

four more, giving these states a greater influence in determining the direction of our country.

We need guardrails to protect our democracy, and that includes making sure that American citizens—and American citizens only—are accurately represented in their federal government.

It's time to stop diluting the voice and votes of Americans and with the passage of my bill, it's clear that many of my colleagues agree.

CONDEMNING THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEADLY BORDER CRISIS

A major reason we need to stop illegal immigrants from skewing representation numbers in our government is due to this administration's disastrous open-border policies that have allowed more than 7.2 million illegal immigrants to enter our country through our southern border. That is more than the population of 36 states.

President Biden inherited policies from President Trump that would have strengthened our border security. However, since Biden's first day in office, he has reversed policies that were in place to stem the flow of illegal immigrants, and has undermined U.S. border security on more than 60 occasions.

The House sent a strong message by passing H. Res. 1112, which condemns this administration's policies that have created this costly border crisis. We also urged the administration to take immediate action to end this national security threat, and we will not rest until law and order is restored at our borders.

THE PRESIDENT'S CLANDESTINE FLIGHTS OF MORE THAN 400,000 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

The House Homeland Security Committee recently released documents that identified more than 45 airport locations to which the president secretly flew more than 400,000 illegal immigrants.

These documents are another example of how this administration is jeopardizing the safety of Americans and our national security, and why the House needed to pass the strongest border security bill in history, the Secure the Border Act, which would strengthen our borders by restoring President Trump's border policies.

STANDING WITH JEWISH STUDENTS AND ISRAEL

You've probably seen footage of antisemitic mobs who have been defending the actions of Hamas, harassing Jewish students and disrupting learning across college campuses in America.

The House has launched a probe to crack down on campus antisemitism, and we will not stop until Jewish students feel safe on their campuses, and until universities that fail to do their part are held accountable.

Colleges and universities need leadership with a moral backbone to stand up against antisemitism and provide a safe learning environment for Jewish students. Any administrators who refuse to hold these protestors accountable are not fit to lead and should resign.

TAXPAYERS ARE SHOULDERING THE COST OF OPEN BORDER POLICIES

During a House Budget Committee hearing, members examined the financial consequences of the administration's border crisis and had an opportunity to inform the American people of the true cost of open border policies.

The White House's open border policies have resulted in a surge of illegal immigrant encounters and influx of deadly drugs across our southwestern border.

This is being paid for by the American taxpayer at the federal, state and local levels.

The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) calculated that illegal immi-

gration for 2023 alone cost taxpayers \$150.7 billion. Taxpayers are shouldering \$8,776 per illegal immigrant per year for nearly 22 million illegal immigrants to cover costs including for housing, feeding, clothing, jailing, adjudication, education and shelter.

To protect American lives and improve the federal government's stewardship of taxpayer dollars, securing our southwestern border requires a collaborative partnership among all levels of government, including federal, state and local.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I'll continue to look for avenues to enforce the law of the land and implement a cost-effective, comprehensive border security strategy that secures our border, ends illegal immigration and protects our citizens.

A PORT'S SIGNIFICANCE IN THE HEALTH OF U.S. SUPPLY CHAIN, ECONOMY

Imagine this: You go to the grocery store and there's no fruit. Or maybe you're building a house and there's a steel and lumber shortage. Why? Because North Carolina's largest port, the Port of Wilmington, has been cut off due to a collapse of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge.

This collapse would immediately restrict access to the port, which contributes \$12.9 billion to North Carolina's economy every year, directly and indirectly supports more than 87,700 jobs across the Old North State, and would cost the economy tens of millions of dollars each day the port is closed.

That's what the Port of Baltimore and the citizens of Maryland are experiencing due to the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge over the lower Patapsco River.

I recently visited the Port of Baltimore and the wreckage site of the Francis Scott Key Bridge as a member of the House Appropriations Committee. Our mission was to better understand the collapse, its impact on the economy, and what will be needed to rebuild the bridge.

The Port of Baltimore is the nation's farthest-inland port, and the top domestic port for cars, forest products, farm equipment and sugar. The port generates \$4.7 billion in economic value to the state of Maryland and supports nearly 22,000 jobs.

Estimates predict the Baltimore port's closure costs America's economy \$15 million each day it is closed and has added hours to transportation times for vital goods and services that Americans rely on every day in the mid-Atlantic region and beyond.

