

there are some great people working for them every single day. I appreciate that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the brave men and women in North Carolina and across the Nation who serve in law enforcement.

This is a particularly emotional week for law enforcement. The law enforcement community has thousands of officers, and their families are in the Nation's Capital for National Police Week. They are paying a tribute to the brave officers who were killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities. I want to welcome all North Carolinians who are in Washington right now.

Unfortunately, our State is all too familiar with law enforcement officers having to make the ultimate sacrifice, losing their lives in the line of duty. Over the past year, North Carolina has lost three law enforcement officers who were killed by others in the line of duty, in addition to a number of other officers who died from other causes. I would like to take a moment to honor the service of those North Carolina law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty.

In late August, we lost Sergeant Matthew Ryan Fishman—he was 38 years old—of Wayne County Sheriff's Office. He was one of three deputies shot after attempting to serve a warrant. They were met with gunfire, and the incident caused a 10-hour standoff. Sergeant Fishman died a day later.

He had been a deputy since 2010. Before that, he was an officer in the Mount Olive Police Department. Officer Fishman is survived by his wife Sarah, two children, his parents, and two brothers.

That same August, we also saw the death of Deputy Sheriff Ned Byrd of Wake County. Deputy Byrd was with his K-9 when he heard six gunshots and drove past a vehicle on the side of the road. Deputy Byrd stopped and backed up his vehicle. He was shot several times by two criminals.

Unfortunately, the killing of Deputy Byrd revealed numerous failures. The criminals who killed him were not in the United States legally. One of them had been previously deported but was able to illegally reenter the country.

When we talk about “got-aways,” this is a very important point because it happened just a couple of weeks ago in Texas. Someone who was illegally present in this country—was deported four times—got back into this country a fifth time and murdered a family in Texas, including an 8-year-old child. That is another face of a “got-away.” And it was a “got-away” who killed this officer.

Following their arrest for the murder of Deputy Byrd, one of these criminals managed to escape prison for several

days, and we had to apprehend him again in Mexico.

Part of seeking justice must be looking at these failures and making sure they don't happen again.

Deputy Byrd was an Air Force veteran and served Wake County Sheriff's Department for 13 years. He is survived by his sister, brother-in-law, four nephews, as well as his beloved K-9 Sasha.

Last December, less than 2 weeks before Christmas, we lost Deputy Sheriff Bolanos-Anavisca of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. He was 23 years old and served the office for 2 years. He was struck and killed by a car while investigating a robbery at 3 a.m. The driver ran through a red light and struck him and then fled the scene. They eventually located the driver, and he was highly intoxicated.

In the wake of these tragic losses in North Carolina, I am proud to say that we saw the very best of our local communities. While we have some communities calling for defunding the police and making contributions to a website supported by ActBlue—I looked it up today, Mr. President. I am shocked that it is still there. During Police Week, there is a website out there called ACAB. Send your money. What does “ACAB” stand for? “All Cops Are Bastards.”

You would think that at least in a week when we are looking at the sacrifice these officers made, they could take the website down, but they are still proudly raising money. If you don't believe me, just Google “ActBlue,” “All Cops Are Bastards.” Donate today. Harass the police. Look past the sacrifice they are making every single day.

On the other hand, our communities had an outpouring of love and support for the families and colleagues of those fallen officers. Most Americans proudly support men and women in blue. But there are some who feel emboldened by the disgusting anti-police rhetoric.

Disrespect and denigration of law enforcement officers only contribute to an environment that makes our officers and communities less safe and far fewer people willing to even sign up to do the job. If you don't believe me, ask local law enforcement. We have historic lows for people signing up to go to academies and historic highs for people retiring early, as soon as they are eligible. This is happening across the Nation.

In 2021, the intentional killings of law enforcement officers reached a 20-year high. While the number went down in 2022, it is still well above what we have seen in years past. We need to take threats and acts of violence against law enforcement seriously. That is why I will reintroduce the Protect and Serve Act in this Congress. This legislation will make it a Federal crime to intentionally assault a law enforcement officer. It is amazing that it is not on the books already today. It sends a strong message to criminals that targeting and assaulting law en-

forcement officers is inexcusable, and you will be punished. I will continue to work across the aisle to get this legislation enacted into law.

