

In addition, his campaign consultants gave him a 141-page vulnerability report that detailed many of his frauds and lies. They demanded that he drop out of the race. When he refused—just like he is doing today—three of his staffers quit in protest.

The Ethics Committee also offered Mr. SANTOS a chance to meet with us for an interview or deposition to explain his side. He has done countless interviews and gave a press conference just a few feet from here earlier this morning, but somehow he never found time to meet with us. Somehow he never even tried to offer a plausible explanation for his conduct. In fact, all he said today was that he would address our report at a later time.

He said something over the weekend that stuck with me. He said he would wear expulsion as a badge of honor. When all this is over, I am afraid he won't be wearing a badge of honor, he will be wearing an orange jumpsuit.

This is a historic moment. The House has only expelled five Members in our entire history.

The Constitution is clear that we don't have to wait until Mr. SANTOS is remanded to the Bureau of Prisons before we can vote to expel him from the House of Representatives.

The Constitution is also clear in the safeguards it provides to ensure that the power to expel a duly elected Member was not abused. The Framers—in their wisdom—set the high bar of a two-thirds vote.

Unlike some of the rushed motions to censure that we have seen here on this floor just in the past year, Mr. SANTOS received a full and extensive investigation, and a detailed report from the Ethics Committee. The evidence of criminal and ethical misconduct is extensive, overwhelming, and undisputed.

Finally, the Ethics Committee's investigation and report was bipartisan, and its findings were unanimous.

Given all of these safeguards and all of this evidence, now is the time to hold Mr. SANTOS accountable. Now is the time to show the American people that we can hold ourselves to at least a minimal standard of conduct. Now is the time to vote to expel GEORGE SANTOS from the United States House of Representatives.

#### COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MRS. SUE NELL BOENKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Mrs. Sue Nell Boenker of Fort Worth, Texas, who passed away October 16, 2021.

Mrs. Boenker was a dedicated mother, grandmother, and a stalwart Christian. She was married to a dear friend of mine, Al Boenker, who is really one of the most magnificent human beings I have ever had the good fortune to encounter.

Mrs. Boenker was born on April 27, 1949, in Hot Springs, Arkansas. On December 5, 1970, she married Al Boenker, and they lived together and had a very happy marriage for over a half century.

Sue Boenker personified the American Dream. In 1998, she started her own Allstate Insurance Agency firm and quickly became one of the largest firms in the State of Texas. She continued to operate it successfully for many years. Without a doubt, she was an inspirational role for many people and many entrepreneurs, in particular, in the north Texas area and beyond.

Mrs. Boenker was also an exemplary member of her community and a leader in the business world. She was a devoted woman of faith, who never hesitated to pray for the health and well-being of others. She was very selfless. Those that knew her knew that she was incredibly gracious and very generous with her wealth, but also—and far more importantly—her time.

Beyond that of a familial nature, she was dedicated to human service. She will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of those individuals that she cared for and served.

Mr. Speaker, I requested that a U.S. flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize the wonderful American life that Sue Boenker led. She always put God first. She put her country first. She put her family first. She put her friends first.

Mr. Speaker, I know that she has been sorely missed. Al Boenker lost his soulmate 2 years ago.

Al is a great salesman and is a self-made guy. He has done incredibly well and is very generous. The reason for his success was Sue and the virtues that they shared, which were honesty, integrity, and loyalty.

Do you know what we are all striving for in our lives?

It doesn't matter if it is personal, political, professional, we are searching and striving for authenticity and for people to be genuine. That is one of the reasons why so many people do succeed in business, you have to have these virtues in place. Al Boenker has those. He touches the lives of the folks that he encounters in such a tremendous and magnificent way.

For me, he is not only a dear friend, a mentor, and really an inspiration to recognize and make sure you put family first and to make sure you represent, as a Member of this august Chamber, 767,000 people. You have to serve them. That is what Al Boenker did. That is why he was so successful. Not only did he make great commercials, but he gave great rates and helped people a little bit more when they needed home, auto, or life insurance. He was there and people trusted him.

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I just wanted to take this moment, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the loss that Al Boenker suffered when his wife, Sue, left the surly bonds of this Earth.

I think the greatest compliment any one of us can pay to another person is to look them in the eye and say, the world is a better place because you are in it.

The world was certainly a better place when Sue Boenker was in it, and the world is a better place because Al is still with us.

Mr. Speaker, God bless the Boenker family, and God bless Texas.

#### ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it is a little over 1 month now, 1½ months, since October 7 and the horrific things that happened to the good and peaceful people of Israel.

Many, many deaths and unspeakable demonic actions were taken by Hamas against innocent Israeli citizens attending a festival or other events in their neighborhoods. I can't begin to speak about how ugly some of these things are. The rape, the murder, and the beheadings are beyond polite company. Maybe we need to be a little less polite in talking about just what kind of horrific activity Hamas has been up to. Even the Gazan people are subject to the terrorism of not being able to make a move or make a change in that area they are trying to live in.

Nonetheless, Israelis have bent over backwards for decades in so-called land-for-peace deals and so-called two-state solutions. Yet when Israel gives 99 percent of what they asked for to the Palestinian Authority, previously to Arafat, and to Hamas, they aren't really there at the table to negotiate. They are not there to acknowledge the State of Israel as a Jewish state or its right to exist. They want it eliminated.

When they talk about "from the river to the sea," there is no room for compromise with them for acknowledging a Jewish state and a Jewish people in the State of Israel.

So why are we pussyfooting around saying, cease-fire, more land for peace, more two-state solution?

They do not want the existence of Israel.

