

To me, when I read this article and all the problems they cite—lack of facilities, lack of professionals, too many of the young ones leaving their community to go to work in the United States or take on other professions—this was a cautionary tale to all of rural and remote America that if we don't get our act together soon in our States and our territories to make sure that no matter where you live in this great country, especially in rural and remote America that makes up over 97 percent of this great country's land mass, we will continue to see people die.

The stakes could not be higher when it comes to making sure that the Bipartisan Rural Health Caucus continues to stay together and fight for those most basic things for every single one of our constituents. No matter where you live, no matter what district, each one has a touch of rural. We need to make sure that the healthcare access and mental health services they need will be there for them when they need it.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing us this critically important Special Order hour to highlight rural health in our country. I look forward to working very closely with all of my colleagues to make sure that rural America has the healthcare that they need and deserve.

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

#### FOCUSING ON REPUBLICAN PRIORITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As vice chair of the House Republican Conference, it is shaping up to be a busy, productive week for House Republicans. I am looking forward to hearing from my colleagues to discuss the issues our Conference is focused on this week, including the crisis at our border, support for Israel, and investigations into the Biden family's alleged illegal financial dealings with foreign nations.

□ 1630

We have an energized and diverse conference, eager to make the American Dream possible for the next generation.

My team and I are ready to help Members shine and deliver their message straight to their constituents and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. McCLAIN), for the first remarks of the evening.

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our newly-elected vice chair. Congratulations. I look forward to working with him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because accountability is finally here.

For years, Joe Biden has used his name and influence for personal gain, all while serving in office and receiving a salary funded by taxpayer dollars. He has deceived the Nation by posing as a trustworthy family man, only to be bought and paid for by foreign nationals.

The Biden family has embedded themselves in a web of lies, spreading deceit to the Nation to cover up their shady dealings. We are not fools and we cannot be fooled.

For months, House Republicans have followed the facts, and more importantly, followed the money. It has all led right back to President Biden. Despite stonewalling attempts at every turn, we have persisted. From the DOJ to the FBI and the White House, cohorts of the Biden family have done everything they can to stop the truth from coming to light. These lies cannot stay hidden forever.

House Republicans in the Oversight Committee have unearthed over \$240,000 in direct payments to the President and his family. What about that money?

That money has direct ties to foreign nationals and our adversaries. These same adversaries President Biden swore to defend America against are actually lining his pockets and influencing his decisions.

It is past time that the American public know the truth. It is time for the Biden family to be held accountable for their corruption.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the House Republicans that accountability is finally here.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative McCLAIN. I appreciate the comments and I appreciate the clarity and work that the Oversight Committee does on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS).

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, our new vice chairman, and congratulate him, as well.

Mr. Speaker, President Biden consistently has stated that he never discussed business with Hunter Biden's associates. This is a lie. Let me repeat that for my colleagues across the aisle. It is a lie.

Throughout our extensive investigation and from the lips of credible witnesses, it is abundantly clear that the Biden family business is Joe Biden. Let

me emphasize, there is no Biden family business except for Joe Biden's 40-plus-year career in Washington, D.C. That has been the family business.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, we have followed the paper trail and we have conducted our investigation by the book. We have discovered damning evidence and we continue to do so every day.

Our investigation has led to some alarming and eye-opening findings, which point to the President's knowledge and involvement in illegal business transactions.

For example, in 2018, James Biden, the President's brother, received \$600,000 in a loan from Americore, a financially distressed and failing rural hospital operator. Bankruptcy court documents suggest that James Biden received these loans based upon representations that his last name, Biden, could open doors in the Middle East based on his political connections. We all know James Biden doesn't have political connections, Joe Biden, his brother, has political connections.

Specifically, Americore wired a \$200,000 loan into the account of James and Sara Biden. Here is what makes the evidence damning. On the same day, James Biden wrote a \$200,000 check from the same account addressed to his brother, Joe Biden. For the American people, the brother of James Biden is the President of the United States.

The next example is an email obtained by the Committee from a Hunter Biden associate mentioning that 10 percent of the relevant joint venture be held by Hunter for the big guy. Ten percent of a relevant joint venture was held for the big guy.