And I am committed to supporting our brave men and women in blue. This bill has earned broad support and has the full support of the Fraternal Order of Police and many of the Nation's leading law enforcement groups.

Each year, we take this week to celebrate those who serve us and protect us in public safety. This would be a great year to come back next year's Police Week and say that we got this bill passed.

Law enforcement has our backs every time and every day they put on a uniform. The least Congress can do is to support the Protect and Serve Act. They need your support more than ever, and you need their support more than ever.

To the men and women in blue in North Carolina and across the country, I want to say thank you for what you do and the sacrifice you make.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Each May, we celebrate and remember the many contributions that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have made to our history and continue to make today.

As a nation, we have made significant progress with respect to the inclusion and representation of the AAPI community across the many facets of our society, from actress Michelle Yeoh's barrier-breaking accomplishment this year as the first Asian-American winner of the Oscars' Best Actress award to Maryland's very own Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller, who was sworn in just a few months ago as Maryland's first immigrant and first Asian American to be elected to statewide office.

AAPI children are finally getting to grow up seeing faces that look like theirs in film, music, sports, politics, and every other arena of public life.

This progress didn't just happen overnight; it is the fruit of labor of generations of AAPI activists and leaders, along with their allies. A labor that, in some cases, cost them their lives.

I think of the Chinese laborers, for instance, who played a critical role in building America's first transcontinental railroad, yet they were met with discrimination and exclusion at every turn.

They faced hardship, hard working conditions, and were paid only half as much as their White counterparts.

In June of 1867, 3,000 Chinese railworkers began a highly organized strike, demanding equal wages and shorter hours. Though they were initially unsuccessful in their demands,

the strike demonstrated that the Chinese workforce could not be taken for granted. Over the next few months, the rail company began raising railworker wages.

This is just one example of a historic legacy of the AAPI activism against discrimination, whether perpetrated by the U.S. Government, as with the internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II, or by individuals like the racially motivated murder of Vincent Chin in 1982, which ignited the modern Asian-American civil rights movement. But there is still much progress we need to make.

Stereotypes like the “model minority” myth continue to perpetrate the idea that the AAPI community is a monolithic, hard-working, and successful racial bloc, which served as a model for how other minority groups should “pull themselves up by their bootstraps—if they just try hard enough.” Stereotypes erase the diversity within the group we refer to as the AAPI, which has the highest income inequality across ethnic groups of any race in America.

Today, AAPI women are still earning, on average, 85 cents for every dollar earned by a White male. If you break that down into just Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, the number drops even further to just 60 cents for every dollar.

The “model minority” myth attempts to pit AAPI people against Black and Latino Americans by blaming these groups for their own struggles, rather than acknowledging the role of discrimination in America’s socioeconomic and racial inequality.

In spite of all of this, there is a great historical legacy, rarely taught in our classrooms, of Asian-Black and Asian-Latino solidarity. Frederick Douglass, renowned abolitionist, writer, and Marylander, gave a speech in 1867—the same year as the Chinese rail strike—opposing restrictions on Chinese immigration in a time when xenophobia and racism toward Chinese workers was rampant.

He said—and, remember, this was in 1867:

There is such a thing in the world as human rights. They rest upon no conventional foundation, but are external, universal, and indestructible. Among these is the right of locomotion; the right of migration; the right which belongs to no particular race, but belongs alike to all and to all alike. It is the right you assert by staying here, and your fathers asserted by coming here. It is this great right that I assert for the Chinese and Japanese, and for all other varieties of men equally with yourselves, now and forever.

I know of no rights of race superior to the rights of humanity, and when there is a supposed conflict between human and national rights, it is safe to go to the side of humanity.

Human rights has been a key focus of mine during my entire congressional career. Imagine, Frederick Douglass, over 150 years ago, proclaimed the very same rights that we are still fighting for today. He was truly a man ahead of his time.

