

make adoption more affordable for low- and middle-income families as well as grandparents and seniors on fixed incomes.

Every child in America deserves a loving home, and this forever opportunity I will fight for every day and refuse to let a D.C. bureaucracy get in the way of that. I look forward to joining my friends on both sides of the aisle to make this a reality.

#### HONORING KEVIN FUHR

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commitment of a devoted central Washington public servant, Kevin Fuhr.

Formerly the chief of police for Moses Lake, Chief Fuhr has concluded an illustrious 32-year career in law enforcement and is now ready to move on to the next chapter of his life.

While other regions of Washington had trouble hiring new police officers, Chief Fuhr's leadership drew people to his department in the pursuit of working with him. Chief Fuhr's force also spearheaded an exceptional outreach program, and his leadership on my Central Washington Fentanyl Task Force has fostered a remarkable level of trust within our communities.

When most folks retire, they look forward to all the spare time they will have. Not Chief Fuhr, as he has recently been hired as the city manager for Moses Lake, underscoring his unwavering dedication to central Washington.

I have known Kevin for a long time and am proud to call him a dear friend. His leadership, integrity, and commitment to the prosperity of our region have resulted in a wonderful career with so much to show for it. It has been a pleasure working with him, and I am looking forward to that continuing in his new role.

#### HONORING PACE ROBINSON

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I appreciate you and the great work you do.

I rise to honor my good friend, Pace Robinson, who recently passed away at the age of 65. My buddy Steven Rosen called me the other day and gave me the bad news. They had been playing golf just the day before, and things seemed to be going really well.

Pace grew up in Knoxville and was a family man through and through. He worked with his dad, Mitchell, at the Modern Supply until Mitchell passed away, and Pace became the company's president until he retired in 2017.

He met the love of his life, Karen, at the 1982 World's Fair, and they were married for 38 great years. They had

two sons together, Eli and Asher, and he loved them dearly. He also had a granddaughter, Poppy, and he loved her with all his heart.

Pace was a respected leader in his community. He helped lead the Knoxville Jewish Federation, The Knoxville Jewish Alliance, the Webb School of Knoxville, and many other groups over the years.

He was also a great businessman. He was respected by his employees. He loved his regular poker game where, for over 30 years, the stakes were still at a quarter a chip.

I have known Pace for a long time, Madam Speaker, and he and his family supported me through my career, even though they didn't always agree with me on every issue.

I send my condolences, especially to his wonderful family: Karen, Eli, Asher, Poppy, and all the friends and family that knew and loved him.

I will never forget what a good friend he was to me. I know next year when I go to that first UT football game, and I walk up to the tailgate and not see him there, it will be a big void there. He was quite a man.

#### ACHIEVING THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, sadly, under Biden, only 36 percent of voters said the American Dream is achievable—that is, if you work hard, you will get ahead, especially with equality and not being held back by forced equity sameness. This is according to a recent Wall Street Journal national opinion poll.

This gruesomely indicates it has been reduced from 53 percent 10 years ago to where it is now at 36 percent. Even "CBS News" reports with the failing Biden economy:

The typical American household must spend an additional \$11,443 annually just to maintain the same standard of living they enjoyed in January of 2021.

That is before inflation even soared to 40-year highs.

Republicans, led by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, will continue to fight and push for legislation to reduce inflation and create jobs.

We send our sympathy and appreciation for the life of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who served with President Richard Nixon. He is beloved in South Carolina because he became a naturalized citizen in our State at Camp Croft in Spartanburg.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden open borders for terrorists. It is sadly clear that there will be more 9/11s across America imminent in our country.

#### CONGRATULATING WISCONSIN STATE CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all the young athletes from Wisconsin's Seventh District that took home a State championship title this fall sports season.

These winners include: Nora Gremban from Northland Pines High School in Eagle River; Autumn Michalski of Chequamegon High School for girls' cross country; the Rhinelander Hodags girls' swim and dive team; the St. Croix Falls Saints girls' volleyball team; and the Edgar, Florence, Stratford, and Rice Lake football teams.

Congratulations to each and every one of these State champions.

Madam Speaker, let us all wish them the best of luck in their future seasons.

#### HONORING JIM HOESSLE

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Vietnam war veteran Jim Hoessle. Since 2016, Jim has served on the board of the Medina County Veterans Service Commission.

Jim has spent 10 years as a member of the Honor Guard team for both VFW Post 5137 and American Legion Post 202.

He also serves as a mentor in the Medina County Valor Court where he assists veterans who have run into difficulties with the law.

