

The good people of Missouri have asked that we introduce this legislation, which releases the livestock industry from unnecessary and decades-old regulations.

The A-PLUS Act increases packer competition for livestock and meat processing capacity at the local level. It fixes local supply chain issues, and it supports small businesses.

I am committed to our farmers and our ranchers and will always serve their voice here in Congress.

DIRECT ATTACK ON STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to criticize the Strategic Production Response Act.

This bill is a direct attack on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and threatens our country's economic and national security.

The reserve was created in 1975 to protect Americans from another oil embargo and create stability in our economy, and it was created by a Republican President, Gerald Ford.

Now, Republicans want to connect oil releases from the reserve to dangerous oil drilling on Federal lands.

The release of oil from the reserve helped lower gas prices by almost \$2 after the Russians invaded Ukraine. It helped working Americans put food on the table and pay their rent during that time. But Republicans want to punish middle-class Americans with higher gas prices and ruin the environment in the process.

Mr. Speaker, it is a disgraceful bill, and they should be ashamed to even introduce it.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUSCHWITZ CONCENTRATION CAMP LIBERATION

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

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to acknowledge that the 27th of January marks the anniversary of the Auschwitz concentration camp being liberated by the Red Army in 1945.

Let this day serve as a reminder that we must honor the victims and the survivors. We must also pay tribute to the liberators, who rescued millions of people who nearly fell victim to the Holocaust.

In fact, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the grandmother of one of my D.C. staffers, who is a 93-year-old survivor of Auschwitz and is also one of the few survivors of her family, who was tragically lost at the hands of Nazi murderers.

Anti-Semitism is a plague in this Nation, and it is undoubtedly up to us to ensure this kind of tragedy is never to be seen again.

This is a tribute to aging survivors and the Jewish community. We must guarantee access to the services they need to live long and dignified lives.

This day and every day, we give credence to the dark side of humanity but strive for a better and brighter future.

CONDEMNING AZERBAIJAN'S BLOCKADE OF LACHIN CORRIDOR

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Azerbaijan's ongoing blockade of the Lachin Corridor.

For more than 6 weeks, under the guise of an environmental protest, Azerbaijan has conducted a blockade of the Lachin Corridor, the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia.

The blockade has left thousands of people without access to critical medical supplies, food, and essential goods.

This is needless and malicious and is part of a larger pattern of violence by the Azerbaijani regime against the people of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

I urge the administration to use every tool at its disposal to ensure the safety of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh and put an end to this needless and violent blockade.

We must provide direct humanitarian assistance through this administration and every Member of Congress so that we can help the people who are suffering through this atrocity.

HONORING HEROIC BRANTLEY COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the heroic Brantley County first responders.

In early January, there were several drug overdoses on the west end of the county. Thanks to the hard work and expertise of the Brantley County paramedics, EMTs, deputies, dispatchers, and many others, multiple people were saved.

To honor them for their outstanding work, I will name everyone involved:

Brantley EMS: Chad Hester, Dale Jewell, Kim Carter, and David Farrior. Brantley County 911 operator Devinee Cady.

Brantley County deputies Vanessa Wilson and Christopher Edgerton.

Lastly, Deputy Ralph McCormick and Detention Officer James Leston Jacobs.

Because of the heroic acts of this selfless group, many lives have been saved.

They all deserve a hero's welcome and celebration. On behalf of myself, the First Congressional District of Georgia, and the Nation, thank you for your service.

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WOMEN'S ACCESS TO MEDICATION ABORTION

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to defend women's access to medication abortion.

In the wake of the Dobbs decision, the Justice Department reaffirmed that States cannot ban the abortion pill, which now accounts for the majority of abortions nationwide.

Medication abortion is safe and effective. It is healthcare.

However, in North Carolina, women face unnecessary limitations that not only allow treatment to be delayed by 72 hours but require counseling before medication abortion.

This week, a brave physician in North Carolina, Amy Bryant, filed a lawsuit challenging these dangerous restrictions.

Let's be clear. Any State that limits a physician's ability to prescribe abortion medication is causing harm to women and creating needless barriers to healthcare.

We cannot give up on the fight for full reproductive autonomy.

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Together, we must all honor the millions of lives that were lost to the unspeakable atrocities committed by the Nazi regime.

The Holocaust claimed the lives of over 6 million Jews and millions of other residents of Europe. It was one of the most horrific genocides to ever occur on our planet, perpetrated by an evil and twisted group of fanatics.

The horrific violence and campaign of death that the Nazis waged on all fronts is a stark reminder of the fragility of human life and the importance of defending it.

My district, New York's 17th District, is home to one of the largest per capita Jewish populations in the United States. On this day, in particular, my heart and thoughts are with them as we remember those in our own community who have lost loved ones during the Holocaust.