In the 1960s, 100 years after Douglass’s speech, Filipino-American Larry Itliong led the Delano Grape Strike alongside Mexican-American labor icon Cesar Chavez. Their efforts led to raises, healthcare benefits, and pesticide protections for the striking grape workers, who were primarily of Filipino and Mexican descent. These examples show that there is power in solidarity towards a common goal.

Even as we celebrate the historic accomplishments of these and many more members of the AAPI community, we must also maintain a sense of urgency about how we as members of Congress and as Americans are meeting the needs of this community today.

Just a few months ago, many East and Southeast Asian communities who were celebrating the Lunar New Year with their families suddenly had to fear for their safety following the back-to-back mass shootings targeting Asian elders in Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay.

What should have been a time of celebration became a time of fear, anguish, and grief, instead. And these shootings were just the most recent in a string of violent crimes motivated by anti-Asian racism and xenophobia, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a study led in part by Janelle Wong, a University of Maryland professor of Asian-American studies, 16 percent of Asian-American adults and 14 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults reported experiencing a hate crime in 2021. These statistics are appalling and unacceptable.

Over 500,000 Asian Americans and 11,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders join me in calling Maryland their home. They are a vital part of our State’s economy and our communities, and Maryland is better off because of them. I particularly want to highlight the AAPI community in Frederick County, MD. In the fiscal year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill, I was proud to work with my colleague, Senator VAN HOLLEN, to secure a \$375,000 earmark for the Asian American Center of Frederick. The AACF provides vital services to lower-income, minority, and immigrant groups in their community—services including health insurance enrollment, interpreter and translation services, English as a Second Language, citizenship classes, business development services, and so much more.

Because of the funding, Senator VAN HOLLEN and I were able to obtain, the center will be able to increase programming for language-appropriate and culturally relevant early childhood education.

This is crucial in a county like Frederick, where 13.5 percent of the residents speak a language other than English at home. Research shows that high-quality early childhood education increases the children’s readiness for school and narrows the achievement gap by half. And I am inspired every day by the AAPI-run organizations like

the AACF who are fighting for the futures of their children.

There is still work to be done. I am committed to the ongoing movement for the AAPI equality and justice, in Congress and beyond. I hope the Senate will use this Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an opportunity to recognize this community’s many accomplishments and to continue to work hand in hand towards equality and justice for all Americans.

AMERICAN WETLANDS MONTH, WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

Mr. President, I rise to celebrate wetlands and the many species they sustain. This past Saturday, May 13, was World Migratory Bird Day. This year’s theme is “Water: Sustaining Bird Life.” World Migratory Bird Day is officially celebrated on the second Saturday of May in Canada and the U.S. and the second Saturday of October in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean as part of a global campaign to raise awareness of migratory birds and the need to protect and conserve them.

Migratory birds rely on water and its associated habitats—lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, swamps, marshes, and coastal wetlands—for breeding, resting, and refueling during migration; and for wintering. Yet increasing human demand for water, along with climate change, pollution, and other factors are threatening these precious aquatic ecosystems.

Global headlines are sounding alarms: 35 percent of the world’s wetlands, critical to migratory birds, have been lost in the last 50 years. May is American Wetlands Month. Observing it helps draw attention to our wetlands. We cannot afford to lose them. Wetlands provide some of nature’s most valuable ecosystem “services.” They serve as nurseries and habitat for wildlife, mitigate hurricane damage, and sequester carbon.

Wetlands also remove excess nutrients, toxic substances, and sediment from the water that flows through them, helping to improve downstream water quality and the overall health of waters in our communities. They are so effective at improving water quality, scientists refer to them as the “kidneys” of a watershed. Wetlands can absorb excess rain or river water, so they protect against flooding. We haven’t idly stood by as wetlands—and the services they provide—disappear. Instead we are investing in programs to protect and restore them. It is imperative that we strengthen the resilience of our natural infrastructure, particularly in my State of Maryland, which has over 3,000 miles of coastline. Last month, Vice President HARRIS announced that the Department of Commerce has recommended \$15.2 million for projects across Maryland to make communities and the economy more resilient to climate change.