Jim even serves the youth in Medina County where he works closely with the juvenile detention center, selecting opportunities for teens to provide community service.

For the last 8 years, Jim has spent each summer at Buckeye Boys State, mentoring high school juniors in local, county, and State government.

Jim's love and service to country has never wavered. His life and work for the people of my district, our district, the State of Ohio, and our country make a better America.

Madam Speaker, let us thank Jim Hoessle for his service.

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

In the matter of Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN from New York;

Whereas, Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN is a Member of the United States House of Representatives;

Whereas, on September 30, 2023, Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN knowingly and willingly gave a false fire alarm in the Cannon House Office Building;

Whereas, on October 26, 2023, Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN pleaded guilty to one count of falsely pulling the alarm; and

Whereas, Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN's actions caused the closing of the Cannon House Office Building and resulted in the disruption of an official proceeding in the Congress.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that pursuant to Article I, Section 5, Clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN, be and he hereby is, expelled from the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LETLOW). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from New York will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Avery M. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE SHRI THANEDAR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIFANY) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable SHRI THANEDAR, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 30, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, the Honorable Shri Thanedar, U.S. Representative for the 13th Congressional District of Michigan, have been served with a third-party subpoena to testify in litigation before the 36th District Court for the State of Michigan.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the rights and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

SHRI THANEDAR,  
Member of Congress.

#### NO FUNDS FOR IRANIAN TERRORISM ACT

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. 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 in the RECORD for H.R. 5961.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 891 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 5961.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Louisiana (Ms. LETLOW) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1224

##### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5961) to freeze certain Iranian funds involved in the 2023 hostage deal between the United States and Iran, and for other purposes, with Ms. LETLOW in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS), each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL).

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Chair, we are here today because the Biden administration cut a dangerous, reckless hostage deal that puts a price on every American head all over the world. We have a responsibility to the American people to repair this damage.

First, let me say that I am relieved that Americans held hostage by Iran are safely at home. They have been through a terrible ordeal and should never have been imprisoned in the first place.

As part of this deal, the administration dropped charges against five Iranian criminals charged with endangering our national security, including by aiding Iran's nuclear program.

At Iran's request, the administration waived sanctions on \$6 billion of Iranian funds, which have been frozen in South Korea to allow that that money be transferred and funneled to a bank account in Doha, Qatar—an undisclosed bank, Madam Chair.

Under this deal, Iran is getting access to \$1.2 billion per blue passport, per American citizen. It is obvious that this agreement incentivizes more hostage taking.

The administration is claiming this money can only be used for humanitarian purchases like food and medicine.

We all know that Iran has a long history of sanctioned evasion and money laundering. It means that we cannot truly know where the funds end up or how they will be used.

If we had any doubt about Iran's intentions, look no further than DOJ's 2019 indictment under the previous administration against a Turkish bank.

This bank played a central role in facilitating billions of dollars' worth of fraudulent Iranian transactions.

These transactions were manipulated to look like humanitarian expenses when, in fact, no such purchases took place.

This is nothing new, but let's look at Iran's own words. Iran's President Raisi bragged to the world that Iran would spend the \$6 billion "wherever we need it."

What more evidence do we need, Madam Chair, than that? This is not going for humanitarian purposes. It is going toward terrorism—wherever we need it.

Money is fungible, as everybody knows. Given Iran's access to these funds for any purpose frees up money for its malign activities, including its support to proxies like we saw on October 7 to Hamas.

Blocking money to Iran is the most consequential thing we can do here in this Congress to stop Iran's financing of terrorism to Hamas and other proxies to help keep our troops safe who are now under fire from Iran-backed militias.

After Hamas' brutal October 7 massacre of over 1,200 innocent people in Israel, the largest attack on Jewish people since the Holocaust, Madam Chair, and over 70 attacks on our forces by Iran-backed proxies this fall, no one can deny Iran's role as the world's leading state sponsor of terror.

Put simply, the Middle East is on fire, and Iran's proxies are becoming more aggressive every day with increasing attacks, threatening to throw the Middle East into complete destabilization.

Now Iran's destabilization influence extends beyond the Middle East. They continue to supply deadly drones to Russia, supporting their unprovoked war of aggression in Ukraine.

□ 1230

Iran is going to keep throwing tens of millions of dollars to Hamas and other terror groups propping them up with our adversaries, like China, Russia, and North Korea, with weapons. We need to take every measure possible to stop Iran from giving its proxies another dime.

Madam Chair, after the October 7 attack by Hamas in which they took 240 hostages, it is absolutely undeniable this hostage deal was a catastrophic mistake.

Madam Chair, we met with some of the families yesterday, and it was one