

All right. So this is lifting the cap. I have had some of the most arrogant leftists over and over say that solves the problem. Does it? One more time. The shortfall in 9 years, our estimate is \$616 billion. Lifting the cap, our best estimate produces about \$164.7 billion. You get about 20 percent of it.

This is what the brain trust around here has as the solution. We are going to force the Republicans to just lift the cap on Social Security taxes, and we will be fine.

Really? Really? You have \$420-some—\$427, \$428 billion, you are still short. That is in the first year. That is in one year. You are still doubling senior poverty at these numbers. This is the left's plan for us?

Come on, people. This shouldn't be Republican or Democrat. We had a President get behind that microphone and say we are not allowed to talk about this.

Please understand, it is absolutely just abysmal that we are going to spend the next couple weeks doing theatrics and fighting, and we will scrape out some savings, but those savings are going to be tiny compared to the scale of this sort of nuclear debt bomb.

This isn't way off in the future. This is no longer about your kids and your grandkids. This is you. This is your retirement.

Let's actually do a couple other pieces of math that really upset people, but it is math. Okay, we are going to do something called expected present values. Why this is important is you have a lot of folks who somehow believe that they have paid in stunning amounts of money into Social Security and Medicare and they are getting cheated. In some ways you actually are, but it may not be what you think.

What we are trying to show is lifetime taxes, lifetime benefits. The blue here, or is that purple, is Social Security, Social Security, Medicare and Medicare. On Social Security, the average couple, you get every dime back plus about \$72,000.

Now, remember, if 25 years ago when George Bush tried—and he was absolutely nuked by the retirement—I have got to come up with a name for the folks that basically want to nationalize retirement and the Democrats. President Bush ran around saying could we just take a sliver of it and allow people to have their own private account? Oh, you are trying to privatize. Too late now. That window is long past.

You are going to put in several hundred thousand dollars into Social Security through your taxes. This is an average couple who works their 40 quarters. You get about a \$72,000 SPIF. It would be several times more than that if over those working years you had been allowed to put that 15 percent or so into a private account, but water under the bridge. This is the left's brilliant economics.

Primary driver of debt, though, turns out this is the lifetime Medicare taxes. It is about \$200,000. We are still work-

ing on updating the number, but our newest number is maybe just shy of \$700,000 per couple on the benefits they are going to get from Medicare.

Does someone see a problem? Average couple—remember, there are 76 million baby boomers—that couple will put in a couple hundred thousand in Medicare, and they are probably getting close to \$700,000 in benefits. That gap right there is the primary driver of U.S. sovereign debt. Almost no one will ever tell you that.

□ 2015

Mr. Speaker, the reason I keep coming behind this microphone is I truly believe there are people out there in the public that want to be talked to like adults. Yes, some like getting the stimuli of having someone say something angry and crazy, but that is not how you save the Republic.

There are ways to stabilize this. There are ways for this to be another "American Century," but that clock is ticking on us. Do you think we are going to recapitalize if the Medicare Trust Fund is how many billion dollars of shortfall starting in 7 years? I just showed you Social Security is 616 in the first year; transportation is also gone in that time. Plus, we are heading into 3 trillion-dollar-year deficits at the end of the decade. We are going to do 2.2 this year.

This is moving away from us very, very, very fast, and I do need people out there to understand the difference between a million, a billion, and a trillion. Play with your calculators to see how many zeros are the difference. Don't let someone trying to get your vote pander to you by making crap up if they are not being serious with you.

I will argue, this is the thing that destroys your Republic. This is what will make you much less free. This is what will take your freedoms from you, destroy your retirement, and heaven knows the misery we are leaving to our kids.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1908. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, OUSD (A&S)(A)/DPC, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Defense Commercial Solutions Opening (DFARS Case 2022-D006)

[Docket DARS-2023-0002] (RIN: 0750-AL57) received August 31, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1909. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting Board's 33rd annual report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1637 note; Public Law 100-583, Sec. 8; (102 Stat. 2969); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1910. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with respect to exports, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1911. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with respect to exports, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1912. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with respect to exports, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1913. A letter from the Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs Office, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Child Nutrition Program Integrity [FNS-2016-0040] (RIN: 0584-AE08) received August 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-1914. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Dishwashers [EERE-2023-BT-TP-0007] (RIN: 1904-AF50) received August 30, 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-1915. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Dehumidifiers [EERE-2019-BT-TP-0026] (RIN: 1904-AE60) received August 30, 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-1916. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Alternate PCB Extraction Methods and Amendments to PCB Cleanup and Disposal Regulations [EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0556; FRL-7122-03-OLEM] (RIN: 2050-AH08) received August 23, 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-1917. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; South Carolina: New Source Review Updates [EPA-R04-OAR-2022-0397; FRL-10011-02-R4] received August 23, 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-1918. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District; Oxides of Nitrogen [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0682; FRL-10126-02-R9] received August 23, 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-1919. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Texas; Updates to Public Notice and Procedural Rules and Removal of Obsolete Provisions [EPA-R06-OAR-2022-0307; FRL-10892-02-R6] received August 23, 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-1920. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Aspergillus flavus* strain TC16F, TC35C, TC38B, and TC46G; Amendment to Temporary Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0797; FRL-10971-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1921. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Spinosad*; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0386; FRL-11036-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1922. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Pyraclonil*; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0004; FRL-11246-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1923. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Trifluralin*; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0502; FRL-11272-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1924. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Imazapyr*; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0577; FRL-11274-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1925. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Methoxyfenozide*; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0139; FRL-11276-01-OCSPP] received August 23, 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-1926. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guidance — Volcanic Hazards Assessment for Proposed Nuclear Power Reactor Sites [Regulatory Guide 4.26, Revision 1] received August 23, 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-1927. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guidance — Use of Arcon Methodology for Calculation of Accident-Related Offsite Atmospheric Dispersion Factors [Regulatory Guide 1.249, Revision 0], 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-1928. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1929. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1930. A letter from the Fishery Management Specialist, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species; Critical Habitat for the Threatened Caribbean Corals [Docket No.: 230726-0177] (RIN: 0648-BG26) received August 29, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-1931. A letter from the Ombudsman for the Energy Employees, Occupational Illness Compensation Program, Department of Labor, transmitting the 2022 Annual Report of the Ombudsman for the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7385s-15(e)(1); Public Law 106-398, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 108-375, Sec. 3161); (118 Stat. 2185); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1932. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; St. Mary's River, St. George's Creek, Piney Point, MD [Docket Number: USCG-2023-0418] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received August 29, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1933. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31499; Amdt. No.: 4071] received August 22, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1934. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31500; Amdt. No.: 4072] received August 22, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. ESCOBAR (for herself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 5521. A bill to authorize the President to posthumously award the Medal of Honor to Marcelino Serna for acts of valor as a private in the Army during World War I; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 5522. A bill to impose sanctions against certain persons engaged in the proliferation or use of foreign commercial spyware, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 5523. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to include information in the International Narcotics Control Strategy Report on improvements by countries in combating narcotics-related money laundering, to require a report on the consistency of Bank Secrecy Act examinations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 5524. A bill to amend the start date of the pilot program on sharing with foreign branches, subsidiaries and affiliates; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. BICE, Mr. ROY, and Mr. ARMSTRONG):

H.R. 5525. A bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 5526. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the application of the in-office ancillary services exception to the physician self-referral prohibition for drugs furnished under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MACE (for herself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 5527. A bill to amend section 1078 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 to increase the effectiveness of the Technology Modernization Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself and Mrs. BOEBERT):

H.R. 5528. A bill to evaluate the impact of the lowest price technically acceptable source selection process on national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.