Across Maryland, four projects will create jobs and boost economic and environmental outcomes for coastal communities. The awards were made under the Biden administration's Climate-Ready Coasts initiative funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law—BIL—with additional funds leveraged from the Inflation Reduction Act, IRA. These projects are part of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's nearly \$6 billion total investment under BIL and IRA. These investments will have a ripple effect. The Middle Branch: Patapsco Delta Sustainable Fishery and Ecosystem Resilience Project—"MBRI"—in Baltimore City, for instance, will restore marsh habitat in an urban ecosystem. The MBRI is part of a larger project called "Reimagine Middle Branch," which is a community-led initiative to reconnect South Baltimore residents to the nearby Middle Branch River.

The NOAA investments will help, but wetland loss is challenges that requires an interagency response. I am proud to have reintroduced the Coastal Habitat Conservation Act with Senator GRAMHAM. Our bipartisan, bicameral legislation would authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife—FWS—Coastal Program. The Coastal Program was first established in the Chesapeake Bay in 1985 to address wetlands degradation and the resulting impacts to fish and wildlife. Since its inception, the program has expanded to 2 dozen priority coastal areas in all coastal States.

Today, the Coastal Program is a voluntary, partnership-based, habitat conservation program focused in 24 priority coastal areas along the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes, and in the Caribbean, including the Chesapeake Bay.

Within these areas, a national strategic plan guides FWS conservation efforts, integrating Service priorities with the shared goals of conservation partners and stakeholders. These goals often include preserving biodiversity and preventing species loss.

On the third Friday in May—this Friday—we celebrate National Endangered Species Day, which highlights the importance of protecting species such as the threatened eastern black rail. This secretive marsh bird is the smallest of its kind in North America and is part of Maryland's unique identity that we risk losing to climate change. Over the past 10–20 years, 75 percent of the eastern black rail population has declined. Primary causes of declination include rising sea levels, tidal flooding, and habitat loss and destruction.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, ESA. We should be strengthening implementation of the law, including on critical habitat. For each threatened or endangered species, the Services may designate "critical habitat." Scientists have identified these areas as crucial to the species' recovery and are the focus of conservation efforts. This concept is particularly important as species are forced to adapt.

Even our marshes themselves are on the move. The Global Change Research Wetland located at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, MD, is dedicated to unraveling the complex ecological processes that confer stability on coastal marshes as they respond to global environmental change. This 2,650-acre brackish marsh, which contains 15 miles of protected shoreline along the Rhode and West Rivers—two embayments of Chesapeake Bay—is home to several long-term experiments designed to predict what the future holds for coastal wetland ecosystems as they cope with accelerated sea level rise.

Trying to anticipate and prepare for a future shaped by climate change is the reason I recently opposed S.J. Res. 23, a Congressional Review Act—CRA—joint resolution disapproving the National Marine Fisheries Service—NMFS—rule relating to "Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants and Designating Critical Habitat."

On June 24, 2022, the NMFS and the FWS issued a joint final rule to rescind a Trump administration rule on designating critical habitat under the ESA. The Trump rule included a restrictive definition of "habitat" that limited where the Services could designate critical habitat. Specifically, it barred designating critical habitat in areas that are not currently suitable habitat, even if those areas could become suitable in the future. Such a restriction would limit the Services' ability to designate critical habitat based on the best available science. For example, the Services would not be able to designate critical habitat in areas where species are expected to shift to as a result of natural disasters, in response to climate change, or after environmental restoration.

I regret that the Senate passed S.J. Res. 23 by a vote of 51–49. I am relieved that President Biden intends to veto the resolution, and I am confident Democrats in the Senate will sustain the veto. I was particularly disappointed in this attack on the Services' mission, given the popularity and economic activity of wildlife refuges in my State and across the Nation.

I am pleased the FWS proposes to create a new National Wildlife Refuge to conserve currently unprotected, high-priority fish and wildlife habitats across southern Maryland. In collaboration with landowners, outdoor enthusiasts, conservation partners, and local communities, the Service proposes to identify lands for protection as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System in southern Maryland. These lands would be incorporated into a new National Wildlife Refuge that encompasses portions of Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, Prince George's, and Anne Arundel Counties.