At this point in the Committee's investigation, we have established that Joe Biden is the big guy. Through the web of transactions that purposefully tried to hide the big guy's involvement, let me stress again that Joe Biden is the Biden family business.

Let me illustrate an example of the confusing web of transactions. A Chinese company sent \$5 million to a joint venture between Hunter and an associate. That same day, the joint venture sent \$400,000 to an entity that Hunter Biden controls alone. Less than a week later, Hunter Biden wired \$150,000 from this entity to a company owned by James Biden and Sara Biden. James Biden, the President's brother.

Sara Biden later withdrew \$50,000 from the same company. Less than a week later, Sara wrote a personal check to Joe Biden, aka the big guy, aka the President of the United States, for \$40,000—the 10 percent of the \$400,000 that was mentioned in the email by the associate to Hunter Biden.

Another example is when a confidential human source overheard a Burisma executive claiming to have bribed then-Vice President Joe Biden for \$5 million. As I stated earlier, Joe Biden

consistently says that he never discussed business with Hunter Biden's associates. This was a blatant lie by the Commander in Chief and the American people deserve to know the truth.

Joe Biden never thought that the Oversight Committee would get this far in its investigation, and additional damning evidence will soon be revealed to the American people.

This leads me to my next point. The Foreign Agents Registration Act, more commonly known as FARA—to be clear, Hunter Biden has never registered as a foreign agent, despite his lucrative work being done on behalf of foreign interests and his many travels on Air Force Two. That wasn't just because he missed his dad.

Specifically, Hunter has been documenting business transactions with a Chinese Government-based energy company called CEFC. Interestingly enough, the same company, CEFC, is the same one that is affiliated with the company that sent \$5 million to Hunter Biden.

How is this not the definition of being and acting as a foreign agent?

Paul Manafort was convicted for far less.

The time is now to open up an impeachment investigation pertaining to the President's direct link to blatant corruption, pay-for-play tactics, and acting as a co-conspirator to crimes committed by his family on behalf of Joe Biden himself.

The Committee will continue to do our due diligence. We will not be worried about the distractions from the Democrats and from the press. We will dig through the confusing web of Biden LLCs.

Mr. Speaker, the confusion of these companies and the confusion of these transactions were done on purpose to conceal this money from the American people and to conceal the money from the Internal Revenue Service.

Joe Biden likes to talk about everybody paying their fair share, except him and except his son. They are not concerned about a fair share. We are going to continue to uncover all of this.

We are going to answer and uncover all of the information that is going to outline exactly why, in my opinion, as I represent the 19th District of Florida, why Joe Biden deserves to be impeached.

Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States has taken money from foreign sources. Meanwhile, the world is on fire. Is the President compromised?

Do agents in the Chinese Government have the upper hand on the President of the United States while our enemies are on the move?

These are serious questions that the House of Representatives has a responsibility to have answered. The way to get all that information is through the impeachment inquiry, which will continue here in the people's House.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida who has a strong and clear message.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON).

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah. I couldn't think of a better person to serve as vice chair.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrat from Maryland, who is also the ranking member of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, is claiming hypocrisy when talking about Hunter Biden not being asked to testify publicly, but rather to testify behind closed doors.

If you want to talk about hypocrisy, the ranking member should find a mirror because when the Democrats were in the majority and they wanted President Trump and his American allies to testify, they wanted to have them testify behind closed doors.

To be honest, I don't think Hunter Biden wants to testify publicly because he is going to have to explain quite a bit.

First of all, what business were you in? What product or service did you provide or sell?

I think he would also have to explain why he got \$24 million, and counting, from sleazy foreign businessmen, oligarchs, and corrupt politicians.

He will have to explain why Yelena Baturina, who was married to Yuri Luzhkov, who has now passed away and was the mayor of Moscow—he was described by Michael McFaul, the U.S. Ambassador to Russia under Barack Obama, as the poster child of corruption.

Yelena Baturina gave Hunter Biden, Joe's son, \$3.5 million. Then, interestingly enough, a few months later had dinner with Joe Biden, the then sitting Vice President.

