

energy producers and exporters first, which is good for a small minority of Americans, but is actually opposed to the interests of a majority of us who are energy consumers.

Here is the thing: every new wind turbine, every solar panel, every geothermal plant, and every hydro plant is a threat to oil, gas, and coal producers who cannot compete against free. Every EV charger, every heat pump, and every LED light is a threat to people who make money off inefficiency. However, for consumers to realize those benefits and entrepreneurs to access those markets, we need wires to connect new generations to new loads.

So over the last year, Congressman LEVIN and I have worked with our colleagues across the Democratic Caucus to develop a consumer-focused energy policy that makes that possible, to accelerate the deployment of clean energy, to accelerate Americans' access to cheap energy, and to refocus U.S. energy policy on the interests of energy consumers where it belongs.

RECOGNIZING ANTONIO BAEZ'S SERVICE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Antonio Baez, who is a member of our district congressional staff and who has answered yet another call to serve. Antonio came to our office through the Wounded Warrior program, later moving to our official staff.

A family man and proud Marine Corps veteran who later served in Afghanistan as a member of the Army Reserve, Antonio adeptly attended to his duties with skill, knowledge, and compassion.

He was president of his police academy class at Lorain County Community College and served as a sworn officer and deputy sheriff, nobly serving his community.

Antonio exhibited exemplary public service to the people of Ohio's Ninth District. I deeply appreciate his service as do the hundreds of constituents for whom he was a dutiful listening ear and a guiding heart.

This past weekend, Antonio raised his right hand again, taking the oath of office as a newly elected member of the Lorain City Council. He is a son of Lorain and has never forgotten his roots.

Bravo. His call to serve runs deep, and I know he will serve his beloved community well.

Godspeed, and I thank Antonio for his service to the American people. Onward.

What Lorain makes and grows makes and grows Lorain.

□ 1815

CLEANING UP CORRUPTION IN WASHINGTON

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

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, all I want for Christmas is to clean up the corruption in Congress.

That is why tomorrow morning I will be introducing my political reform and anticorruption resolution, supported by Unusual Whales, Capitol Trades, and Quiver Quantitative. CREW has also done important work on these issues.

It calls for five things: First, a ban on all PAC and lobbyist money; second, a ban on Members of Congress trading stock; third, a ban on Members ever becoming lobbyists; fourth, term limits for Members of Congress and Supreme Court Justices; and, fifth, a binding Code of Ethics for the Supreme Court.

The American people on both sides are frustrated by the corruption in Washington. We need real change. I hope Members on both sides will support this resolution that we introduce tomorrow.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF AIR FORCE MAJOR LUKE UNRATH

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, today, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the memory of Air Force Major Luke Unrath. Just days ago, Major Unrath lost his life when the CV-22B Osprey he piloted crashed during a training exercise off the coast of Japan. He was just 34 years old.

Major Unrath's journey of service began in Riverside in my district where he graduated from Martin Luther King High School. His commitment to a life of purpose and selflessness was evident early.

Described by his comrades as a natural leader, Major Unrath's cool demeanor, high standards, and quick wit left a mark on all who had the privilege of serving alongside him.

Today, we remember and honor a beloved husband, brother, and son. Major Unrath's legacy is one of sacrifice, dedication, and exemplary service to our great Nation.

Madam Speaker, may Major Luke Unrath rest in peace and may his memory inspire future generations to uphold the values of service, integrity, and courage that he so nobly embodied. I extend my deepest condolences to the Unrath family.

Madam Speaker, today, along with my Riverside County colleague Representative KEN CALVERT, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the memory of a true American hero, Air Force Major Luke Unrath. Just days ago, on November 29, Maj. Unrath lost his life in service to our nation when the CV-22B Osprey he piloted crashed during a training exercise off the coast of Japan. He was just 34 years old.

Maj. Unrath's journey of service began in Riverside, where he graduated from Martin Luther King High School, embodying the spirit of his alma mater. His commitment to a life of purpose and selflessness was evident from the beginning of his life.

Born and raised in Riverside, Maj. Unrath's family, including parents Gregg and Nora, and siblings Ashley, Scott, and Carly witnessed his unwavering dedication to making a positive impact on the world.

Commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Cal Poly Pomona, Maj. Unrath earned a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering in 2013. Embarking on his Air Force career on January 31, 2014, he initially served as a developmental and aeronautical engineer at Vandenberg Air Force Base. In 2019, he transitioned to become a pilot, showcasing his commitment to continuous learning and growth.

Maj. Unrath's leadership, intelligence, and work ethic did not go unnoticed. He played a pivotal role as an officer in charge for squadron communications and later as a flight commander. His impact extended far beyond the borders of our nation, as he coordinated and executed numerous operations in the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility.

Described by his comrades as a natural leader, Maj. Unrath's cool demeanor, high standards, and quick wit left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of serving alongside him. He loved to fly, and his steady hands and quick thinking earned him the trust and respect of his peers.

Today, we remember and honor a beloved husband, brother, son, and an incredible leader. Maj. Unrath's legacy is one of sacrifice, dedication, and exemplary service to our great nation. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, and we express our gratitude for the profound impact he had on the lives of those he touched.