A wide-ranging, collaborative effort over the past 15 years demonstrated that currently unprotected habitats in

these counties support significant populations of fish and wildlife appropriate for protection under the National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily threatened and endangered species like the black rail, waterfowl, and migratory birds of conservation concern. These species face habitat loss from land use changes, climate change, competition from invasive species, and other stressors. Collaborative land management is a primary reason why Maryland has an excellent track record of recovering species. We have demonstrated we can solve wildlife challenges on a bipartisan basis. Knocking out the critical habitat rule—and any future rule like—is not the answer.

The Delmarva fox squirrel was federally listed as an endangered species in 1967, but thanks to conservation efforts, it was removed in December 2015. Loss of habitat is believed to be the major reason for the Delmarva fox squirrel's demise. By the early 1900s, it was extirpated from all States except Maryland. In 1967, its range was narrowed to only four Eastern Shore counties: Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Dorchester—less than 10 percent of its former reach.

Efforts to restore the population began in 1945 when the Maryland Department of Natural Resources purchased LeCompte Wildlife Management Area in Dorchester County as a refuge for the Delmarva fox squirrel. Through an active reintroduction program in the 1970s through the early 1990s, several additional populations of Delmarva fox squirrels were established in Caroline, Kent, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties in Maryland and at a few locations in Delaware and Virginia. Natural expansion of the population has also occurred on the Delmarva peninsula. Today, the Delmarva fox squirrel exists in numerous small pockets of suitable habitat.

Bald eagles have staged such a remarkable population rebound and recovered to the point that they no longer need protection under the ESA. The Chesapeake Bay region today is home to more than 3,000 mating pairs, which represents the largest concentration of eagles in the lower 48 States. They may actually be doing a little too well. According to Chesapeake Bay Magazine, they seem to be running out of room in the bay region. The typical number of chicks per nest has declined since 1999 from two to one, as the male eagles in a breeding pair are forced to stay home and protect their nest from "floaters" without a nest of their own; as a result, they bring less food back. Not to worry, however; scientists don't see a problem with fewer young eagles being produced in the bay's tidewater region, nor do they see a need for human intervention as the eagles reach equilibrium.

The population is going to remain large because the bay can support it. The bay is one of the most productive aquatic ecosystems in the Nation, thanks in large part to its wetlands.

That is something I take pride in and call on my Senate colleagues and all Americans to celebrate this month, American Wetlands Month.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May as Jewish American Heritage Month. My good friend, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and the late Senator Arlen Specter introduced the first resolution to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month in 2006. President George W. Bush then recognized the occasion through a presidential proclamation, which every subsequent administration has since renewed. I am proud to join Senators ROSEN, TIM SCOTT, and RICK SCOTT in introducing S. Res. 203, this year's resolution to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month.

Jews have turned to America as a place of refuge for more than 360 years, from when the first 23 Jews fled the Inquisition in Brazil to the pogroms in Eastern Europe, the Holocaust, and many other instances of violence and discrimination.

Jewish American Heritage Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contributions that American Jews have made to our country. The list is long and illustrious: there is Albert Einstein, the theoretical physicist who devised the theory of relativity, which expanded our understanding of the universe; the trailblazing women's rights advocate, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was the second woman to sit on the Supreme Court, and the first female Jewish justice; Dr. Jonas Salk, who created the polio vaccine, saving countless lives; Emma Lazarus, who gave us the poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty that reads, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

The list goes on and on and includes Nobel Laureates, scientists, writers, musicians, entertainers, businessmen, academics, athletes, and more.

As we commemorate Jewish American Heritage Month and celebrate the contributions of American Jews, we must also remain committed to countering antisemitism both at home and abroad. Last year, we saw a 36 percent increase in antisemitic incidents nationwide, according to the Anti-Defamation League. In my home State of Maryland, the numbers are even more alarming, with antisemitic incidents nearly doubling from 2021 to 2022. That is why I have prioritized addressing the rise of antisemitism and hate-fueled violence. As Co-Chair of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and as the Special Representative on Antisemitism, Racism, and Intolerance for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in the European Parliamentary Assembly, I have held hearings on the alarming increase in antisemitism and its threat to democracy.

