

WHY SECTION 702 IS ESSENTIAL

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

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Members of Congress who are here today.

Today, we stand on the forefront of America's capability to collect and protect our Nation's most critical intelligence. This is known as the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, specifically section 702.

Now, some have asked: Why is 702 essential? I answer in no uncertain terms, it has saved thousands of American lives. It is a powerful tool to safeguard hundreds of millions of Americans from the attacks coming from terrorists, foreign agents, and vicious attackers.

Some have rightfully asked: Are we willing to sacrifice America's liberty for the sake of security?

With this, I will not abide. For too long, the failures to reform section 702 have led to abuse, nowhere more clear than our own Department of Justice where spies against America are not just overseas but right here in the United States.

Americans should rightly ask: What is Congress' role and what will be our aim, Mr. Speaker? To this, I answer directly: We must protect this Nation, we must reform section 702 of FISA, and we must hold our adversaries accountable, both in our government and those overseas.

Now, there is broad recognition that section 702 offers intelligence value on a range of evolving priorities, including terrorism, cybersecurity, and espionage. In fact, 702 serves as the foundation for much of the Nation's most important intelligence, providing decisionmakers critical information at their time of need. Nearly 60 percent of the "President's Daily Brief," a briefing book that I have in my time as a counterintelligence officer helped brief and prepare, comes from FISA 702.

Before us, you see one of the greatest threats to America, the mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks. The drone strike, which I have flown over watch for and supported operational units like this, was the weapon that we used to take out just last year, 2022, the terrorist al-Zawahiri. The targeting unit that ensured that we didn't have collateral damage was provided with acute intelligence to ensure that innocent loss of life did not occur. I know this, being a commander of a targeting unit that has executed missions almost identical to this. I also know that flying aboard recon aircraft, we have been the collectors of some of the most important intelligence, including that that provides section 702 its ability to be successful.

From 2018 to 2022, FISA section 702 collection played a critical role in 70 percent of successful CIA-supported weapons and counterproliferation disruptions, weapons that would have ended up in the hands of terrorists like

we have just seen in the attack on Israel.

Last year, section 702 collection played a role in more than 50 percent of the CIA counternarcotic disruptions, that same fentanyl entering the United States today.

Additionally, declassified examples of 702, which I can share on the homeland today, make sure that foreign actors' illicit plans to smuggle methamphetamines across the U.S. borders, the quantities and potencies of fentanyl destined for illegal transfer to the United States, as well as specific smuggling techniques used to avoid them, techniques, when breached, are actually able to save Americans.

The involvement of a foreign official in one of these narcotic trafficking schemes to transport fentanyl pills to the United States was thwarted because of intelligence capabilities to do this.

Section 702 resulted in the identification disruption of hostile foreign actors' attempts to recruit spies in the United States, including right here on U.S. soil where operations were conducted to kidnap and assassinate U.S. senior leaders. The timely identification of foreign intelligence government's plans and the intent was revealed by 702.

Law enforcement across the country are asking for us to maintain the ability to provide them the tools to safeguard our country. Our first responders demand this and Congress must act.

Simply put, 702-acquired information is used daily to disrupt threats to the United States. However, given the FBI's unacceptable compliance failures, there is also a responsibility that Congress must include safeguards to uphold the privacy, civil liberties, and international trade in a digital world, including criminal punishments for those in our own government who continue to this day to go unchallenged.

As a Member of Congress, we must work together to reform and reauthorize 702. It should be our overarching goal to protect the United States from foreign threats while simultaneously protecting the Fourth Amendment rights of private citizens.

Importantly, any lapse or significant change that hinders the use of 702 unnecessarily blinds the United States to a range of threats, meanwhile taking dangerous risks to allow foreign terrorism to occur right here on our soil.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that the threats we face in the 21st century are both multifaceted and ever-evolving: terrorism, cybercrime, the activities of hostile actors, and a demand for sophisticated, adaptive response.

