

a critical PUCO audit about FirstEnergy's distribution modernization rider (DMR).

According to the Randazzo indictment, "On or about March 4, 2020, Executive 1 messaged another Company A executive: 'He [Randazzo] will get it done for us but cannot just jettison all process. Says the combination of over ruling Staff and other Commissioners on decoupling, getting rid of SEET and burning the DMR final report has a lot of talk going on in the halls of PUCO about does he work there or for us? He'll move it as fast as he can. Better come up with a short term work around.'"

An indictment to shed light on the full scope of corruption entailed in FirstEnergy's actions is needed.

It's possible Parker's delay in indicting Randazzo over bribes long since acknowledged by FirstEnergy and favors that have come into clearer light in civil cases was because he hoped to turn others into cooperating witnesses—or Randazzo into one himself.

Then there's the unexpected embezzlement charge against Randazzo in the indictment, accusing him of defrauding another client, the Industrial Energy Users-Ohio, a group of big energy customers, of \$1,104,598.

David DeVillers, the former U.S. Attorney for Southern Ohio under whose leadership the corruption case was first investigated and prosecuted, told cleveland.com's Jeremy Pelzer, Andrew J. Tobias and Jake Zuckerman that the embezzlement charge might have been the whammy in the mix, taking time to sort out. "It could be they dug into this count, which seems to be completely different, and needed to ferret that out to find out what that was all about," DeVillers told the reporters.

Either way, it is to be hoped that the indictment of Randazzo will finally cause Parker to lift his effective hold on important PUCO and other state-level investigations into how both the PUCO and its processes, and the legislative process separately, were so distorted and corrupted, so reforms can be made. That's especially urgent given that unrepealed parts of fatally tainted House Bill 6 right now require electricity customers in Ohio to subsidize—to the tune of more than \$200 million so far, according to the Ohio Office of Consumers' Counsel—two money-losing coal plants, one in Indiana. Shining the full disinfectant of transparent investigations on how all this came to be is a critical first step to reform.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, since the Davis-Besse plant came online in 1977, its corporate leadership has never understood nuclear power or its dangers. It is only the unionized workers that have saved our lives. The plant shares an old Babcock-and-Wilcox design with the Three Mile Island reactor that partially melted down in 1979. Another plant with the design, the Rancho Seco plant in Sacramento, California, permanently closed in 1989.

Davis-Besse itself is now nearly 50 years old and has a dismal reputation within the industry and a history of too many close calls. In 1985, the plant suffered a loss of the main and backup supplies of cooling water because of a series of system failures, and this should have been a wake-up call, but it went unheeded.

In 2002, we faced the worst nuclear safety incident since Three Mile Island when a major hole was discovered in Davis-Besse's reactor head, endangering the lives of millions of Ohioans

and the purity of Lake Erie. The plant's unionized workers again saved us all.

The Davis-Besse nuclear power plant, with its history of safety violations and close calls, is a clear example of how corporate culture can influence safety culture for the worst, and the industry around our country never held them accountable.

The fines and penalties imposed on FirstEnergy have done little to deter misconduct. It is time for us to take bold action and provide our region with safe, advanced, modern power in a platform akin to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

So much more needs to be done to make our communities safe and whole from FirstEnergy's fraud, starting with making sure that the Benton-Carroll-Salem school system where Davis-Besse is located can be made whole. The value of property in the region has gone down 90 percent, which means the school system is going to be nearly \$6 million short on what it needs to teach the next generation.

I urge judges in the case to take the grid under FirstEnergy's ownership under safe public conservatorship until a reliable operator can be stood up.

May we find the wisdom and courage to confront these nuclear challenges head-on to usher in a new era of clean and responsible energy for the consumers and people of northern Ohio who have been bilked so royally over the last nearly half century.

#### CELEBRATING THE 30-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF A PLACE CALLED HOME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 30-year anniversary of A Place Called Home, a nonprofit that has served thousands of at-risk youth and families in the South Los Angeles community.

A Place Called Home provides free programs that focus on job readiness and mental health services as well as art and technology. It allows children to explore creativity through their arts programming.

Earlier this year, they hosted the Latinx Theater Festival in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, where the children helped with ticketing, light, and sound design for the productions.

A Place Called Home aims to increase children's likelihood of staying in school and graduating, and in the past 30 years, it has supported more than 500 first-generation students in their journey to college.

They serve 2,000 meals to students every week on top of the thousands more they provide to families at home in California's 37th District. None of this would be possible without their founder, Debrah Constance, and CEO Norayma Cabot, who work tirelessly

with the board and staff every day to support my district's children and families.

I hope you will join me in celebrating this milestone for A Place Called Home, and I look forward to seeing all that they do in the next 30 years and beyond.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MIKE  
WATANABE

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mike Watanabe. He passed away last month after 77 years full of life.

Mike began his service to the Los Angeles community when he joined the Asian American Drug Abuse Program as a counselor in 1975. He saw the impact that drug use had on his friends and community in the wake of the Vietnam war and wanted to find a way to advocate for recovery after earning his master's degree in social work. He became the executive director in 1982 before ascending to the role of president and CEO in 2004.

Through his decades of service with AADAP, he worked with community leaders to support substance abuse recovery. AADAP's efforts have served residents in California's 37th District for over 50 years.

Mike is remembered for his compassion, leadership, and unwavering belief in building a supportive community.