May Major Luke Unrath rest in peace, and may his memory inspire future generations to uphold the values of service, integrity, and courage that he so nobly embodied.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE GLOBAL ILLICIT DRUG TRADE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-89)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to global illicit drug trafficking declared in

Executive Order 14059 of December 15, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond December 15, 2023.

The trafficking into the United States of illicit drugs, including fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, is causing the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans annually, as well as countless more non-fatal overdoses with their own tragic human toll. Drug cartels, transnational criminal organizations, and their facilitators are the primary sources of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals that fuel the current opioid epidemic, as well as drug-related violence that harms our communities. International drug trafficking—including the illicit production, global sale, and widespread distribution of illegal drugs; the rise of extremely potent drugs such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids; as well as the growing role of Internet-based drug sales—continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14059 with respect to global illicit drug trafficking.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 13, 2023.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS' ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam 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 on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful to host this last Special Order of 2023, and to allow my colleagues to speak on House Republicans' legislative efforts this week and achievements on behalf of Americans this whole entire year as we have taken over the majority at the start of 2023 and share a little bit about what we have accomplished.

This week we passed legislation to lower healthcare costs, increase price transparency regarding healthcare, allow schools to make their own choices on nutritional aspects, such as the type of milk that they provide to their students, and ensure Americans receive the answers they deserve regarding the inquiry into the Biden family's peddling schemes and nefarious business dealings.

Tomorrow, we will vote on the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2024, a comprehensive and robust bill that will provide for the needs of our servicemembers and enhance our national security efforts, while keeping liberal ideology out of our military.

I am pleased to have some of my colleagues here to speak on these bills and the ways that they have delivered for their constituents throughout the year.

No one has done that more than the Representative that will address this next, particularly on her strong focus with respect to defense. I have an Air Force Base that is part of who I am, part of where I grew up, so close to the community that I get to represent. She is in a very similar situation and has an intense focus on providing for her district and the needs of making sure that our men and women have what they need to secure our Nation and take the fight to our adversaries.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. KIGGANS).

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the fiscal year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have had the honor of working on this important legislation for months and am proud of the final bipartisan bill we produced to strengthen our national security.

One of the main reasons I came to Congress was to restore America's military strength and improve the quality of life for our servicemen and -women. This bill takes several critical steps to help us achieve that goal.

In total, this year's NDAA authorizes \$886 billion in national defense discretionary programs with the focus on improving our readiness and recruitment, supporting our servicemembers and their families, strengthening partnerships with our allies, increasing the lethality of our Joint Force, equipping our warfighters to successfully complete their mission, and ensuring vigorous oversight of taxpayer dollars at the Pentagon.

I wanted to speak specifically to a few components of the NDAA, why it is a great bill, why I am excited to support it and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

First of all, a large component of the NDAA is about supporting our servicemembers and their families. It secures the largest pay raise in 20 years for our servicemembers at 5.2 percent. We continue to see our servicemembers struggling with the economy. They are unable to afford things, not just gas and groceries, but things like buying a new home, buying a new car. We have servicemembers that still qualify for things like SNAP benefits and WIC benefits. We still see food pantries that exist on our bases. Providing that important pay raise, again the largest in over 20 years, was a very important component of taking care of our men and women.

This NDAA also authorizes \$356 million over the President's budget request to renovate and build new barracks. We had a GAO report come out recently that really highlighted some of our insufficiencies when it comes to housing, especially unaccompanied housing—the mold issues, the pest issues, and the out-of-date infrastructure that is old and dilapidated. We can do better for our servicemen and -women. This bill provides just that.

It is a starting point. There is a lot to do, but I am excited to support it for that reason. The NDAA also includes a parents bill of rights at DOD schools.

I represent Virginia's Second Congressional District, so it is kind of the birthplace of the parents' rights matter movement. We were able to incorporate why it is important to have parents involved in their children's school into this NDAA piece so that it applies to DOD schools as well.

The bill also authorizes DOD to reduce the out-of-pocket childcare expenses for military families and provides \$153 million over the President's budget request for the construction of new childcare centers. In my district, I have Naval Air Station Oceana. Our base has over 1,600 people on the waiting list. That is not acceptable, and my base is not alone.

If you were to look at other bases, they have the same amount on their waiting lists. We can do better than this. It is an important way to support our servicemembers and their families.

This bill also authorizes an additional berthing barge to provide a safe and healthy housing alternative for Navy servicemembers during dry-dock availabilities. We just had an article come out about the USS *Stennis* in Newport News, which is where the shipyard is. It will be the first to have off-ship housing, free WiFi, and better parking. We have to take care of our servicemen and -women who are in these extended port periods, especially when their ships are being repaired. This bill does just that.

This NDAA also provides oversight for taxpayer dollars. It cuts \$37 billion in inefficient weapons systems, Defense programs, and Pentagon bureaucracy. It requires mandatory DOD audits, and it also establishes a special inspector general to oversee and monitor security assistance going to Ukraine.

I have been a supporter of Ukraine. I think we need to continue to support that fight in Ukraine; however, it cannot be a blank check. There has to be some accountability, and this inspector general will do just that.

This NDAA also improves readiness and recruitment, and this is something I have been focused on. We have a recruitment, retention, quality of life task force that has been part of our Armed Services Committee. We have been focusing on that for several months now. This NDAA is a good place to start.

It creates a grant program to expand the capacity of our shipyards. We see