Ships are having to travel greater distances to offload shipments, and an estimated 5,000 trucks per day are being diverted across the region, adding hours to their travel time and significantly affecting the flow of goods across most of the United States.

Maryland's transportation secretary estimates that the cost to rebuild this critical pillar of our nation's supply chain is nearly \$1.9 billion.

At some point, when Maryland comes to the federal government for our assistance in funding this rebuild, I want you to know that I will be supporting that effort for the sake of our nation's supply chain and for the health of our national economy, just as I would hope my colleagues in Maryland would do if such a tragedy were to ever happen at a North Carolina port.

SCALING BACK UNACHIEVABLE ENERGY STANDARDS

If the White House is going to require new product standards for energy conservation, the requirements should be feasible and reasonable.

I cast NC-11's vote for the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act to modify the Department of Energy's (DOE) procedures for mandating energy-efficiency standards by pro-

hibiting the DOE secretary from requiring standards that are not technologically feasible and economically justified.

Western North Carolinians are already burdened by rising costs, and the last thing we need is more unrealistic federal regulations that further raise prices, fail to provide meaningful energy savings and take away consumer choice.

GOLD STAR FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Gold Star Family Fellowship Program is organized by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the House of Representatives and is an opportunity for Gold Star family members to apply for a one-year fellowship with members of Congress. This includes any family member (parents, children including stepchildren, spouses or siblings) of military members who have died in the line of duty.

If you are interested in applying for this fellowship, visit the CAO website here.

With my warmest regards,
Chuck Edwards
Member of Congress

RECOGNIZING KEITH SORCI

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Keith Sorci for earning the Man of the Year Award from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

Keith has been serving his community for over 20 years in many capacities, including as president of the Arvada Gardeners, volunteering with the Arvada Historical Society and with local schools, and distributing food to those in need. Keith also works with Jefferson County Justice Services which offers alternatives to incarceration for Coloradans, training others to be equally helpful in their work for the community. His continued dedication to the Arvada Community showcases his spirit of service and this award acknowledges his hard work.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Keith on achieving the 2023 Arvada Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING BRYAN FISHER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions that have been made to our community by one of my constituents, Bryan Fisher. Three years ago, his mother was diagnosed with colon cancer and started a non-profit charity with her gastroenterologist and surgeon. Their goal was helping other colon cancer patients. Bryan, who was a Pre-Med student at the University of South Florida in Tampa at the time, volunteered countless hours to help the organization get off the ground. He maintains the non-profit organization's website, updating it regularly with helpful resources for patients and healthcare providers. The Foundation provides pamphlets to endoscopy centers that

perform colonoscopies. If a mass is found, the center gives the patient the pamphlet so patients don't have to go through their cancer journey alone. The foundation also provides the public with pamphlets about colon cancer screening and pamphlets for current colon cancer patients. All of the pamphlets have been designed by Bryan. Bryan has also been instrumental in fundraising efforts to ensure the non-profit foundation has the resources it needs to operate. Bryan even formed the "Green and Gold Committee" at USF where he and his fellow Pre-Med students met regularly to discuss ways to help the Foundation prosper. They held a "game night" at USF to educate college kids about colon cancer and offered screening information for them to share with their family members. They raised a little money and dispensed a lot of information. Bryan is about to start his journey in medical school this summer and plans to practice medicine in Citrus County one day.

It is clear that Mr. Fisher has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

TRIBUTE TO VIOLET SAGE WALKER—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, each year, through the Women of the Year Award, my office extends special recognition to women on the Central Coast who have made a difference in our community. I would like to recognize one outstanding Women of the Year Award recipient, Violet Sage Walker of San Luis Obispo, California.

Violet is the chairwoman of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council (NCTC), a non-profit offering a foundation for the Chumash people of San Luis Obispo County to continue practicing their heritage and culture with dignity and vibrancy. She assumed the position after the passing of her father, Native American Tribal Chief Fred Harvey Collins, on October 1, 2021, and continues to advance Chumash heritage and culture in partnership with a broad community of Tribal allies, conservation organizations, and others.

As leader of the NCTC, Violet's mission is to protect the sacred places for those who were here long ago, for those here now, and for those who are still coming. The Central Coast is home to many sacred locations that are mentioned in Chumash oral tradition which include stories (saga' squatinas'ni) and context over the past 15,000 years, including an older recorded date at Point Conception, an extremely important Chumash Sacred Place known to Native Americans as the Western Gate (Humqaq).