When President Biden's administration sanctioned some Russian oligarchs, she was conveniently left off the public list.

What did Hunter Biden do for Ms. Baturina?

We don't know.

What about Kazakhstani nationals, Kenes Rashikev and Karim Massimov?

Massimov used to be the Prime Minister, he is now in jail. His right-hand man is Rashikev. Rashikev wired to Hunter Biden \$142,300. The very next day, Hunter happened to purchase a Porsche in New Jersey for—say it with me now—\$142,300. His own business partner, Devon Archer and best friend at the time, had no idea why he got that money. We don't know either.

We would like to ask him privately and publicly why? What did you do for them?

Mr. Speaker, interestingly enough, those two gentlemen also had dinner with none other than sitting Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter. Coincidence?

Scratch your head.

How about Vadym Pozharsky and Mykola Zlochevsky? Who are these guys?

One is the CFO, and one is the CEO of Burisma, which was an energy com-

pany out of Ukraine. They hired Hunter Biden, the then son of the sitting Vice President, to be on their board of directors. They paid him a million dollars a year. They paid him and Devon Archer in total nearly \$3.5 million.

What experience did Hunter Biden have in the energy sector prior to that hiring?

I would like him to answer that question. We know the answer, which is none. Zero. Bubkes. He was given all that money. Why?

We have an FD-1023. What is that?

That is a form for confidential informants that the FBI agents fill out when they have human sources that give them information. It just so happens that this informant—because an FD-1023 is only as good as the source—and this source, according to the FBI, was impeccable. They have been working with him for 10 years and giving him hundreds of thousands of dollars. Every bit of information he has ever given them has checked out.

What did he say?

He said that Hunter Biden received a \$5 million bribe and so did his father, Joe. It makes sense because why? Who gave him the bribe?

It was Mykola Zlochevsky, the CEO of Burisma.

Why did he need to give him \$10 million?

Because he wanted to get the prosecutor in Ukraine off his back. What happened?

We know what happened because Joe Biden bragged about it. He got that prosecutor fired. He withheld a billion dollars of loan guarantees to Ukraine until he was fired.

What was that prosecutor doing? I don't know. He was going after Zlochevsky. He seized two homes, a Porsche, and a plot of land that he owned. He did get fired a few months thereafter and Ukraine got their billion dollars.

That prosecutor, when he was fired, the President of Ukraine called Joe Biden and said: Hey, he has done nothing wrong. In fact, we were happy with the job he was doing. You wanted him fired, so he is gone. It all fits together, these pieces of the puzzle.

We would ask him about the WhatsApp message that wasn't supposed to be released. He said: I am sitting here with my dad. He was shaking down a Chinese businessman.

Was he really with his dad or was he lying to that fellow? Is he lying to us now?

We don't know.

Will he give up his geolocation?

When you got these phones now, they know where you are. If you voluntarily give it up, we can find out for sure.

Was he with his dad at that moment?

We don't know.

Will he do that?

Mr. Speaker, what the American people need to know, once and for all is: Is the President of the United States corrupt? Is he compromised? Is he a national security threat?

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability, at least on the Republican side, is going to find that out for the American people to make sure justice is served.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for a passionate speech, laced with facts that have been identified for months and months and months. I appreciate the communication.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS), my good friend and colleague.

□ 1645

Mr. OWENS. First of all, congratulations to the vice chair.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Protecting Our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act.

Biden's open border policies have led to a historic surge in illegal border crossings, affecting not only traditional border communities but every community across the country.

Last year alone, the Customs and Border Patrol reported a record-shattering 2.4 million illegal crossings at our southern border. This year, a shocking 21,000 pounds of fentanyl were smuggled into our communities, with a staggering 90 percent seized at U.S. ports of entry.

These alarming statistics paint a vivid picture. The White House has failed to enforce our immigration laws, securing the border, and safeguarding families in Utah and across the Nation from the deadly influx of fentanyl.

Equally concerning is the President's wrongheaded policy of housing illegal immigrants in our national parks. This disastrous policy endangers the safety of local communities and strains resources meant for families to enjoy safe and wholesome activities on our Federal lands.

