

His family and those who knew him best are comforted by the knowledge that he is in Heaven with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the urgent need to stand up for democracy at home and abroad.

Yesterday, Members of Congress heard from our Secretary of State, our Secretary of Defense, and other senior leaders from the administration on the dire situation in Ukraine and Israel.

While they said the right things, the sense of urgency, the sense of passion is missing from all of this right now. It is missing from this debate, Mr. Speaker.

If we leave next week for the holidays with inaction, Russia will win, and we will begin to hand over Ukraine to Russia and Vladimir Putin.

Mr. Speaker, the world is watching the actions of this Chamber right now in the next 10 days, and the silence is deafening.

Let's be clear: Both Russia and Hamas seek to destroy democracy, and we must stand with our allies and pass a supplemental aid package now.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about Ukraine. Right now, we risk Ukraine literally running out of bullets if we go 10 days with inaction here in Congress.

If we do nothing by the end of the month, Russia will begin to win in Ukraine. If we abandon Ukraine, Russia will win.

We need to be clear: The silence and inaction we are seeing play out here on the floor of the House means strong support for Russia and their invasion of Ukraine. That is the choice we are making by doing nothing.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan is rolling over in his grave right now as he watches far-right extremist Republicans standing with Russia and Vladimir Putin. How has the Republican Party become the party of Vladimir Putin?

Mr. Speaker, this place is broken. I want to be clear in what I am saying. We are witnessing a minority of the Republican Conference calling the shots in this Chamber.

A majority of the Republican Conference supports standing with Ukraine, but they have been cowed by the minority in their party, and we continue to see the tail wagging the dog.

To my Republican colleagues who remain silent, the time for action is now. Allow a clean vote on the supplemental funding package for Ukraine and for Israel. We must stand strong with Ukraine today.

Let's talk about the cost because that has been brought up over and over. If we gift wrap Ukraine for Vladimir Putin over this holiday season, we

will spend 100 times more money around the globe containing an aggressive Russia. Moldova and Georgia are next.

This is a national security issue for the American people, and support for Ukraine is in our national interest.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about Israel as well. We must stand with Israel and support its right to defend itself.

We must immediately pass humanitarian aid and security aid for Israel so that we can disarm and dismantle Hamas.

Mr. Speaker, 400 Members of this Chamber would easily support a clean security and humanitarian assistance package for Israel. It is shameful that our new Speaker chose to play partisan political games with support for Israel.

For the American people watching, the bill that passed out of this Chamber says we will stand with Israel, absolutely, only if we defund the police for billionaires and wealthy tax cheats. That is the choice that this body had, and it is shameful.

When someone's house is on fire, we don't say, hey, we will put out the fire as long as you let us not pay for a bunch of IRS agents to go after billionaires and wealthy tax cheats. You help them when their house is burning down.

Right now, that is what we are watching in Israel with Israel security assistance and humanitarian aid that we need to provide to the Palestinian people in Gaza.

An overwhelming majority of Members support standing with Ukraine and standing with Israel. If we could get a clean vote on this bill on the floor, it would pass, but it is time for action.

□ 1030

Let me say that House Democrats, Senate Democrats, and Senate Republicans all agree on the need to support Israel and Ukraine, and I would even say a majority of the Republican Conference agrees. However, we can't get a vote on this as long as the far-right extremists of the Republican Conference continue to wag the tail of the dog in this House.

Mr. Speaker, this is about the future of democracy for the world. The defining question for our great experiment in self-governance is whether we can defend democracy at home and abroad. We will face that question about defending democracy at home in November, but right now, we need to stand and be counted.

Authoritarianism is on the rise around the globe. We can either stand with democracies like Israel and Ukraine or we can bend the knee to Putin, terrorists, and other authoritarian regimes around the world.

As I voted for Speaker 19 times now, I have learned how incredibly fragile our democracy is. We must act now to pass a supplemental aid package and stand with Ukraine and Israel.

The world is watching, Mr. Speaker. Bring a clean bill to the floor now. The time for action is now.

