

undermining Constitutional civil liberties by removing the hurdle of proving guilt before deportation. As I've said before: Where will they stop? Are American citizens next?

It is shameful that House Republicans are using our law enforcement as pawns for the Majority's extreme MAGA immigration rhetoric. House Republicans must stop their politics of division and distraction from addressing the real challenges facing Americans. They need to join Democrats at the table to find solutions.

RECOGNIZING SGT. RYAN LENNOX

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize and honor the service one of my constituents, Sgt. Ryan Lennox, of the Pasco County Sheriff's Office. On November 28, 2022, Sgt. Lennox was transferred to the Special Operation Division as a K9 Sergeant. However, during this timeframe the Patrol Division was understaffed with squad and platoon supervisors. This prompted Sgt. Lennox to be asked to take a temporary duty assignment as a Patrol Sergeant while continuing to lead, supervise and guide his K9 Patrol Squad. Sgt. Lennox willingly accepted the dual responsibilities and continued to shine in both roles. Examples of his accomplishment during this period include:

Attending a Patrol K9 School with his new K9 partner Ranger;

Passing the K9 state standards course;

Leading and Supervising a K9 squad, ensuring all administrative duties were completed;

Assisting patrol units as a K9 handler. Within a year, he successfully led the search and location of multiple suspects;

Leading and supervising a patrol squad, ensuring all administrative duties were completed;

Planning, leading and successfully executing several SWAT operations and monthly SWAT trainings;

Co-teaching SWAT school, and

Planning, leading and successfully executing several operational missions.

These are just a few examples of the hard work, dedication, eagerness to help, and servant leadership that Sgt. Lennox exhibits every day he comes to work. Sgt. Lennox is a shining example of what it means to be a Pasco County Law Enforcement Officer. His work ethic should be a benchmark for which other law enforcement officers should strive to attain. It is evident that Sgt. Lennox has made a profoundly positive impact on our community and is qualified to be recognized as a First Responder of the Year for Florida's 12th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING SAKURA
CHENHALLS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sakura Chenhalls for earning the

Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Sakura has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Sakura, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Sakura's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Sakura Chenhalls on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

DETAIN AND DEPORT ILLEGAL
ALIENS WHO ASSAULT COPS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak in opposition to H.R. 7343, the "Detain and Deport Illegal Aliens Who Assault Cops Act."

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Crime Subcommittee and as Senior Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am deeply disappointed in this harmful and misguided bill.

This overly broad legislation would result in extremely harsh and unintended consequences, subjecting people to mandatory immigration detention for merely being arrested for, and never charged or convicted of a crime.

It does not actually solve any problems with the immigration system or the border.

This bill will, however, callously, and carelessly increases the scope of those subject to mandatory immigration detention to cover many undocumented immigrants, including those in a lawful status such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or Temporary Protected Status (TPS), if they are arrested for assault of a law enforcement officer or first responder.

In particular, it will make it so that someone who is merely arrested for or charged with an assault of a law enforcement officer or first responder, even if they never committed that crime or hurt anyone, is now subject to mandatory immigration detention.

It is so broad and overinclusive that it would lead to truly absurd results and to the detention and removal of people who had no intention of ever committing a crime.

Indeed, consider a situation where an immigrant is wrongfully arrested for assault due to mistaken identity.

Under this bill, that individual would now be subject to mandatory detention, even though they were arrested by mistake and potentially never even charged with a crime.

Wrongful arrests are not far-fetched scenarios.

In fact, the main reason this bill was introduced was because Republicans wanted to exploit an incident involving recently arrived migrants allegedly assaulting law enforcement in Times Square.

One specific image of an arrested migrant flipping off cameras after his arraignment set off a firestorm among Republicans.

However, in March, ten weeks after the incident, charges against that specific individual were dropped.

It turns out he was wrongfully arrested and charged. He was not even at the scene of the incident.

This is a perfect example as to why this bill is absurd—if it was in effect, this individual, despite his innocence, would have been subject to mandatory detention.

Additionally, many jurisdictions have a broad definition of assault that are so broad, they can include conduct as minor as throwing a parking ticket at a ticketing officer.

This bill is a solution in search of a problem. No one in this caucus condones serious assaults against law enforcement officers.

People who admit to or are convicted of serious assault offenses against law enforcement officers are already subject to mandatory detention under our laws. This bill would not change that fact.

Instead, this bill will subject more people to mandatory detention at a time when Republicans refuse to give the Department of Homeland Security the resources it needs.

It should also be noted that Congress has never appropriated, and no administration has ever requested, sufficient resources to detain all noncitizens who fall under the "mandatory detention" categories.

Even former President Trump never tried to detain all migrants subject to mandatory detention.

If this bill were to become law, as written, it would simply lead to absurd consequences.

Consequences that do nothing to resolve the problems that Republicans claim they are seeking to resolve.

Time and again, Republicans have refused to support additional resources and personnel for the border.

In 2021, all but six current House Republicans voted against the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, which provided additional funding to ports of entry to combat smuggling of people and drugs.

All but two current House Republicans voted against providing robust funding for border security operations in the FY2023 appropriations omnibus legislation.

That bill provided more than \$17 billion to Customs and Border Protection (CBP), including funding for an additional 300 Border Patrol agents.

The omnibus also included \$60 million to hire 125 CBP officers and \$70 million for non-intrusive inspection technology to detect narcotics and firearms at ports of entry.

In October of 2023, the Biden administration sent Congress a supplemental funding request, which included an additional \$13.6 billion for border security.

House Republicans refuse to schedule a vote on this funding request, which would provide the Biden administration the resources it needs to secure the border and provide additional support for communities receiving migrants.

More specifically, this supplemental funding would pay for an additional 1,300 Border Patrol agents; 375 immigration judges and 1,600 asylum officers to speed up processing of asylum claims; 1,000 CBP officers with a focus on countering fentanyl; new detection technology for ports of entry; additional investigative capabilities to combat fentanyl trafficking; and \$1.4 billion more in grants to help communities receiving migrants, among other investments.

By forcing a vote on this bill, Republicans are really showing they have no real solutions to address the border.

I urge my colleagues to not take the bait.

It should also be stated that immigrants commit crimes at lower rates than native-born individuals.

There are currently 45 million foreign-born people in the United States.

In any large group, there are going to be some people who do bad things.

These people do not represent the group as a whole.

Unfortunately, Republicans and Fox News want to use any crime committed by an immigrant to fearmonger and scapegoat migrants for everything that is wrong in the country.

But here are the facts: Higher immigration is associated with lower crime rates.

According to a 2015 study by the American Immigration Council, between 1990 and 2013, the foreign-born share of the U.S. population grew from 7.9 percent to 13.1 percent and the number of unauthorized immigrants more than tripled from 3.5 million to 11.2 million.

During the same period, FBI data indicates that the violent crime rate declined 48 percent—which included falling rates of aggravated assault, robbery, rape, and murder.

Likewise, the property crime rate fell 41 percent, including declining rates of motor vehicle theft, larceny/robbery, and burglary.

An NBC News review of available 2024 crime data from the cities targeted by Texas's "Operation Lone Star," which buses or flies migrants from the border to major cities in the interior—shows overall crime levels dropping in those cities that have received the most migrants.

Overall crime is down year after year in Philadelphia, Chicago, Denver, New York, and Los Angeles.

With these facts, we can see that this bill is sadly another opportunity for my Republican colleagues to score cheap political points on a bill that has no chance to become law while trying to target and scapegoat migrants as criminals.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2024 PATHFINDER SCHOLARSHIP FIRST PLACE WINNER JAKE CHAVIS IN THE SPORTS CATEGORY

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jake Chavis, the first-place winner of the prestigious Pathfinder Scholarship in the Sports category. This scholarship is awarded to Palm Beach and Martin County students who have displayed excellence in their academic and communal endeavors in a multitude of categories.