House Republicans are taking a stand against these reckless policies. This week we will bring to the floor H.R. 5283, the Protecting Our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act. This is crucial legislation that will prohibit Federal funding from being used to provide housing for illegal immigrants on any Federal land.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 5283 and send a clear message that we are united in our commitment to protecting our communities and securing our borders.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, waiving regulations on Federal land is a dangerous precedent, and this piece of legislation is very, very important.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MOORE for yielding, and I congratulate him on his new position, as well.

Mr. Speaker, more than 10 million illegal aliens have entered America under the negligent watch of this administration, which is a number higher than the individual population of 40 of our 50 States. It is incredible.

Migrant women and children from every corner of the globe are being raped and murdered on the dangerous journey to our southern border. Americans are dying from overdoses of fentanyl and other deadly drugs that are pouring into our country at an alarming rate from Mexico. Over 100,000 Americans just last year have died of overdoses. In fact, earlier this month, I spoke with a father from my district who lost his only son to fentanyl overdose last January.

While these horrible things happen to Americans, my colleagues across the aisle still dare to call Republicans immoral for wanting to build and finish the border wall, which is just one commonsense solution that can be used to eliminate the crisis claiming thousands of lives down at our southern border.

Instead, they would rather abandon logic and continue to blindly accept everyone who shows up at our border without properly vetting them—criminals and all. They think that we should allow illegals to roam freely across all of our great States because they believe that one day they will be great voters for them and their party.

To every American I have spoken to, enabling the death of a U.S. citizen or migrant is, without question, an immorality.

Nevertheless, if the deaths aren't enough to warrant action by Democrats in Congress and the White House to secure the Nation, then how about the historic number of suspected terrorists who have been caught attempting to sneak into our country?

There have been nearly 300 since Biden has taken office, Mr. Speaker, and you can bet that some, and God only knows how many, made it successfully into the interior and are planning for another 9/11-style attack on America. It is a matter of when and not if.

The President knows this, DHS Secretary Mayorkas knows this, and the Democrats in this sacred Chamber know this as well, and still they do nothing to stop or even address the worsening border catastrophe that is plaguing and endangering our Nation.

However, this administration seems to have no qualms whatsoever about turning the American people into second-class citizens. While law-abiding Americans deal with inflation and high prices, illegal aliens are given free transportation from the border to the city in America of their choice, free medical attention when they are hurt or get injured or are ill, free schooling for their illegal children, and much more.

If that isn't enough of a disgrace, the administration is now using public schools, airports, and national parks to house illegal aliens all paid for by the taxpayers' dollars.

What kind of President puts his own people last?

I will tell you, Mr. Speaker. It is President Joe Biden.

It will not be tolerated, which is why I am supporting H.R. 5283, to prohibit Federal funds from being used to shelter illegals on U.S. land under the jurisdiction of Federal land management agencies, illegals whom we should be deporting.

I have been fighting for border security since my very first day in Congress, and I will not give up until this vital task is accomplished. This bill is a step in the right direction.

Border security truly is national security, and the property and safety of U.S. citizens must always come first in my book, if it were only so with our President and the Democratic Party.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BABIN for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, our Texas delegation, as we are all in border States and as we see this piece of legislation this week is geared toward what is going on in New York, as we are all border States, I am from Utah, other States, we relied on the testimony and the experience from our Texas delegation, our Arizona delegation particularly, they have been through the worst of it, and we appreciate that.

We will continue to hear from our Texas delegation and someone who has been a very consistent voice on this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNE).

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because our Nation is in crisis. One cannot overstate the absolute border disaster and national security threat that we have been living under as a direct result of Biden's, Mayorkas', and the Democrats' deliberate actions.

None of this is an accident. On day one, they got to work eliminating successful Trump border policies that had us at the lowest levels of illegal immigration in years, actually, probably illegal immigration in our history. From that first day, the Biden administration made clear that they would not enforce our laws and that they would not protect our country. They did this knowing the consequences.

They ignored Border Patrol and Immigration and Customs Enforcement whose officers warned that these actions would create an unprecedented disaster and dangers for Americans.

Guess what, Mr. Speaker?