That is the first question we should ask any of them when we sit down: Okay, do you want this solution?

Do you want that solution? Do you agree that there should be the existence of the State of Israel as a Jewish state?

They will turn away from the table because there is not a negotiation. There is not an agreement. They do not care to have peace. They care to wipe Israel off the face of the map.

So what does that mean right now in the short term?

Yes, it looks like a seventh day of cease-fire, at least in the Gaza area, but when you squeeze that balloon, Mr. Speaker, then you get other problems like the violence in Jerusalem, on the

West Bank, and others that will pop up. Whether it is Hamas here one day or Hezbollah in another area up north, we still know that Iran is sponsoring this terrorism and that Qatar is happy to help finance it.

It is time to get very real about this. What Israel really needs to be able to do is to root out the problems, the corruption, and the deep problems that exist within Gaza. Many, many miles of tunnels go sometimes 200 feet underground, the shafts go up inside houses, inside mosques, and inside hospitals and they use the innocent citizens there as shields. All those areas Hamas happily hides behind so they can try to make Israel look bad when they surgically go in and try to remove these evil terrorists.

There is a dramatic difference in the two sides even though our universities and the media are duping our young people into waving their Palestinian flags. There is a dramatic difference in the two sides. One seeks peace, one seeks existence, and the other seeks to wipe Israel off the map. They don't want peace. They don't want existence.

So I call upon the Biden administration to stand behind Israel in a real way and in a meaningful way. The IDF needs to be able to do what it needs to get the job done in northern Gaza and to finish the job of wiping out the existence of Hamas who will continue to launch rockets and commit terrorism against Israel and even its so-called own people.

Allow Israel to finish the job instead of us duplicitously saying, oh, we need to have a cease-fire.

That is because there wouldn't be a fire to cease to begin with had not Hamas started, really, with the first moments of deeding the Gaza strip over to that side years ago when the rockets were launched even before the ink was dry on the agreement.

That is what we need to have done. The Biden administration needs to show it is firmly behind Israel and what needs to get done instead of these half measures.

Israel has a right to exist. Israel needs us as a firm ally. We need to get off our backsides and get the aid to them that they really need that we passed in this House.

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#### ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the critical point that we, as Americans, stand at with our domestic energy supply. We are living in a self-created energy crisis because of bad energy policy. It is unacceptable that many hardworking Americans are struggling to make ends meet because this administration refuses to utilize the abundant resources that we, as a Nation, are blessed with.

Pennsylvania is key to restoring American energy independence. Before President Biden took office, America was the largest energy producer in the world. In just over 3 years, the Biden administration has effectively waged war on our domestic energy production and kneecapped innovation in our oil and gas industries. As a result, American consumers are seeing increased demand and higher prices for conventional fuels.

By utilizing the Commonwealth's resources, we can provide jobs and invest directly into our communities that have suffered at the hand of the Biden administration's antienergy policies. Thankfully, my colleagues and I in the House have passed several bills that will put America back on top as the global leader in energy production.

For example H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, will allow our energy producers to remain market-responsive by removing bureaucratic red tape and streamline the production of our critical energy resources. We also updated the flexible air permitting rule, a Federal air emissions permit, by ensuring that operators can have changes made to their production approved up front, without having to wait for subsequent reviews of the changes. This flexibility allows owners and operators to act quickly and without government regulation slowing down the production of critical energy resources.

In my fight to restore energy independence, I was proud to cosponsor the Natural Gas Tax Repeal Act which will eliminate President Biden's plan to increase burdensome fees and taxes on energy companies. This bill will prevent further cost increases for consumers, a burden that falls most heavily on lower-income Americans.

House Republicans also led on a number of permitting reforms that were included in the Fiscal Responsibility Act. Most notably, we passed the first significant reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA, that removed burdensome environmental consideration requirements and reduced redundancies within Federal agencies to end the delays to critical energy infrastructure projects.

Mr. Speaker, another key aspect of unleashing American domestic energy is that we need to invest in renewable energy to counteract high gas prices and global volatility. No amount of talk of electric vehicles or speaking in platitudes about a green economy will change the fact that everyday Americans are paying an unnecessary price at the pump. We cannot go electric overnight. However, we can unleash American energy production in the short term and allow our producers to fill both domestic and global demand. The United States has an abundance of clean-burning natural gas, especially in Pennsylvania, which is the second largest producer of natural gas in the United States. Unleashing domestic production of energy can only add certainty to the United States energy supply.

It is my hope that with our continued work here in the House, we can ultimately return to our status as a leading producer of energy.

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#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

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#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

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#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, we approach Your eternal light with humble hearts, in hope that we will use the opportunities You give us this day to reflect Your divine goodness. Shine forth in the work we do and in the words we speak, the kindness, gentleness, forbearance, and love You offer to all people.

But who are we to be bearers of such immeasurable grace? Who are we to be so bold in our anointing as messengers of Your mercy?

As if to answer us in our hesitation, You set before us countless individual men and women whose lives have proven remarkably influential. Remind us that You use the singular impact of people, such as the controversial yet competent Henry Kissinger and the kind and compassionate Rosalynn Carter, to demonstrate the difference one person can make.

Even as we pay tribute this week to their contributions on both the global and domestic fronts, remind us once again that You call each one of us to live, likewise, into the time and place to which You have called us.

May we have the courage to let the light You shine through us to shine forth to others. May we do nothing that would attempt to defeat Your most gracious purpose, but when our days are done, may You be glorified.

We pray in the name of the one in whom we live and move and have our being.

Amen.

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#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

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#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON)