Congratulations to Pella Corporation for this recognition, and I thank them

for continuing to make our community proud.

Mr. Speaker, I wish a happy 20th anniversary to my sister and brother-in-law, Mari-Eleanor and Ralph Martino on September 6. Happy anniversary, Mari-Eleanor and Ralph.

I extend first anniversary wishes to Taylor, my daughter, and her husband David Lazarowitz on September 4. Happy anniversary to Taylor and David.

#### APPLAUDING THE WORK OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, this week House Republicans and the House of Representatives will be considering the fiscal year 2024 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations bill that prioritizes agencies and programs that protect our Nation's food and drug supply and support America's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities, like the ones I represent in Tennessee.

As a farmer and former State agriculture commissioner, I cannot overly stress the importance of the programs in this bill and how farmers and families rely on them. Whether it is rural broadband, WIC, or supplemental nutrition, the programs in this bill go a long way to make sure folks have enough food and fiber to be productive citizens in our society.

That is not all this bill does: it reins in wasteful Washington spending, protects the lives of unborn children, and prohibits agricultural land purchases by those associated with foreign adversaries.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work of the Appropriations Committee to include these provisions.

#### LGBTQ+ SERVICEMEMBERS DESERVE ACCESS TO LIFESAVING HEALTHCARE AND SERVICES

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

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the heinous attack on LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans, including in the fiscal year Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

While it is no surprise that Republicans continue their consistent attempts to dehumanize, discriminate, and devalue LGBTQ+ people, it is shameful that they have chosen to carry this distasteful political attack into this body's appropriations process. Why?

This is a voluntary military, Mr. Speaker. There are 1 million gay and lesbian veterans, and more than 130,000

of them identify as transgender. On top of that, 65,000 Active Duty members currently serving in our military identify as LGBTQ+.

In their bill, which we will debate later on this week, Republicans argue that we should turn our backs on these volunteers who have dedicated their lives to serving our country. Saying that they do not deserve access to life-saving healthcare services based on their identity is ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to stick with our LGBTQ+ veterans.

□ 1415

#### RECOGNIZING JESSICA CARTER

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dedicated public servant to our country, Jessica Carter.

Jess has been my right hand for the past few years, helping me better serve the people of Washington's Fourth Congressional District as my chief of staff. During that time she has led our team with integrity, grit, and unparalleled resolve. Now, after almost 30 years of serving our Nation, she will be leaving Capitol Hill.

As one of the Hill's finest, Jess started in 1995, moving up the ranks from legislative assistant to deputy chief of staff in the office of Representative Richard Pombo. She then served as deputy chief of staff and senior adviser for Representative Steve Pearce, then director of public policy at the National Industries for the Blind. Following that she worked for Representatives Stephen Fincher and Francis Rooney before joining my team in 2020.

Since joining Team Newhouse, Jess has been instrumental in helping my office pass 59 pieces of legislation while keeping our team working together every single day. We have been able to achieve extraordinary wins for central Washington and our Nation.

Many consider her both a friend and a colleague, and she will most certainly be missed in the Halls of Congress. As my entire staff knows, once a member of Team Newhouse, always a member of Team Newhouse.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Jess all the best. Capitol Hill will not be the same without her.

#### REMEMBERING OFFICER JAKE WALLIN OF SAINT MICHAEL, MINNESOTA

(Mrs. FISCHBACH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Officer Jake Wallin, a brave young veteran from Saint Michael, Minnesota.

On July 14, while responding to a crash in south Fargo, a gunman shot

and killed Jake and wounded two of his fellow officers and one civilian.

Without hesitation, to protect those whom he served, Officer Jake Wallin made the ultimate sacrifice.

My prayers go out to the Wallin family. Please know that the people of western Minnesota share your loss and we pray for Jake's family and for his law enforcement family.

Mr. Speaker, let us never take for granted the heroes who walk among us.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIR THOMAS "TANK" STRICKLAND

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the life of former Knox County Commission Chair Thomas "Tank" Strickland who passed away on July 18 at 70 years old.

Tank grew up in east Tennessee and attended Austin-East High School. He graduated from the University of Tennessee before becoming the first Black chair of the Knox County Commission. He dedicated his life to making Knoxville a much better place.

When he announced his retirement, he said he hoped he left every single situation, organization, and person in a better condition than when he started.

Mr. Speaker, that was a great understatement.

Even after retiring in 2016, Tank continued to serve the east Knoxville community and the entire community as a whole. Just a week before he passed away, he asked me to honor some other east Tennesseans, Leo and Judy Whiteside, here on the House floor for their service to the community. He handwrote his notes about them and sent them to our office. This is truly a testament to how much he loved our community and the folks around him.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful not just for his service to Knoxville but also that I could call him a dear friend. When my daddy had his stroke, Tank would check on my mama every day in the hospital. My mama would always say: "That handsome young man came by."

I guess he had a way with the ladies, and my mama loved him.

Tank was a dear friend to my parents and my girls. He left behind a great legacy and made our community a better place. He leaves his lovely wife, Terry, and a bunch of Omega Psi Phi brothers.

I know he is in Heaven with Jesus, Mr. Speaker, but in a selfish way I will miss him for the rest of my life.

#### BIDENOMICS IS FAILING FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President Biden has continued his fabricated excuses for Bidenomics. His message is not reality understood by American families.

According to the New York Post op-ed by Brian Riedl, senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute: "'Bidenomics' is a record of failure," and the President will spend \$5 trillion over the next decade. This spending is "driving prices upward by more than 16 percent . . . since the President took office, at a cost of more than \$10,000 for the typical household," and hourly compensation has fallen by 5 percent. "When incomes cannot keep pace with inflation and families are falling behind, few other economic variables matter."

Biden fails to recognize that inflation reached the highest rate in 40 years under his watch of borrow, tax, and spend, and it is failing families and destroying jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with open Biden borders.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN ORDEN). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1602

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK) at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### HAITI CRIMINAL COLLUSION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1684) to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1684

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) According to a United Nations estimate, approximately 167 criminal gangs operated in Haiti in October 2021, exerting territorial control over as much as two-thirds of the country.

(2) Haitian armed criminal gangs, the most prominent of which are the G9 Family and Allies and 400 Mawozo gangs, conduct violent crimes, including murder, rape, arms and drug trafficking, racketeering, kidnapping, and blockades of fuel and aid deliveries. These crimes have perpetuated the ongoing security and humanitarian crises in Haiti, which have worsened since the assassination of President Jovenel Moise on July 7, 2021.

(3) The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Service jointly found a 333 percent increase in human rights violations and abuses against the rights to life and security in Haiti between July 2018 and December 2019.

(4) At least 19,000 Haitians were forcibly displaced during 2021 due to rising criminal violence.

(5) Armed gangs have used rape, and other forms of sexual violence to instill fear, punish, subjugate, and inflict pain on local populations with the goal of expanding their areas of influence in Port-au-Prince.

(6) At least 803 kidnappings were reported in Haiti during the first 10 months of 2021, including the kidnapping of more than 16 United States citizens, giving Haiti having the highest per capita kidnapping rate of any country in the world.

(7) There is significant evidence of collusion between criminal gangs and economic and political elites in Haiti, including members of the Haitian National Police, which has resulted in widespread impunity and directly contributed to Haiti's current security crisis.

(8) On December 10, 2020, the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury designated former Haitian National Police officer Jimmy Chérizier, former Director General of the Ministry of the Interior Fednel Monchery, and former Departmental Delegate Joseph Pierre Richard Duplan under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) for their connections to armed criminal gangs, including organizing the November 2018 La Saline massacre.

#### SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) ECONOMIC ELITES.—The term "economic elites" means board members, officers, and executives of groups, committees, corporations, or other entities that exert substantial influence or control over Haiti's economy, infrastructure, or particular industries.

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term "intelligence community" has the meaning