That is exactly what happened.

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have opened our borders to more than 10 million illegal immigrants, including millions of known got-aways and God knows how many potential terrorists and narco gang members into our country. By the way, that is more than the population of 38 States.

Mr. Speaker, we have had enough. Cities all across America are being overrun. Mexican cartels own the southern border. They are causing tens of thousands of fentanyl deaths in our country ushering in a new era of human slavery and crushing our cities and towns.

We are feeling the pain of Biden's border crisis not just in New York City where the border crisis is defunding the police department and other city services, but all across the Nation where it is driving up crime rates in our communities, letting fentanyl kill our children, and allowing terrorists into our Nation.

What is happening in New York City should be a wake-up call for cities all across America, but it is just the tip of the iceberg. Texas right now is being particularly hit hard and continues to have to fight its own Federal Government to be able to take care of its citizens.

Our Nation is less safe because our borders are not secure, and President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas continue to make things worse. It is clear. They have no regard for the law, they don't want to secure our borders, and they don't care about keeping us safe.

If they cared about keeping Americans safe, why would they want our public spaces, which are paid for with taxpayer dollars, to become massive encampments for unvetted illegal immigrants, many of whom are indebted to dangerous and violent cartels?

Although this national security bill is an important reform, it is clear that as long as Secretary Mayorkas remains in office, our border will remain unsecured and vulnerable to human and drug trafficking.

Taxpayers in cities all across the country are footing multimillion-dollar bills. Hundreds of thousands of families are losing loved ones in fentanyl-related deaths.

The American people deserve better. I stand firm in calling for Secretary Mayorkas' impeachment. I urge the Biden administration to work with border States like Texas to offer the support that we need to keep our communities safer.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks and her clear communication and the heartfelt pleas to solve this issue. There are so many simple policies. If we put them in place, they are wins for everybody. They are political wins, and they are policy wins. We don't understand why we don't take to see what has worked well in the past and try to reimplement it.

Mr. Speaker, we welcome another border State.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of California (Mr. LAMALFA) to share his remarks.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to join my colleague from Utah in this role here tonight. I appreciate his stepping forward to take this on.

It is very important to help communicate what we are up to here. We have had much discussion this afternoon on the border and the effects of a non-border policy since the Biden administration has been in charge. It has been difficult enough as it is over several years when President Trump very strongly attempted and had some level

of success in securing our border with more fencing and more personnel. Since then it has been completely undone by the Biden administration.

We have personnel going down there and actually welding the gates open and doing everything they can, suing the State of Texas to remove barriers in the river there that would normally help deter this illegal immigration, this massive wave that is coming in, indeed, it is called an invasion by many. I will echo that.

Why is it?

It is not because we don't have enough laws or, oh, we need immigration reform. Maybe there is something that we could be doing.

H.R. 2 that we passed earlier this year in this House would actually help supplement the laws that are already on the books and funding and some of the other measures that would help modernize what flaws there might be, but make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, this is a flaw in the enforcement of our border.

We already have immigration policy on the books. In the good old days you might say that we welcomed people to this country, but under our rules. We had rules as to who the new immigrants are going to be here, whether they are to be citizens or folks just seeking permits for work or for tourist visas or student visas or this or that. The rules are pretty much out the window.

Mr. Speaker, how do you have a country and how do you have sovereignty if you don't have any rules and the laws are not followed that are presently already in place?

It is not that tough.

What has changed has been the Biden administration to make what already has been kind of difficult many times worse, and that is where the problem lies.

Our border could be enforced within a short amount of time by building the barrier and having the personnel be able to do their actual job instead of horrific accusations of what they have done. We saw that false narrative put out that the mounted border personnel were somehow whipping people with the reins and the whips or something while horseback. It was a complete lie. That is part of the whole problem with this administration is that they don't get the truth out to the American people. They hide and distort what it is their horrific policies have been doing.

The same applies to the Hamas situation and our friend and ally Israel. The barbaric attack by Hamas on October 7 on Israel didn't actually come out of nowhere. It was a planned attack funded by Iran which is, of course, we know the largest sponsor of terrorism.

