

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, as someone who started my family with IVF, I understand how critical it is to so many families that want to have children.

I believe all life is precious.

Like many Americans, I am pro-life with exceptions for rape, incest, and the health and life of the mother.

For years, political opponents have misrepresented my view, but families in my district know where I stand.

Nothing is more pro-life than helping families have children, and I do not support Federal restrictions on IVF.

A recent court ruling prompted confusion about whether the Life At Conception Act bans IVF.

I am removing myself from the bill because it could create confusion about my support for the blessings of having children through IVF.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 431

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 431. I have been and always will be pro-life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

MAUI 911 CALL CENTER

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, when things go wrong, when disaster strikes, the first call most of us will make is 911.

On August 8, 2023, dispatchers at Maui's 911 call center were the ones that answered over 4,500 callers as they called in about the wildfires that were tearing through the island.

Through it all, our Maui dispatchers were the first responders who answered the call. Many of them were desperately waiting to hear from their own loved ones, some of whom did not make it.

They operated under incredible stress, absorbing the panic and terror of the callers, providing comfort and direction. There is no doubt in my mind that on that fateful day they saved lives.

Last week, Maui's call center team received the 2023 Outstanding Call Center Award from the Next Gen 911 Institute. They are "Maui Strong," and they represent the very best of us.

All those who answer the call when we need them most deserve to be recognized for what they truly are—first responders. That is why I am proud to cosponsor the bipartisan 911 SAVES Act led by Representatives NORMA TORRES and BRIAN FITZPATRICK.

In honor of all of our dispatchers, it is our turn to answer the call and pass the 911 SAVES Act.

CRIMINAL ILLEGAL ALIENS

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, the White House is attempting to downplay the threat that the wide-open southern border presents to our national security. This follows the tragic death of Georgia nursing student, Laken Riley. Investigators say she was killed by an illegal immigrant who was paroled into this country in 2022.

The House Homeland Security Committee found that 600,000 nondetained criminal illegal aliens are in the country. Let me repeat that. We have more than 600,000 illegal immigrants with criminal convictions or pending charges in the United States.

In a 2021 memo, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas wrote to the staff: "The fact that an individual is a removable noncitizen should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them."

The Biden administration must end this deadly catch and release scheme. It is time to close the border so that overwhelmed border officials have the manpower to deport these criminals. American lives are depending on it.

ROBBINSVILLE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Robbinsville High School wrestling team for winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 1A team tournament title for the first time in the school's history.

The Robbinsville Black Knights defeated their opponent by 10 points, ending their opponent's 4-year winning streak.

Senior and four-time State champion Kage Williams was awarded Most Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament and broke the program win record with 169 career victories.

It was also a banner year for long-time coach, David Haney. Coach Haney has been with Robbinsville since 1978 and is now taking a well-deserved retirement after this season.

Each Black Knight on the team made important contributions to a historic State championship, all under the experienced leadership of Coach Haney.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Black Knights. They have made western North Carolina proud.

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HONORING THE MEMORY OF LAKEN RILEY

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I sadly rise today in support of H.R. 7511, the

Laken Riley Act, and to honor the namesake of this legislation.

Laken Hope Riley was a beautiful soul taken too soon from her loving family by an illegal migrant who was detained and then released back into our country in 2022.

As a young nursing student, Laken brought joy to everyone around her as she pursued her passion of helping people. She had so much potential and so much life to live. My prayers are with her family as they mourn the loss of her light in this world.

If not for our open borders and catch and release protocols, Laken, and many other innocent Americans who were murdered by illegal immigrants, would be alive today. It is time to secure our border and end these destructive policies now.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7511 and to continue fighting to ensure no other family has to bury their child due to Biden's preventable crisis.

BULGARIA STANDS WITH DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on March 3, the Republic of Bulgaria celebrated National Day. Yesterday, with Co-Chairman BRAD SCHNEIDER, the Bulgarian Caucus hosted a reception recognizing 120 years of diplomatic relations with America. We appreciate Bulgarian Ambassador Georgi Panayotov.

On June 10, 1990, I observed, with the International Republican Institute, the first post-communist Bulgarian election. I was hosted by Professor Stefan Stoyanov, who was elected to the National Assembly and later reinstated Rotary Clubs across Bulgaria.

This is the 20th anniversary of Bulgarian admission to NATO. Now, Bulgaria has equaled American per capita aid to Ukraine in the war of dictators with rule of gun invading democracies with rule of law.

We welcome Sweden to NATO today, reinforcing peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

MCCLAIN STANDS WITH THE FARMERS

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

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the thankless few, the ones who wake up each morning at

the crack of dawn, rain or shine, and simply go to work. Those thankless few are our farmers.

We are great at thanking our first responders, nurses, firefighters, and police officers, as we should, but how often do we thank our farmers? American farmers are the backbone of this Nation, and we often take them for granted.

Regardless of the lack of gratitude we show them, the same farmers get up and do it over and over again, day after day, just to keep this country going.

I encourage everyone to stop and think about where their food comes from and give thanks to the relentless farmers who keep us fed.

Today, and every day, I say thank you to the farmers.

RECOGNIZING HEARTLAND HORSESHOEING SCHOOL

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Heartland Horseshoeing School in Lamar, Missouri, as our district's Small Business of the Month.

Chris and Kelly Gregory opened the school back in 1995 and have since been leaders in teaching the craft of horseshoeing and blacksmithing.

This school is more than just a business. It is a place where students from all over the world can learn a skill that has been very important for centuries.

The Gregorys' work is a reminder of how vital small business is to America. They are not just teaching a trade; they are keeping our heritage strong and helping our economy grow.

Their reach goes far beyond our district, Mr. Speaker. Their YouTube channel shares their knowledge with more than 220,000 subscribers.

Folks like the Gregorys show us what we can do when we achieve with hard work and passion the dreams that make us great in America.

Congratulations to Chris and Kelly Gregory. Their work is shaping the future of horseshoeing and showing the power of small businesses in America.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN ALDRICH

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a remarkable constituent from my hometown and also a great friend, Stephen Aldrich.

Steve is the business manager and financial secretary for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 269 and is renowned in our labor community as an outstanding leader.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his role within Local 269, Steve has been a strong supporter and constant advo-

cate of the Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and the Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade itself for many years. In fact, I have been walking right alongside him in the parade for quite some time now.

With his advocacy, he has helped grow the committee, and he has worked to make the parade grow each and every year, which it has. Because of Steve's outstanding work, he was selected to lead the parade this year as our grand marshal of the 35th Annual Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly grateful for Steve, for his family, and all he has done over the years, not just as a Local 269 leader, but for all the work he has done for the parade and for his friends, as well, both professionally and personally.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Steve great success in this year's parade. I won't be walking alongside him this year; I will be walking behind him. That is the way it should be.

I thank Steve for all his work for the Bucks County community and the parade committee, as well.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO THE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERRY). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act (Public Law 117-140), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Dr. Masum Momaya, Gilberts, Illinois

LAKEN RILEY ACT

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1052, I call up the bill (H.R. 7511) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1052, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:
H.R. 7511

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Laken Riley Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the Nation—

(1) mourns the devastating loss of Laken Riley and other victims of the Biden administration's open borders policies;

(2) honors the life and memory of Laken Riley and other victims of the Biden administration's open borders policies; and

(3) denounces the open-borders policies of President Joe Biden, "Border Czar" Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, and other Biden administration officials.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Biden administration should not have released Laken Riley's alleged murderer into the United States;

(2) the Biden administration should have arrested and detained Laken Riley's alleged murderer after he was charged with crimes in New York, New York, and Athens, Georgia;

(3) President Biden should publicly denounce his administration's immigration policies that resulted in the murder of Laken Riley; and

(4) President Biden should prevent another murder like that of Laken Riley by ending the catch-and-release of illegal aliens, increasing immigration enforcement, detaining and removing criminal aliens, reinstating the Remain in Mexico policy, ending his abuse of parole authority, and securing the United States borders.

SEC. 3. DETENTION OF CERTAIN ALIENS WHO COMMIT THEFT.

Section 236(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or";

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the comma at the end and inserting ", or"; and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E)(i) is inadmissible under paragraph (6)(A), (6)(C), or (7) of section 212(a), and

“(ii) is charged with, is arrested for, is convicted of, admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of any burglary, theft, larceny, or shoplifting offense.”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(E), the terms ‘burglary’, ‘theft’, ‘larceny’, and ‘shoplifting’ have the meaning given such terms in the jurisdiction where the acts occurred.

“(3) DETAINER.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall issue a detainer for an alien described in paragraph (1)(E) and, if the alien is not otherwise detained by Federal, State, or local officials, shall effectively and expeditiously take custody of the alien.”.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.

(a) INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.—Section 235(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the detention and removal requirements under paragraphs (1) or (2) that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of