For Violet, one of those duties is serving as the nominator of the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, the first Indigenous-led sanctuary nomination and one that tribal elders and members of the local community in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties have advocated for decades. As proposed, this sanctuary bridges the physical gap of protection between the Monterey Bay and

Channel Islands national marine sanctuaries. It will enhance the life force (tishwin) of coastal ocean waters and shorelines by integrating and engaging the traditional knowledge of the indigenous People in partnership with scientists, environmental public interest groups, and diverse members of the concerned public.

So far, the proposal has received an overwhelmingly positive response, and the plan is to provide formal designation by mid-2024.

Violet's continued leadership to the Chumash people and the San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara County community is an inspiration to men and women throughout the district. Her ongoing efforts ensure that the heritage and legacy of the Chumash are respected and will endure for generations to come.

I am honored to recognize Violet Sage Walker for her continued commitment to the Central Coast. I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 24th Congressional District for her incredible work in the community.

RECOGNIZING THE 2024 FAIRFAX COUNTY VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Volunteer Fairfax and express my sincere appreciation to recipients of the 2024 Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.

Established 50 years ago, Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of thousands of volunteers with the needs of local non-profit organizations. The success of this model and its impact on delivery of needed services is beyond question; Volunteer Fairfax has been rated as one of the most effective community service organizations in the nation.

Each year, Volunteer Fairfax selects a few exceptional individuals, groups, or organizations to receive special recognition. It is my great pleasure to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2024 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards honorees:

Anthony Amos—2024 Rising Star
 Jeffrey Katz—2024 Volunteer Manager
 Michael Mixon—2024 Volunteer of the Year
 Food for Neighbors—2024 Volunteer Program of the Year
 Able Moving & Storage—2024 Outstanding Corporate Citizen of the Year
 Eileen Ellsworth—Lifetime Achievement Award
 Jeff Bentley—2024 Executive Leader of the Year
 Tom McCook—Braddock District Champion
 Angie Guevara—Dranesville Community Champion
 Hasan Shah—Franconia District Champion
 Dr. Eric Goplerud—Hunter Mill District Champion
 Nancy Hall—Mason District Champion
 Cathy Hosek—Mount Vernon District Champion
 Carrie Conley—Providence District Champion
 Isabella Solano—Springfield District Champion
 Patti Cooksey—Sully District Champion

Robbie Mosley—Chairman's Champion

Mr. Speaker. I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Volunteer Fairfax for its decades of outstanding community service. I congratulate the recipients of the 2024 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards and thank them and the thousands of other local volunteers for their incredible contributions to our community. Their selfless dedication is worthy of our highest praise and is one of the main reasons that our community is often ranked as one of the best places in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF DEXTER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Educational Foundation of Dexter on the 40th anniversary of their founding. The support they have provided for Dexter's students and educators over the last 40 years is worthy of commendation.

The Educational Foundation of Dexter (EFD) was founded in 1984 to enhance the educational experience for those enrolled in the Dexter Community School District. Through teacher written grants, the EFD provides financial support for new and innovative educational projects. The EFD has awarded over \$1 million since 1984 for programs such as FLEX Robotics Kits for Creekside Middle School, a field trip to the Charles H. Wright Museum for the entire 5th grade, adaptive music for students with special needs, and equipment to support the Iron Dread program at Dexter High School. In 2023, the EFD's Spring Auction raised over \$24,000 for Dexter students.

In 2015, Excellence 4 Dexter Students (E4DS) was formed in response to multiple years of annual budget cuts at the state level. This led to some notable changes within the district, including larger class sizes and reduced staffing. Since their founding, E4DS has donated over \$182,000 to the Dexter Community Schools for additional programming. Their donations have supported additional math and science programming for grades 3–6, mental wellness programs for both staff and students, and an experience at Eastern Michigan University for many 6th grade classes. In 2020, E4DS and the Educational Foundation of Dexter joined forces to better support and respond to the needs of the Dexter Community School District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the work of the Educational Foundation of Dexter over the last four decades. Both the teachers and students of the Dexter community have had a more fulfilling educational experience due to the hard work of the EFD. We are excited to see what they can accomplish over the next 40 years. I thank the EFD.