

impeachment. Secretary Mayorkas is carrying out President Biden's policies in good faith within resource constraints. He is following the law and has been responsive to Congress and the American people.

Republicans are sabotaging Secretary Mayorkas' efforts to secure the border. The Biden administration—including Secretary Mayorkas—is working to solve the challenges at our border in an orderly, humane, and lawful way. Secretary Mayorkas has implemented new initiatives to stop dangerous drugs from entering our communities; cracked down on smugglers and cartels; and increased personnel, technology, and infrastructure at our borders. Unfortunately, Republicans are intentionally sabotaging these efforts by voting against necessary funding because they prefer a political wedge issue to policy solutions.

Republicans are perpetuating challenges at the border to help re-elect Donald Trump. Republicans are using Secretary Mayorkas as a scapegoat for the longstanding challenges at our southern border. They are playing the political blame-game to deflect attention from their failure to take meaningful action on border security and immigration legislation and provide necessary border security funding. Republicans should stop this sham effort and instead work with Democrats to enact border and immigration legislation and provide the Department of Homeland Security the funding it needs to carry out its mission.

I. INTRODUCTION

Since its formation in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Committee on Homeland Security (the Committee) has distinguished itself through dedication to serious legislative and oversight work under the leadership of chairmen from both parties. The frantic, partisan rush to consider House Resolution 863, Impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors, represents a betrayal of that hard-earned legacy.

Sadly, in the 118th Congress, the willingness of Republicans to waste their credibility on political stunts comes as no surprise. MAGA Republicans have wasted their opportunity to make progress on immigration and border security policy. The challenges at our borders are real—but Republicans have failed even to engage in a conversation about bipartisan legislation to address them. They have failed to provide necessary funding requested by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). They have failed to provide resources for officers and agents at the border, failed to fund the immigration judges necessary to handle the influx of asylum claims, and failed to condemn the cruel and deceptive acts of State and local Republicans who look to score cheap political points by treating migrants as less than human.

To distract from this abject failure and appease the most extreme elements of the Republican Conference, Republican leadership launched a baseless impeachment investigation into Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas. This impeachment is without precedent, without basis in the law, and a total waste of time. Among its many fatal flaws, this wholly partisan impeachment effort:

Fails to articulate any charge that might constitute "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors."

Fails to provide evidence to support the charges, such as they are.

Fails to name the proper target for impeachment in a policy dispute with the executive branch, if indeed a policy dispute is ever grounds for impeachment.

Fails to provide due process to Secretary Mayorkas.

Fails to address any of the real challenges at our Nation's borders.

Perhaps this shoddy effort is what Democrats should have expected months ago, when Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia insisted to her leadership that "[s]omebody needs to be impeached," without specifying any particular target or reason for the impeachment.

REPUBLICAN ABUSE OF POWER

Instead of working to find commonsense, bipartisan solutions to address immigration reform and border security—which are necessarily and inextricably intertwined—Republicans have, from the very earliest days of Secretary Mayorkas' time in office, turned to character assassination. Although their inability and unwillingness to enact new policy is to blame, Republicans are angry that the Biden administration has implemented its own border security and immigration policies to enforce the law commensurate with the resources provided by Congress. Secretary Mayorkas is carrying out those policies, as is his duty.

This report documents the failed basis for this sham impeachment effort and provides the facts behind the Biden administration's efforts to address the challenges at the southern border in an orderly and humane way, consistent with the law.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAMON SALINAS, JR.

HON. TONY GONZALES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the admirable life of Ramon Salinas, Jr., who unexpectedly passed away on February 1st of this year.

Mr. Salinas dedicated his life to public service. In total, he served over twenty years in law enforcement—both as a Customs Officer for the Department of Treasury and as a Customs and Border Protection Officer under the Department of Homeland Security. Over the span of his distinguished career, Ramon set himself apart with his outstanding work ethic and will forever serve as a role model for those who follow in his footsteps.

Mr. Salinas was also a beloved member of his community, and his dedication to serving others went far beyond his time in law enforcement. For many years, he was a devoted soccer coach and role model for the youth of Eagle Pass, Texas.

Those who know Ramon Salinas, Jr. can speak to his patriotism, compassion, and devotion to faith. Though he will be dearly missed, Mr. Salinas' legacy will live on for years to come.