SECURING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY IN U.S. COLLEGES

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, the Sixth District is blessed to be among those congressional districts with the highest number of colleges and universities among all the 435 House districts, but Joe Biden's weakness on the global stage has allowed America's foreign adversaries to target our Nation's college students.

From pushing propaganda to stealing critical research to censoring free speech, America's colleges and universities are now on the battleground of foreign interference.

Regimes like the Chinese Communist Party have expanded their influence by bribing American academic institutions with funding opportunities.

According to a Senate report from 2019, 70 percent of all institutions failed to comply with the enforcement tool that is used to protect against threats by foreign adversaries.

All of this is unacceptable and dangerous, as it poses a threat to our national security, research and intellectual property, and our students and academic freedom.

That is why this Congress must pass the DETERRENT Act, which provides transparency, accountability, and clarity to foreign gift reporting requirements for colleges and universities across the country.

House Republicans remain committed to delivering a future that is built on freedom for the American people, and that starts with preventing our adversaries from indoctrinating our students with their propaganda and stealing the research of our colleges and universities across this country.

CONGRATULATING THE JAMES WOOD VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE CLASS 4 STATE TITLE

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the James Wood women's volleyball team for winning the class 4 State title, the program's second straight State championship.

After working hard all season, the Colonels left it all on the floor and dominated the Hanover Hawks for their sixth 3-0 win in six postseason matches.

These talented student athletes include Kennedy Spaid, Ashlynn Spence, Alexys Taylor, Adeline Pitcock, Kyla Wilhelm, Tenley Mattison, Hannah McCullough, Paige Ahakuelo, Brenna Corbin, and Claire Keefer.

Throughout each set, the Colonels focused on working together as a team and doing what was necessary to get the job done, demonstrating resilience, adaptability, and impeccable skills.

Under the leadership and encouragement of Head Coach Adrienne Patrick,

the Colonels were on a mission all season to repeat history, and it ended with them once again as State champions.

Again, I congratulate the James Wood women's volleyball team, Head Coach Adrienne Patrick, parents, faculty, and staff on this incredible achievement.

COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, I want peace. I want a decisive victory over Hamas and an end to its hateful and destructive reign. I want Israel and Palestine to coexist safely, securely, and with prosperity for generations to come.

It is difficult to talk about peace during wartime, but that is exactly what we must do. We cannot be distracted by disingenuous messaging bills that do nothing but grab headlines with no plan forward.

As a person of faith, I have been taught not to hate, but I must admit that I have hated what I have seen in this Chamber recently. For as I hate anti-Semitism and Islamophobia and racism, as I despise homophobia and transphobia, as I reject and revile hatred and bigotry of any kind, I am also disgusted by the way those prejudices have been weaponized in our Chamber.

We voted yesterday on yet another nonbinding messaging resolution denouncing anti-Semitism, H. Res. 894.

To be clear, I have supported efforts to push back against anti-Semitism. That is why I am supporting Mr. NADLER's plan to combat anti-Semitism. It is why I am supporting Mr. GREEN's two-state solution resolution. It is why I signed on to Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ' letter regarding the safety of students on college campuses.

Let's face facts. That was not what this resolution was about. This resolution offers no solutions. It does not seek to bring people together. This resolution was a cynical attempt to weaponize the very real fears of some of our Jewish friends and our neighbors to push a specific political agenda, one that is strikingly disrespectful to the Palestinian state, the State of Israel, and others who support the cause of free and sovereign Palestinian and Israeli states.

On Monday, my colleague, Mr. NADLER, laid out how reckless and uninformed clause 4 of this resolution is. By making it the official position of this Congress that "anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism," we are labeling the thousands of Jews in this country who don't believe their deeply held faith is intrinsically tied to the modern State of Israel as anti-Semitic.

There are very real steps that we as the United States Congress can and should take to combat anti-Semitism in a productive and bipartisan manner.