Biden's failure to put pressure on Iran for the last 3 years has emboldened Iran and enabled Hamas to launch its deadly assault. Indeed, they go back to the Obama administration where that horrific policy and that agreement was put in place.

President Trump tried to peel it back and take it back. Indeed, he did get a pause on that situation. We are right back at it again, empowering Iran to do what they do.

So the latest was unfreezing \$6 billion worth of assets in this country to help foster and fund the cause of Iran's doing. It was very reckless. It just gives more incentives to foreign adversaries. It also gives weird messages and weird signals to our allies, of course, Israel, and also others with whom we are forming the Abraham Accords alliances with including in process with Saudi Arabia.

Now, what are they supposed to think is America's position on all of this?

So when we have an opportunity, as we do in this House with this Republican majority, to say "no" to unfreezing \$6 billion worth of assets to Iran, we need to do that. So we will consider a No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act which imposes immediate mandatory sanctions on any financial institution that engages in a transaction with the Qatari banks holding the \$6 billion of Iranian funds which will effectively freeze the money.

□ 1700

Of course, the Biden administration needs to get this idea through their head already without us having to do this.

Whether it is the Middle East situation in Israel or our own border here, they need to get their act together. They need to put some commonsense goggles on for a moment and just really look at what the problem is.

Politically, how they go into 2024 thinking this is good with the lack of energy policy, the driver of inflation, mass amounts of government spending, and the horrific energy policy, shutting down the pipeline, shutting down the ability to drill, and forcing people into electric cars. It is just a well-rounded discussion here what the Biden administration has put upon the American people and our allies around the world.

We can do a lot to improve the situation and help Israel bring stability back to the Middle East, bring stability to our border by just simply enforcing our border and putting those things in place and not having a green light to come across our border and get all the benefits of being a U.S. citizen without having to be a citizen, including putting them into the national parks in New York City and others. It just an unbelievable policy or lack of policy, lack of foresight.

It rests in the Biden administration and there is really lot of incompetence. Let's take step A with the No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act and also a very important step on the border with finishing the fencing. We have material laying around that we are paying for storage. Let's allow the border personnel to do their job instead of running a welcome wagon. Wouldn't that be something?

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time here tonight.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, he makes one really important point and I highlight this quite a bit: We, as a Republican majority, have to so many times force President Biden to do very commonsense things and that is so important. His comments actually highlight that well.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to share these messages. I thank my colleagues for being here to communicate such clear messages on such important aspects of legislation that we are going to be focused on this week.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President of the United States.

### THE SYSTEMIC THREAT TO THIS REPUBLIC IS THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, as I am getting myself organized here, I am going to try something tonight as a variance of something I have done now for years. I am going to try to walk through some of the math, but please understand to anyone who is insane enough to watch this, particularly to staff here on Capitol Hill, I am trying to treat people like adults.

I am not spinning you. I am not going to give you the latest poll talking point. I am not going to give you magic math. This is a moment where we desperately need to understand the scale of the problems.

Mr. Speaker, let's also please understand that the people you see come behind the microphones here on the floor—and there are a lot of issues. There are a lot of problems—but I will argue, though, the systemic threat to this republic is the math.

First off, for anyone who actually doesn't have a life, I strongly encourage you to go to our office's website—I think it is Rep David—and sign up for text messages. We call it the daily debt update. Every single day, 5 days a week, you will get a text message from me that says what we borrowed today per minute and the interest costs. I break it out per year. Then I also say what we borrowed so far this fiscal year.

We give you 364-day clock, so we get rid of timing effects. Then I am going to show you what we have taken in, or what we call receipts. Some people call them tax revenues. That is wrong, technically. Government doesn't have revenues; we have tax receipts. We now have several hundred people who have signed up for this.

The point is, if you got yesterday's text message, you would see we are borrowing about \$78,000 a second.

Now, try to explain to me there is not something horribly wrong. One of the points I am going to try to make here off these charts is the scale.

Now, my brothers and sisters on the left basically turn to us and say, just tax rich people more. That will take care of it. They want to tax rich people more. They can read. It is their own economists who do these reports saying that that actually doesn't get you anywhere close to reality to deal with the gap, and I am going to show you their own numbers.