He is survived by his wife Francelia, his daughter Evelyn, his son Ramon III, his granddaughter Elena Joy, his siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

My condolences and prayers are with the Salinas family during this difficult time.

CONGRATULATIONS PRIME MINISTER VIKTOR ORBAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as co-founder and co-chair of the Euro-

pean Union Caucus I am grateful for the European Union last week voting to provide an additional \$54 billion in aid to Ukraine. The EU has now provided more aid than any other ally and countries like Bulgaria and Poland have contributed more per capita GDP than even the United States.

I appreciate Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary supporting the funding. This fulfills my lifelong affection for the courageous people of Hungary. As a child I was inspired by Hungarian Freedom Fighters valiantly standing in front of the Soviet Tanks in Budapest. Hungary should always be cherished as the first Soviet satellite to stand up to totalitarian Moscow which was cited by Senator Barry Goldwater in his historic book *Why Not Victory?* for liberation of Central and Eastern Europe. The Goldwater Campaign featured actor Ronald Reagan in his historic speech "A Tune For Choosing" leading to his presidency with Pope John Paul, II, and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher achieving Victory.

Viktor Orban is valiantly acting in the tradition of Hungarian Freedom Fighters who defied the Communist Hammer and Sickle symbol of mass-murdering totalitarianism. War criminal Putin has shamefully oppressed the talented people of Russia and has shamefully called for the resurrection of the evil Soviet Empire. I was shocked in June this year, to see the Communist Hammer and Sickle is still cruelly in place over the Russian Embassy in Berlin, Germany. It was so disgusting to see adulation of a symbol that in September 1939 was allied with the Nazi Swastika to conduct mass murder of 70,000 Polish patriots in the partition of Poland.

European Council President Charles Michel is correct "This locks in steadfast, long term, predictable funding for Ukraine." It was encouraging the correlation with Prime Minister Orban with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and French President Emmanuel Macron.

In America there is bi-partisan majority support for Ukraine understanding war criminal Putin will not stop with his invasion of Ukraine with direct threats on NATO Members Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. President Donald Trump tried to deter the murderous invasion of Ukraine by providing Javelin missiles to President Volodymyr Zelensky to stop Putin tanks, courageously placing American troops for the first time in Poland and stopping the Nord Stream Two Pipeline financing of war criminal Putin oppressing Russian citizens as Putin contrived Western European dependency on his oil. House Armed Services Committee Chairman MIKE ROGERS, House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman MICHAEL MCCAUL, and Intelligence Committee Chairman MIKE TURNER are stalwarts for victory in Ukraine. They are backed up with Democrat Ranking Members ADAM SMITH, GREG MEEKS, and JIM HIMES.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING MIKE GARLAND

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a basketball coaching legend who

helped lead the Michigan State University Spartans men's basketball team to 19 NCAA tournaments, 10 Big Ten Championships, seven Final Fours, and a National Championship. But as impressive as those statistics are, former MSU Assistant Coach Mike Garland quite literally came back from the dead and is now using his second chance at life to pay this incredible gift forward.

As much as Mike Garland loved coaching basketball, and as many great things as his teams accomplished on the court, he was content with his decision to retire from MSU in June of 2022, and looking forward to spending more time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. Not long after, however, he went into cardiac arrest while driving his car. Fortunately two good Samaritans were driving by at the time, saw Garland's car go off the road and into a tree, called 911, and performed CPR until paramedics and police arrived. In total, 13 people worked on Garland for an agonizing 18 minutes to restart his heart.

It turned out the electrical failure in Garland's heart was the result of a birth defect, one that required open heart surgery to fix. Three months later, Garland was back up and running—quite literally—on the treadmill. Not long after that he honored all those who helped save his life with an emotional public thank you at MSU's Breslin Center, home to many of his great coaching moments.

Today, the Breslin Center is also home court for his new passion: a foundation he launched called Champions of the Heart. Through this non-profit, Garland works to inform the Spartan community and others on how to save lives during episodes of cardiac arrest.

Attendees at these free trainings learn how to perform CPR, how to recognize sudden cardiac arrest, and how to use an Automatic External Defibrillator.

Mike Garland is a man who has lived two lives, both defined by statistics. In the first, his focus was on wins, losses, and free throw percentages. His second life, however, is summed up in a single stark numerical reality: only one person in ten survives a cardiac arrest. He has done much to defy the odds and change the course of history for himself and others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend the first portion of the vote series on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, and the vote series on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, due to an unexpected medical emergency and corresponding recovery time in the hospital. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 36, YEA on Roll Call No. 39, and NAY on Roll Call No. 40.