As a student at FAU High School, Jake has maintained a 4.0 GPA and will graduate high school with a bachelor's degree in biochemistry. He is currently enrolled at Wilkes Honors College at FAU. His school's tennis team competed in the 2023 State Championship under his leadership as captain. His pas-

sion for tennis extends into his community, where he selflessly teaches tennis at the Tenorio Tennis Academy and has volunteered hundreds of hours with the Delray Beach Open Tennis Tournament. He aspires to become a professional tennis player and hopes to attend law school.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in recognizing Mr. Jake Chavis as an excellent student and an incredible athlete.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA DOMINGUEZ SALAZAR

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Victoria Dominguez Salazar for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Victoria has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Victoria, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Victoria's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Victoria Dominguez Salazar on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

CONDEMNING THE BIDEN BORDER CRISIS AND THE TREMENDOUS BURDENS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FACE AS A RESULT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in opposition to H. Res. 1210, "Condemning the Biden border crisis and the tremendous burdens law enforcement officers face as a result".

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Crime Subcommittee and as Senior Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am deeply disappointed in this harmful and misguided bill.

This resolution is more of the same false and misleading narrative we have become accustomed from House Republicans this Congress.

This resolution, however, goes further and also claims that "Democrat elected officials prioritize illegal alien criminals over citizens and legal residents of the United States."

This is slanderous, wrong, and offensive language that should draw universal condemnation from Democrats.

Let us remember how we got here.

Last May, House Republicans passed their inhumane, unworkable border bill, H.R. 2, over bipartisan opposition.

They claimed this bill was the only way to secure the border.

That bill has since failed twice to pass the Senate, rejected both times on a bipartisan basis.

Former President Trump instructed Republicans to reject a bipartisan border compromise that Minority Leader McConnell called the strongest border bill in 30 years.

Republicans have said out loud they want to preserve the political issue for the election year.

The best way to secure the border is to expand lawful pathways and adequately fund the immigration system.

And yet, we have not updated our legal immigration system in over 30 years.

The more broken the legal immigration system is, the more people will try to come to the border as the only means of entry.

We need more asylum officers and immigration judges to ensure people have their day in court, in a fair and expeditious manner.

However, there has been a refusal to actually solve the problem.

This resolution accuses of Democrats of not supporting law enforcement when time and again, Republicans have refused to take yes for an answer and address the issues at the border.

In addition to rejecting the bipartisan Senate border bill, Republicans have consistently refused to support providing additional resources and personnel for the border.

In 2021, all but six current House Republicans voted against the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, which provided additional funding to ports of entry to combat smuggling of people and drugs.

All but two current House Republicans voted against providing funding for border security operations in the FY2023 appropriations omnibus legislation.

That bill provided more than \$17 billion to Customs and Border Protection (CBP), including funding for an additional 300 Border Patrol agents.

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In October of 2023, the Biden administration sent Congress a supplemental funding request, which included \$13.6 billion for border security.

House Republicans refuse to schedule a vote on this funding request, which would provide the Biden administration the resources it needs to secure the border and provide additional support for communities receiving migrants.

More specifically, this supplemental funding would pay for an additional 1,300 Border Patrol agents; 375 immigration judges, and 1,600 asylum officers to speed up processing of asylum claims; 1,000 CBP officers with a focus on countering fentanyl; new detection technology for ports of entry; additional investigative capabilities to combat fentanyl trafficking; and \$1.4 billion more in grants to help communities receiving migrants, among other investments.

By forcing a vote on this resolution, Republicans are showing they have no real solutions to address the border.

I urge Members to not take the bait.

Rather, let us look at the facts.

In the Fiscal Year 24 appropriations bill, Congress appropriated over \$3.4 billion for DHS to maintain and use 41,500 detention beds.