Condemning anti-Semitism wherever it rears its ugly head is critical, but continuing to vote on nonbinding resolutions week after week after week to score political, partisan points does not get us closer to a solution. It is disrespectful to the seriousness of this situation.

Until Republicans are willing to address rising hate and fascism, we will be sitting here waiting without being able to accomplish anything. It is no better than moments of silence or thoughts and prayers with no substantive action to back it up, which were offered during the mass shootings in our schools, malls, and places of worship.

We have work to do for the American people. The rise of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism, homophobia, and xenophobia are a threat to the American experiment in multicultural democracy, and there are Members of this body who are putting in the work to defend the more perfect Union that we built over the last 250 years.

When Republicans who have been obsessed with these messaging bills are ready to join us, we will welcome them with open arms.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IS POWERFUL AGENT FOR FREEDOM, PEACE, AND DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, American leadership has always been the most influential, powerful agent for freedom, peace, and democracy.

One month ago, the House stood up to protect our values and national interests by passing a bipartisan package to help Israel defend itself from Hamas.

I recently attended a screening of the footage from Hamas that Chairman MCCAUL and Ranking Member MEEKS invited us all to, and I am so grateful for their leadership to have us do that. I knew it was footage that would be tough to see, but I knew it was footage I needed to see. I won't ever be the same after having seen that.

As we support our ally, we must take a comprehensive look at the Biden administration's Middle East policy.

Encapsulating all of my thoughts today in my remarks is a simple concept: With foreign policy, although it would be desired by all, you can't have it all. You have to make tough choices when it comes to foreign policy. You don't get to have everything that you would ever want. You cannot have it all with respect to foreign policy.

I will share a little bit about how important it is to take a stand.

While I am grateful for President Biden's clear support for Israel, his administration's attempts to placate Iran, the number one state sponsor of terrorism in the world, have been a critical misstep.

For the past 3 years, the Biden administration has embarked on a deeply

misguided and contradictory quest to resurrect the Iran nuclear deal while begrudgingly continuing one of the Trump and Pence administration's most successful efforts at peace in the Middle East, the Abraham Accords, and the recognition of Israel by its Arab neighbors in embracing diplomatic and economic ties through these accords.

Rather than maintaining the maximum pressure campaign that sanctioned and starved Iran of foreign revenue, the Biden administration has balked at enforcing sanctions. They have allowed Iranian oil exports to surge back to levels higher than they were in 2018 and attempted to unfreeze billions of dollars in Iranian assets from foreign banks.

The Iranian regime is flush with cash thanks to the global energy crisis and the administration's policy of appeasement. Iran uses this cash to fund, equip, and train a terrorist network across the region. This includes groups like Hamas and Hezbollah.

According to reports from The Wall Street Journal, 500 or so Hamas terrorists trained in Iran in the months leading up to the October 7 attack on innocent Israelis. The Iranian regime has developed this terror network not just in Gaza and Lebanon but also in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen for one purpose: to cause just enough chaos to make the Arab world think twice about sustainable peace with Israel and the reliability of U.S. diplomacy.

The Biden administration says its Iran appeasement is geared toward preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, a goal I think we could all get behind, but it has obviously emboldened Iran and undermined regional security.

We need our four main regional security partners—Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Türkiye—to work together in unity, and we need America to lead on this front.

President Biden's approach creates tremendous doubt that the United States is more committed to the security of our partners than to a delusional accommodation of Iran. What must Riyadh, Cairo, and Istanbul have thought these past 3 years while watching the U.S. respond meekly to Iranian proxy groups disrupting political order, trafficking illegal weapons, and lobbing rockets at American diplomats with impunity?

Iran would love nothing more than for Saudi Arabia to think twice about normalizing relations with Israel, given the current crisis. Iran would love nothing more than for Egypt to decide that the opportunity costs for working with Israel on humanitarian corridors in Gaza, something that I have been calling for in a bipartisan fashion, is too high. Iran would love nothing more than for Türkiye to decide that it is more beneficial to work directly with Iran rather than through the United States.

The Trump-Pence administration correctly understood that the Abraham