HONORING INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR JOSE ALIAGA

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Independence Township Supervisor Jose Aliaga. Mr. Aliaga, who embodies the American Dream, is an immigrant from Peru who faced many challenges coming to the United States including the biggest challenges of not knowing anyone or being able to speak English.

After immigrating to the U.S., Jose attended the University of Michigan, where he earned his bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in social science. Moreover, Mr. Aliaga worked tirelessly to achieve a law degree from the Universidad Las Americas in Peru. After his time in school, Mr. Aliaga connected Latin American and U.S. companies and started his own business, Aliaga Development and Consulting, LLC. His work eventually earned him an invitation to the White House and recognition from the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Aliaga is active in business and politics and, from time to time, he is known for engaging at universities in Peru. He has been featured on Fox News and Univision as a TV commentator. Mr. Aliaga treasures his local community where he partakes in local initiatives and committees. He is also a government reform activist, seeking a positive community impact.

Independence Township has seen many positive changes since Mr. Aliaga took office, including refurbishing and revitalizing parks and implementing new standards for township employees. A new pilot program was recently established that extended township hall hours, making it more convenient for residents to pass through outside their standard work hours, yet another welcomed change for the community. Mr. Aliaga is also planning to rebrand the township to attract new businesses and residents to the area.

Mr. Aliaga is an ambitious member of the Independence Township community. He is the Township Supervisor, but also sits on five other committees and boards in the township government. These include the Downtown Development Authority, the Television Video Center Administrative Board, Parks, Recreation & Seniors Advisory Committee, Safety Path Advisory Committee, and the Sashabaw Corridor Improvement Authority.

Mr. Aliaga embodies public service. He works in his community for his community. His motto is "I live to serve." It is an honor to recognize Jose Aliaga and all his accomplishments.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING ORRIN AND LUVINA WILSON

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to two of the most beloved residents to

ever call the St. Johns, Michigan, community home: Orrin and Luvina Wilson. Settling in Clinton County post-Civil War, the Wilsons were a "power couple" before such a term existed, but it was never about seeking power for themselves. Rather, the Wilsons lived their lives in quiet but devoted and groundbreaking service to their nation and to their neighbors, and forever changed the face of St. Johns.

Orrin was just 16 years old in 1864 when he enlisted in Michigan's all-Black regiment, the 102nd United States Colored Infantry. Company K, out of Kalamazoo. He served until the war's end, and returned to Michigan where he met and married his bride. The two would soon settle in St. Johns, where they lived out the next 60 years of their lives.

In addition to his military service, Orrin was a trailblazer in so many ways. First, he took up the trade of barbering and owned his own shop for nearly 50 years, serving a mostly white clientele out of the old Steel Hotel in downtown St. Johns. He was also a founding member of the local chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, a national union of Civil War veterans, and served as its post commander for a time. Not only was he the only Black member of the St. Johns Charles Grisson Post of the GAR, it's believed he was the only Black man in the state to hold such a leadership position outside of the all-Black posts in cities like Detroit.

Luvina was a trailblazer in her own right, serving as president of the local chapter of the Women's Relief Corps, the auxiliary organization to the Grand Army of the Republic. The WRC not only supported the mission to aid Union veterans, but also assisted former Army nurses and promoted patriotism through education. And just like her husband, Luvina is believed to be the only Black woman in the state to have led an all-white post.

Orrin and Luvina raised two sons together: George and Arthur, who continued the family barbering trade. The family was active in the St. Johns United Methodist Church, where Orrin served as a trustee and treasurer for three decades. They were married for 58 years, and linked in their common goal of creating a better, more just community and nation. And united they also were in death, leaving this world just one day apart in late December of 1928. The two were buried together in the veterans' section of Mt. Rest Cemetery, with flags flown at half-mast and a large funeral procession going past the family home on South Clinton Avenue.

May their life story and memory be a blessing and inspiration to all of us.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CLARENCE GREEN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Clarence "Ogden" Green of Runaway Bay, Texas, who peacefully passed away on the morning of January 1, 2024. Mr. Green was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Green was born on December 23, 1929, in Foster, Oklahoma, to Coleman and Florence Green. His family later moved to Fort