My friend Mike always kept it 100. He built a family at AADAP and throughout the Los Angeles area. Mike was a part of the Los Angeles County Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission for 16 years, chairing the Asian and Pacific Islander Constituent Committee and supporting several other AAPI-focused organizations all aimed at substance abuse recovery.

His support of early Asian-American community organizations left a lasting impact on the success of today's nonprofits and Asian-American services. We are all the better for having been impacted by Mike's jovial spirit and passion for community service. He will be greatly missed.

Please take a moment to honor the life of Mike Watanabe. My heart is with his wife, Suzanne, and their family during this time.

GOP THREAT TO DEMOCRACY

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for a moment of truth. House Republicans pose a deep threat to our national security. It is dependent on what we do domestically and upon how we support our allies abroad, like Ukraine.

Ukraine will not be able to fend off Russia on its own, and Republicans will be responsible if they refuse to act to counter war criminal Putin's anti-West, anti-democracy assault.

I guess that makes sense, since the Republican Party has pledged fealty to Donald Trump, a master anarchist who is focused on government destruction, exploding democracy, and distracting and impoverishing the American people. He is someone who just 2 weeks

ago called people vermin. He is using white supremacist code words.

The global stage is watching us because they are all in for Ukraine and democracy, but Republican isolationism has hurt and will continue to destabilize our democracy, weaken our allies, and remove the United States from the global stage. When we leave, someone far more dangerous will take our place and hurt us more.

No more distractions, conflations, or profligations. Mr. Speaker, the time to get serious about this country is right now.

#### 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 10 o'clock and 59 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California) at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

Open our eyes dear Lord. Give us sight in the overwhelming darkness that has blinded us to the light of Your will. The shadow of hatred for our brothers and sisters has blinded us to Your command to live and act in love.

Open our eyes and our hearts and purge the animosity from our world where weapons of war and arms of outright prejudice are set in motion by human hands and triggered by the hardness of our hearts.

Cleanse our hearts from every inkling of hostility wherever it dares to take root within us and however it is displayed by us: in our disdain for a relative or neighbor who has slighted us, in our contempt for Jews or Muslims or another person or group that has fallen out of our favor, and even in the insults we too often toss across the political aisle.

Bring us out from the darkness we have created and call us back to our love for You by following Your command to love one another, that once again we would live in Your light.

Shed Your divine light in our lives such that it would cause us to set down our weapons, abandon our hatred, and walk without stumbling, in the way You have revealed to us. In the power of Your name, we pray that You would grant us Your mercy and illumine Your will for us this day.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MURPHY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### HONORING MAJOR JEFFREY HOERNEMANN

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor U.S. Air Force Major Jeff Hoernemann of Andover, Minnesota. Jeff lost his life last week along with seven other airmen during a routine training mission off the coast of Japan. He was just 32 years old.

Throughout his life, Jeff had a competitive spirit and was uniquely disciplined. A graduate of Andover High School, Jeff broke school and conference records in the indoor 800 meters and the 4 x 800-meter relay.

As a teenager, he won a \$15,000 scholarship with an essay describing his careful budgeting to purchase a bike for triathlons.

After competing in cross country and earning a degree in mechanical engineering from North Dakota State University, Jeff entered the Air Force. In 2016, he became a pilot after completing Columbus Air Force Base's Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class.

Jeff dedicated his life to service and made the ultimate sacrifice. Today, across the city of Andover, the State of Minnesota, and this country, we honor his life and preserve his memory. Our prayers are with Jeff's wife, Jess; his parents, Thomas and Catherine; and his brother, Jared.

#### AID FOR ISRAEL AND UKRAINE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we are fiddling while freedom burns. We have 5 legislative days left to aid our allies, Israel and Ukraine.

Each hour we wait makes it harder for our allies to defend freedom and de-

mocracy against tyrants and terrorists.

OMB Director Shalanda Young made it clear this week that the past resources we secured for Ukraine have run out.

As Speaker JOHNSON said in Florida, Putin won't stop in Ukraine. He will continue to devour territory and undermine democracy until he is stopped.

My Republican colleagues ask what the plan is in Ukraine and Israel. The plan is to win. The plan is to defeat Putin. The plan is to vanquish terrorism generally and Hamas in particular.

Most Members agree on that plan—300 on Ukraine and 400 on Israel. I urge the Speaker to give us the opportunity to act on that consensus now. Freedom demands it.

#### HONORING GARY PETERSON

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Gary Peterson, a dedicated leader hailing from the Tri-Cities, who tragically lost his battle with cancer this past month.

It saddens me that rather than announcing his next greatest achievement, I am instead here to mourn his passing.

Gary was known throughout central Washington, the United States Capitol, and the Department of Energy as a fierce advocate for the interests of the Tri-Cities.

His leadership in our communities proved fruitful for decades, sparking both economic development and innovation for the citizens of central Washington.

His advocacy for the Hanford cleanup mission has been the cornerstone of the success of our region, and I am in awe of the impact he has made over the years.

His immense knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of our community's priorities was matched by so few, and I have no doubt his name will go down in history with the names of people like Sam Volpentest and Bob Ferguson.

Gary's legacy includes leading advocacy for the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's campus, supporting the advancements of the Hanford cleanup mission, and advocating for the growing local economy at TRIDEC.

He will be known as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and personal friend. He will be missed, but his legacy will continue to live on.

#### MISS EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA TEEN ALYSON SHARP

(MR. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, there she is: Miss Eastern