We must all recommit ourselves to confronting anti-Semitism wherever it rears its ugly head and continue to work toward a safer and brighter future for all.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE IN PERPETUITY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to H.R. 21.

A top U.S. security priority must be energy independence in perpetuity.

We know high oil prices hit working families hard. Last year, the Biden administration rightly released oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and oil prices dropped \$1.69 a gallon in my area.

Unfortunately, the bill we had debated adds layers of bureaucracy—four agencies and departments thick—limiting our progress to stabilize prices.

America must have an all-of-the-above energy profile. Here is yet another handout to Big Oil. It forces the leasing of additional lands to oil companies while vast amounts of current federally leased land sites are already going unused.

Leasing land is not the same as production.

H.R. 21 would hamstring our ability to protect people and companies from spiking gasoline prices.

I fought hard to save the Strategic Petroleum Reserve when others here tried to decommission it. American energy security means national independence. We should settle for no less.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize National School Choice Week, I rise to support educational freedom and efforts to empower our Nation's parents to make the educational decisions best for their families.

Over the last 2 years, we have seen our school systems and classrooms weaponized, pushing political agendas on our Nation's children.

These agendas have undermined the core purpose of our school systems: educating our children and preparing them for a successful future. These biased agendas are nothing more than liberal propaganda forced on our children, and they simply do not belong in the classroom.

As the proud parent of four school-age children, I understand how critical it is for parents to direct the education of their children, whether through the public school system, private schools, charter schools, homeschools, or otherwise. Each is a vital part of our educational system.

As one of the newest members of the Committee on Education and Workforce, I look forward to restoring the rights of parents to direct their child's education, not the Federal Government acting in loco parentis.

NEVER FORGET THE WORST GENOCIDE IN HISTORY

(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, we often say the words "never forget." Never forget the worst genocide in history, we say.

Today, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, we must acknowledge the uncomfortable reality that we as a country are not adequately passing the critical lessons from the Holocaust on to the next generations.

As the Representative of Borough Park in Brooklyn, with the largest population of Holocaust survivors and their families in the country, and as a proud American Jew from New York State, this is deeply personal to me and my constituents.

We must continue to educate the next generations of Americans to understand the importance of the Holocaust so that it is not lost and that we never forget.

I would like to stand here and read the names of my neighbors, those in my community who lost family and other loved ones in the Holocaust, but that list is just far too long.

Instead, I ask that each of us take a moment to reflect today, to confront our past, and to acknowledge the work that must be done in the future to make sure that we truly never forget.

THE WAR IN UKRAINE

(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, sometimes the press—when a story goes on for months and months—begins to not pay attention or address things they ought to be addressing. I am going to briefly address the Ukraine war.

It sure would be wonderful if that war ended. There are different estimates as to the number of people killed in that war, but I think all estimates would put it over 20,000 people.

This—for countries that, quite frankly, have problems and a shortage of people—is not frequently commented on, but Ukraine has the second lowest birth rate of any sizable country in the world. Russia also has a low birth rate and has a lot of people immigrating.

I would hope the press, or our government would look for somebody—we can't do it—but look for some country, France, Turkey, Israel, someone to broker peace here before any more people die, and the hatred that inevitably comes with war becomes greater and greater.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Congressional Youth Mentoring Caucus, I rise to recognize National

Mentoring Month to celebrate the impact of youth mentoring and ask caring adults across the country to consider becoming mentors as our youth face the overwhelming challenges of our time.

One-third of young people in the United States don't have a meaningful connection with a responsible adult outside their homes, but such connections can have a powerful, positive impact on their economic mobility, mental health, violence prevention, and identity development.

I have been a youth mentor since college, and it is incredibly rewarding. I have been honored to participate in and celebrate the personal and professional growth of scores of young people.

This week, we welcome mentors from across the country to Capitol Hill, including visitors from the Philadelphia region who work with MENTOR and Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and we heard about the work they do to support young people in our communities every day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all adults to consider how they can serve their communities and the next generation by becoming mentors through sports, career exploration, school, or faith-based programs.

HONORING THE LIVES OF SERGEANT STEVEN ROBIN AND OFFICER BRANDEN ESTORFFE

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

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor two fallen heroes: Bay St. Louis Police officers, Sergeant Steve Robin and Officer Branden Estorffe, who were shot and killed in the line of duty this past December.

Sergeant Robin served 3 years with the Bay St. Louis Police Department after prior service with the Hancock County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Estorffe served 2 years with the Bay St. Louis Police Department.

During their law enforcement careers, both men received numerous accolades for their dedication to protecting their community. May we remember their selfless commitment, their service, and ultimately their sacrifice.

Their families are in the thoughts and prayers of myself, this body, and everyone in Mississippi.

FIGHTING FOR YOUR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

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

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, we marked the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. I remain outraged by the Supreme Court's decision to rip away the fundamental right to safe and legal abortion.