Therefore, we must move forward in holding not only the FBI accountable but making sure that Americans have the ability to protect themselves from threats overseas and within our own government.

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END HYPE OVER CO₂

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, several hundred private aircraft have left Dubai after a couple of weeks of wining and dining in the hot climate there in order to tell us how we should live our lives. They want to tell us how we should cut back or eliminate meat in our diets and how we should change our agriculture in this country to just be less of it. I guess they want to put us all on a forced diet, according to their view of the world.

What does that really mean for us here? Less agriculture and fewer products grown in this country and in the European countries that want to play along with the Paris accords and such.

One interesting little fact that gets in the way of all that is that the U.S. and Europe have already reduced their CO₂ emissions down 10 to 15 percent in the last 2 years. This is without the Paris accord even having come fully into effect yet.

It is other countries, like Asia, where numbers are dramatically increasing on CO₂.

That assumes that CO₂ is actually a problem. CO₂, carbon dioxide, is only represented by 0.04 percent of our atmosphere. That is 4/100ths of 1 percent is what CO₂ makes up.

I talk to people on the street or at gatherings and events where I am speaking. How much of the air do you think is actually CO₂? They have been hyped so much since grade school. They have kids scared to death. They say that CO₂ is somewhere between 20 and 50 percent. No. It is 0.04 percent.

It is not a poisonous gas. I have had the argument of, well, it is like having fentanyl in your cereal or something like that. No, it is a necessary gas for plant life. We are all breathing it in right now. We are exhaling it right now. There are plants somewhere gladly absorbing it.

If we go below 0.02 percent, plant life starts dying off. We would be in a pretty bad way. Yet, the hype over CO₂ continues as they have the COP28 in Dubai. They sit there hatching plans to control our lives, especially in the Western countries.

The plans for China and places like that continue to ramp up with more coal power plants and much more use of oil and gas. Oil and gas have been villainized by California, the EPA, and so many, including an idea over there that the Arab countries have produced so much petroleum, so they were supposed to have that conversation at COP28. They kind of put that off as getting rid of oil and gas.

If we were even to contemplate that, you couldn't do it for at least four or five decades because we are so engrained with using that product to do anything—planting crops or transporting anything. If you got it, a truck

brought it. It is probably a diesel-powered truck.

You see so many failed efforts to electrify vehicles, cars, trucks, et cetera. There are a few out there getting around, yes, but not on a dependable basis to keep our supply chain going.

What we keep learning is that you have elites over at conferences like this saying that we need to cut back on meat, cut out agriculture. They want us to cut 30 percent of our agriculture. There is already a food shortage in much of the world, and even in some of our urban areas in this country, what we call food deserts.

What is their reality with that? There is no reality to this. This is a way to control our lives, our choices, as they want to phase out meat and agricultural products grown in this country.

Do you want to depend on it coming from somewhere else? That works really great. Wait until they have a food embargo like the fuel embargoes we had in the 1970s. The rest of the world does not look out for the needs of the United States like we do ourselves.

It is about time we put aside this nonsense of getting to some kind of zero output of carbon by 2035 or 2050 or whatever round number they dream up as a goal. Like my home State of California, they do it all the time.

At the same time that they are saying less carbon, they are also taking away the means to produce carbon-free electricity, such as tearing out the dams on the Klamath River and other dams up in Oregon and Washington that make clean hydroelectric power, low-cost power.

Why do we need to have our electricity cost so much because of some people's wild dream, and controlling dream, on eliminating CO₂, which is really not a problem? It is not a poisonous gas. It is not negative. Carbon is a building block of all of what we have and what we do.

That isn't talked about a lot. Instead, we hear this side of the room half the time—it is all about carbon. Every conversation, every committee has to filter something through climate change. Climate change is a constant in our lives and on our planet. That reality doesn't get talked about, it is just hype, hype, hype.

Czar Kerry comes back with more and more ideas on how to control us and take away the basic sustenance that makes this country strong with its energy and self-provision of food that keep us strong.

