

HELPING SERVICEMEMBERS AND FAMILIES DURING A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, while extremists threaten to shut down the government if they don't receive reckless cuts to vital programs that families in Ohio's 13th Congressional District rely on, like Social Security, K-12 education, and nutrition assistance, I am committed to funding the government and keeping these critical services running.

My constituents are worried about how they will pay their bills or put food on the table if the government shuts down. That is why I introduced two bills last week, the Pay Our Military Act and the Feed Our Families Act. Both put people over politics to protect Americans' livelihoods in the case of a government shutdown.

The bipartisan Pay Our Military Act would ensure our servicemembers, people who sacrifice every day to keep our country safe, aren't forced to serve without pay.

The Feed Our Families Act would ensure no family who relies on SNAP benefits goes hungry throughout the shutdown.

House Republicans can easily prevent a government shutdown by simply upholding their end of the bipartisan budget agreement, but if they won't, I remain committed to Ohio's 13th Congressional District and our country.

It is time to stop the political games. Put the American people first and fund our government. In the event that extremists won't—which it seems like they won't, based on the shenanigans and utter foolishness of today—I encourage my colleagues to support and bring to the floor the Pay Our Military Act and the Feed Our Families Act.

LACKING CONVICTION TO STOP SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, with the failure of that last vote, we are now less than 2 days away from shutting down the United States Government, not because we don't have a path forward, but because the party of Lincoln has been captured by the spirit of Yeats: The best of you lack all conviction, and the worst are filled with passionate intensity.

Extreme Republicans with passionate intensity are choosing to destroy all that makes America great while their moderate enablers sit meekly, lacking the conviction to oppose.

My question is, do any of you have a plan to land this plane? It seems weird that you skipped that part of flight school.

Less than 2 days from now, every single American is going to feel the pain

of this crash, every soldier who wants to get paid, every woman who wants food assistance for her child, everybody who needs housing support, everybody who is wondering if the train they are riding on has been inspected.

We don't have to be here, Mr. Speaker, but we need some of you, any of you, to stand up.

SPIRALING TOWARD A SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. TORRES of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, we are less than 34 hours from a Republican government shutdown. This is not the time for political theater or political grievances. We are spiraling toward a shutdown that would devastate thousands of working families that I represent throughout California's Inland Empire.

If extremist Republicans are allowed to continue their theatrics, over 4,000 Federal employees in my district—mothers, fathers, caretakers among them—could miss their next paycheck. TSA agents at Ontario International Airport will have to work without pay. Over 25,000 women and children who rely on Federal food assistance could miss their next meal.

It is beyond hypocritical that Republicans want to cut benefits for hard-working families while making it easier for billionaires to cheat on their taxes.

My Republican colleagues need to get serious about governing or get out of the way.

REPUBLICANS MUST DO THE RIGHT THING

(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 condemn the impending government shutdown and House Republicans' refusal to set politics aside for the good of the American people.

Rather than working across the aisle with Democrats to fund the government like the Senate, my Republican colleagues are threatening a catastrophic shutdown unless their extreme demands are met.

Make no mistake, a government shutdown is entirely preventable. Extreme Republicans in the House are choosing to put politics over the American people.

A government shutdown threatens the lives and livelihoods of our servicemembers, small business owners, children, and families who rely on Head Start and WIC, and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, with only 1 day left until the government funding runs out, House Democrats are willing to work across the aisle to keep government open.

It is time for Republicans to do the same for the American people.

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RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER ON HIS 99th BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate America's longest living President and one of Georgia's finest, President Jimmy Carter, who is turning 99 years young.

On Sunday October 1, I had plans to be home in Georgia for this birthday celebration, but the looming Republican government shutdown has me here in D.C. doing the work for the people.

President Carter has led a distinguished life, winning a Nobel Peace Prize, eradicating diseases, and uplifting the lives of millions of marginalized people.

He would probably say that his most important accomplishments are his Christian faith as a member of Maranatha Baptist Church; marrying his beloved wife, Rosalynn; raising a strong family; building houses with Habitat for Humanity; and being one of the best peanut farmers in the land.

For me, President Carter is an inspiration. My husband, Leslie, and I even named our son Carter after this great President. I strive every day to make sure that my Carter Cakes has the same humility and commitment to service as his namesake.

The best birthday gift that President Carter could receive from us would be us all working together to make the world a better place for the most marginalized, and we can do that by following President Carter's example and building on his legacy—starting with keeping the government open for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I wish President Carter a happy 99th birthday.

DON'T SHUT DOWN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to acknowledge our great President Jimmy Carter and thank him for his life and service.

It is becoming that we stand on the floor today to be able to speak in contrast to the generosity of the Carters to where we are today because we are supposed to be saving America.

Frankly, we now have a challenge where the Republican leadership cannot even find a way to stop the government from shutting down. I think if the American people knew what their plan was, you might ask the question: Is it possible to lead in this way?

Attacking the National Institutes of Health, that is what they are doing.

They are cutting education and dollars for disabled children and taking money away from 150,000 teachers who

I will be engaging with in my hometown by phone.

Of course, they are not recognizing the needs of energy support for those low-income families and not helping those communities that are suffering every day from natural disasters. We know the West has suffered from fires. We in the southwest have suffered from floods.

Of course, they are disrespecting the needs of Israel and Ukraine.

This is not the American way, and now we are gone because the bill they put up could not even get the Republican votes.