Now, I need to throw some of my own side under the bus. A lot of my brothers and sisters here on the Republican side, we are going to say if you would just cut this portion of discretionary spending, that would make a big difference. No, it wouldn't.

We were playing with some math—and it is not done yet because I haven't vetted it—that almost everything we have been debating here for the last 3 or 4 months, at the end of 10 years, it would basically be a rounding error. You would have trouble even seeing it.

We were playing with one bit of math that in 10 years, we are functionally scheduled with these new interest rates, borrowing about \$3.1 trillion in a single year and if all of our cuts actually happen, it might actually not be 3.1, it might just be 3.

It is real money. I think we should still do it, but stop pretending that it is saving the Republic.

Let's start from the beginning. Let me get my charts organized. This is important, and I am going to keep doing it till I start hearing fellow Members say this out-loud repeatedly.

Let's ignore 1965, but do you see this here? This is last year's fiscal year—23 percent was on autopilot, mandatory, earned benefits. You turn 65, you have worked your 40 quarters, you get Social Security. You get Medicare. You might be part of a certain Tribal group that might be a contractual part of a treaty obligation. There are certain benefits you get out there that aren't earned if you fall under a certain income, but they are part of mandatory.

We as Members of Congress don't get to vote on it. That is on autopilot purposely. It was the intention of the left to put it on autopilot so it just happens.

Do you see the green? That is what you call nondefense discretionary. That is what you all think of as government. That is the FBI. That is the State Department. That is our salaries. That is the Supreme Court. That is everything.

The blue, 13 percent of the budget is Defense. The punchline you need to understand is last year every dime of non-defense, that green part, was borrowed. Every dime of the blue part was borrowed. Plus, about \$400 billion of the red part was borrowed. Every dime a Member of Congress votes on is borrowed money, plus a chunk of mandatory.

If you said I am going to balance the budget, God bless you. First, you got to

shut down all the Defense system. Defense Department is gone. You have to get rid of all of government and you have to figure out what \$400 billion you have to remove from Medicare. That is the math. The math will win. The math is the truth, and we make crap up around here. You got to understand the scale.

If someone tells you that we are not taxing rich people enough or someone will tell you it is foreign aid and waste and fraud. Fine. Then go after waste and fraud. We should be vicious on it, but don't pretend that it does anything. I think we did a calculation last year and foreign aid was like 7, 8, 9 days of borrowing.

Remember, we are borrowing \$6½ billion a day. That is several times more than most of what we have been debating here for months. I know it is great theater, but the math is the math.

The point I am going to try to make in this presentation, if anyone is listening, is the left saying just tax rich people more, doesn't get you there. For my brothers and sisters—I am one of them—who want to reduce spending because government is too big—also doesn't get you there anymore.

You are going to have to deal with policy. You are going to have to deal with policy ideas that make healthcare less expensive. You are going to have to deal with policy that makes it so it is something you want to stay in the labor force. You have to do things that not only reduce the cost of surviving in our society, but also make this economy grow, and those are policy. One thing we are almost incapable of doing here because it is complex and the armies of lobbyists in the hallways get upset because they don't want us messing with their current business model. Same thing with the bureaucracies. The bureaucracies here go to war with us when we say you could use technology to do that.

Let's actually walk through last year's budget. This is real. Seven weeks ago, we closed the books on the 2023 fiscal year. We spent \$6.371 trillion. Tax receipts were only \$4.436 trillion.

Does anyone see a math problem?

This is why it is important to understand those numbers.

That means we borrowed 8.4 percent of the entire economy was borrowed just last year—8.4 percent of GDP was borrowed last year.

In a couple slides here, I am going to show you that taxing the rich, the Democrat proposals when you actually adjust for its economic effects, you might get 1½, maybe 1.6, 1.7 percent of GDP, but you borrowed 8.4 percent of GDP last year.

I know that sounds geeky, but the reason you often speak in percentage of GDP instead of dollar amount is because of the amount of inflation we have had.

Remember, if you live in my area, I think I have the highest inflation in the continental United States. In the last 30 months if you are not making 22