Last November, I convened a working group of high-level officials from across the government and non-profit sector to enhance coordination in

countering both domestic and international antisemitism.

The Biden administration has also acted to address antisemitism head-on. In December 2022, the President established an inter-agency group led by Domestic Policy Council staff and National Security Council staff to increase and better coordinate U.S. Government efforts to counter antisemitism, Islamophobia, and related forms of bias and discrimination within the United States. The group's first mandate is to develop a national strategy to counter antisemitism, which would help bring awareness to, address, and prevent antisemitic incidents. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues and the Biden administration to ensure that we use every tool available to confront this growing threat.

Awareness through education is a critical component of the effort to combat prejudice. We must educate members of the public, especially our young people, on the dangers of antisemitism and intolerance.

One of our best resources for doing this is the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. This past April, I led my colleagues in introducing a resolution to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Museum's founding. This national institution has welcomed over 47 million visitors during the past 30 years. It confronts hatred and Holocaust denial and preserves the history of the Holocaust. Visitors in person or online can hear stories of survivors, victims, and those who tried to help. Through teaching about the Holocaust, the Museum challenges the public and world leaders to take action against hate in their own communities.

The history of persecution of Jews and continued violence against Jewish communities in the United States and around the world today highlight the importance of the Jewish homeland, the State of Israel, and the U.S.-Israel relationship. Last month, Israel celebrated its 75th anniversary as an independent state. To mark this milestone, I am leading legislation with Senator TED CRUZ to direct the Treasury Department to mint a commemorative coin honoring Golda Meir, the first female prime minister of the State of Israel.

American Jews have had a strong bond with Israel since its inception as a Jewish homeland. But all Americans benefit from the special relationship between the United States and Israel. Together we face the common enemies of terrorism and extremism and are stronger and safer because of our relationship.

We also benefit economically from our partnership. More than 2,500 U.S. companies do business in Israel. Not only does America invest in Israel, but Israel invests in America, creating jobs in the United States and spurring innovation. Americans enjoy many technical innovations that came from Israel, such as USB drives, instant

messaging, medical cameras small enough to swallow, irrigation systems, and much more.

To me, one of the most important aspects of being an American Jew is the opportunity to apply Jewish values to my daily life. Jewish values like *Tikkun Olam*, which in Hebrew means "repairing the world," have helped inspire and guide my life in public service. My Jewish upbringing taught me to give back and that I have a responsibility to make a difference in the world. It's why I have pursued a career as an elected official since I was a law school student.

This Jewish American Heritage Month, let us honor the values and contributions of Jewish Americans who are a vital part of the American story and stand together to make clear that evil, hate, and antisemitism will not prevail.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Connecticut.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, one of the benefits of sitting in the chair, as the Senator from Maine is currently, is you get to hear a wide variety of views from our colleagues. And I have had the opportunity over the past several weeks, while sitting in the chair, to hear my Republican colleagues talk about their concerns regarding the lifting of title 42. They are concerns that are very often shared in many respects by Democrats as well.

But it is really important that we level set the facts when we are talking about what is happening at the border right now, as the pandemic authority to stop people from applying for asylum is—as required by law—being lifted.

It is really important that we understand that in this debate, there are a lot of spinning; there are a lot of myths; there are some just outright mistruths that are being spread about what is happening at the border and what has been happening at the border.

And so I am down on the floor just for a few minutes today to try to talk about a short list of those myths and untruths that are being spread, sometimes on this floor, but very often on social media and on cable news, so that we can find a way to have a functional conversation between Republicans and Democrats of good faith who actually want to make progress.

First, my sense is that there were a lot of conservatives out there and a lot of haters of President Biden who were kind of rooting for chaos at the border, who were hoping that there was just going to be this overwhelming flood of crossings and apprehensions at the border when title 42 was lifted.

Here is maybe the most important thing to say: It didn't happen. In fact, if you look at the number of people who were showing up at the southwest border right before title 42 expired—