Let's do what is right for the American people. Don't shut down. Stand up for the American people.

RECOGNIZING TOMMY CONWAY

(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, I rise to share my deepest condolences upon the passing of United Steelworkers' president, Tommy Conway, who passed away this past weekend at 71 years old.

The steelworkers of the United States, the labor movement, and our Nation have lost a true hero who helped to revitalize and reinvest in the U.S. steel industry.

As someone who spent much of my career working to save industrial America, including in Ohio and across our country, I can say that there was no greater advocate to save this lodestar, vital U.S. industry than Tommy Conway.

Tommy understood to his core what America makes and grows makes and grows America and he was absolutely committed to making things in America and making sure, as president of the United Steelworkers, that he fought every single day to protect workers, make sure they had good pay, retirement security, and safety on the job.

Tommy was dedicated to the idea that all working people should be able to live a good middle-class way of life. Something we both understood growing up in union households was what unions truly mean to workers and families—moving into the middle class.

Conway will be missed by many but never forgotten, and I hope Tommy's longtime partner, Carol, his three sons, and six grandchildren are comforted in knowing how much good he has done for so many and what a great man Tommy Conway was.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ZINKE). The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to the possible resumption of legislative business.

THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for a memorial.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, this week I introduced legislation to rename the post office in Kiel, Wisconsin, after Wisconsin State trooper, Trevor Casper.

Now, I know many in this body may not have heard of Trevor, but back in Wisconsin he is not just the son of our State, he is a shining example of dedication and service. Trevor Casper was born in Sheboygan on May 21, 1993, to parents Kevin and Deborah.

He graduated from Kiel High School with the class of 2011 where he was active in wrestling, soccer, and coaching youth sports.

After high school, Trevor pursued a degree in criminal justice at Lakeshore Technical College, graduating in May of 2014.

During Trevor's time there, he was active in color guard and served as president of the LTC student government.

It was clear that Trevor was not just interested in a career but passionate about making a difference in his entire community.

Trevor's dream was to continue his education at the State Patrol Academy, which he did, successfully graduating on December 18, 2014.

Following his graduation, Trooper Casper was stationed at the State trooper base in Fond du Lac where he continued to serve his community with honor and dedication.

Tragically, on his first assignment, he made the ultimate sacrifice. On March 24, 2015, he was shot in Fond du Lac while apprehending a bank robbery and murder suspect. Though mortally wounded, Trooper Casper returned fire on the suspect, killing him, and protecting those in the nearby vicinity.

Trevor Casper was the youngest law enforcement officer to ever make the ultimate sacrifice in the State of Wisconsin. His bravery in the face of danger, his commitment to upholding the law, and his willingness to protect our community were unwavering.

Trooper Casper is a true hero, and he deserves to be remembered and honored for his selfless sacrifice. Renaming the Kiel Post Office in his honor is a small but meaningful gesture and will ensure that future generations see the name Trevor Casper and will hear about his great sacrifice and what a great human being he was.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I apologize to everyone as we are sort of organizing the slides here.

Mr. Speaker and anyone that is listening, okay, so the House is in a fairly cantankerous spot right now. Part of my frustration and part of the reason

for actually grabbing this hour is—what is a more elegant way to use the words “I need to stop the lying.” Actually, I don't think we are supposed to say that on the floor—the people just making crap up.

Let's actually have an educational discussion here. If you don't like math, please just turn off your television and stop watching because this is becoming a math-free zone around here.

Why is there fighting here on the House floor? What is the fussing? You do understand every dime a Member of Congress votes on now is all borrowed money. There is a very good chance—we will know actually next week when the final Treasury data is posted that for this fiscal year, the 2023 fiscal year which ends this weekend, we will borrow—and I am sorry, but this is how you need to think about it—we will borrow, functionally, 9 percent of GDP.

So 9 percent of the entire economy will be just the borrowed money. Not the spent money, the borrowed money. We are hitting numbers that should be terrifying. I don't know why they are not terrifying to the folks on the left. You just saw it. They just came to the microphones saying we want more money. Where does it come from?

Let's actually walk through some basic facts. This isn't Republican or Democrat math, it is just math. My family motto is “math will always win.” It may take a while, but the math will always win.

The reason for this chart, Mr. Speaker, is—one more time try to visualize—this is the 2023 budget. In that 2023 budget here is what we call discretionary spending. This is defense and nondefense.

We have 1.7 on this chart. It is actually closer to \$1.8 trillion. This wedge over here is actually—let's just call it Medicare. Social Security still has its own trust fund, which is out in 9 years. When you hear Democrats saying, well, we don't borrow anything for Social Security, you shouldn't be talking about it. Well, the trust fund is gone in 9 years, and the recapitalization of it is brutal.

Once again, my brothers and sisters on the left don't want to actually deal with the math because it is such a great campaign hit on anyone that actually cares about not doubling senior poverty in 9 years.

Back to this chart. When you look at this, you have to understand, this blue wedge is all we get to vote on. All the red, the 72 percent of spending we call mandatory is on autopilot. You get that benefit because you worked your 40 quarters. You earned your Social Security benefit. You worked a certain amount. You have paid into your Medicare. You turned 65. You get that benefit when you hit a certain age. That is the vast majority of the spending, and it is also—if you go from today through the next 30 years, it is 100 percent of the future debt.

It is demographics. I say this over and over and over and over. The idiot