PROTECTING THE UNBORN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves—the unborn.

Since 1973, over 60 million American children have lost their lives to the

atrocious of abortion, the greatest human rights violation in history.

We often boast that we are a nation of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Yet, we deny this sacred right to the most innocent among us.

Last year, the Supreme Court gave the unborn a monumental victory with the Dobbs ruling, returning the issue of abortion to Congress and the States. That is why today I am introducing a series of three bills designed to further protect the most vulnerable among us—the unborn.

First, the Love Them Both Act would prevent the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from exploiting the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act to cover abortion or abortion-related services. The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act is designed to protect pregnant women from discrimination in the workplace, and it should not be used for political purposes.

We have a responsibility to ensure both women and their unborn children are treated equally and fairly, and the Love Them Both Act does exactly that.

Second, the Pregnancy Is Not an Illness Act would correct a longstanding but erroneous conclusion of the FDA. In 2000, the FDA fast-tracked approval of dangerous abortion-inducing drugs. To do so, they declared abortion to be a life-threatening illness. As a mother of seven, I can assure you that pregnancy is very much not an illness or disability, but rather, nothing short of a miracle from the hand of God. The Pregnancy Is Not an Illness Act would prohibit the FDA from ever calling pregnancy an illness again for the purpose of approving abortion-inducing drugs.

Lastly, I am introducing the Woman's Right to Know Act so that women seeking abortions are fully aware of the consequences of their actions. This bill would require an abortion provider to perform an ultrasound and then describe the development of the unborn child to the mother. My bill would also ask for a 24-hour waiting period before an abortion is performed. These are simple, commonsense steps aimed to prevent a woman from making a decision she will regret for the rest of her life.

In Psalm 139:13-16, David writes: "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the Earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Life is the most precious gift we have. Without it, we have nothing. If we don't protect the right to life, all of our other rights are in danger of being taken away. We cannot call ourselves a nation of liberty and justice for all when we deprive this most sacred right from the most vulnerable among us.

We are in the midst of the most joyous time of year, Christmas. Although this is the season of parties, concerts, and family time, that is not why we celebrate. We celebrate Christmas because of God's greatest gift to mankind, Jesus. Without him, there would be no Christmas. What better time to protect the cause of life than this special season of Christmas?

Make no mistake, the world is watching, and so is Almighty God. They are watching to see if we will live up to our promise of providing freedom and a bright future to anyone born here. They are watching to see if we truly want everyone to achieve the American Dream. They are watching to see if we really are that shining city set on a hill that John Winthrop and Ronald Reagan proclaimed us to be.

To quote one of my favorite Presidents, and accurately, I might add, Ronald Reagan famously said: "I have noticed that everybody that is for abortion has already been born."

Mr. Speaker, you and I had the chance at life. We have been given the chance to live fulfilling lives, and I believe God has called each one of us to this body for a specific purpose.

Mr. Speaker, 60 million of our children have not had that chance, and if we really want to create a bright American future, that is the least they deserve.

I believe these three bills will go a long way toward protecting the most vulnerable among us, and I urge the House to act swiftly in passing them.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. LES GUICE, PRESIDENT OF LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Louisiana (Ms. LETLOW) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of a dear friend and respected member of the Ruston, Louisiana, community, the president of Louisiana Tech University, Dr. Les Guice.

President Guice has tirelessly served Louisiana Tech in multiple capacities over the course of 45 years and recently completed his 10th year as the university's president.

He graduated from Louisiana Tech in 1976 with a bachelor of arts in architecture, earning a master's degree in civil engineering in 1978, and served as an assistant professor in the Department of Civil Engineering. He was promoted to associate professor in 1981. After obtaining his Ph.D. in civil engineering from Texas A&M in 1988, he earned a full professorship and became the permanent department head of civil engineering.

President Guice impacted countless students in the classroom before serving as the dean of the College of Engineering and Science in the late 1990s. His extensive and impressive list of accomplishments at Louisiana Tech