

As a matter of fact, the number exceeds \$50 billion that I have supported to Israel.

Therefore, if we are going to say: We are going to send money to Ukraine and to Taiwan and to Israel, why can't we say: We want to send money to the people who are suffering this injustice, perpetrated by the Prime Minister of Israel, with dollars, tax dollars—tax dollars from American citizens and other persons in this country who pay taxes—sales taxes, gasoline taxes.

These tax dollars—these tax dollars—I know it makes you uncomfortable, and you ought to be uncomfortable. These tax dollars have created this circumstance.

Someone will say: Well, no, those tax dollars weren't used for that. They were used for other purposes. However, as my colleagues across the aisle like to remind me, there is something called fungibility.

□ 1200

These dollars are fungible. They make it possible if you have these dollars for one thing, then you can use your own dollars for other things.

Hamas was wrong. They shouldn't have done what they did. They ought to be punished for what they did. They are being punished for what they did, but it is wrong for Mr. Netanyahu to kill tens of thousands—babies, innocent men, women, and children, an injustice of horrific proportions.

Some would say: Well, why wouldn't you expect Israel to do what it is doing? After all, Hamas did a dastardly thing.

Well, I am one of those people who believes that Israel is special. I don't expect people who have suffered the Holocaust to impose this. I don't expect it. I expect them to understand that you don't do this. That is my expectation.

I believe that we have a duty to ourselves to speak truth not only to power but about power. It is easy to speak truth to power.

You say: Power, there is a problem. We need to solve it. It is difficult to say to power when you are speaking truth about it: Power, there is a problem, and you are it.

Mr. Netanyahu, Prime Minister, there is a problem, and you are it. You have got to stop killing these babies. Silence can help you collect your thoughts. Stop it. Now.

Lastly, I say in the name of mercy, I believe we must send tens of billions—not millions—of dollars in humanitarian aid to Palestine as our largesse to Israel has enabled the decimation of Gaza, as well as the estimated deaths of tens of thousands of innocent Palestinian men, women, and especially children.

Now, if you can live with yourself and the knowledge that tens of thousands of innocent people are being killed, allow me to live with myself believing that it is an injustice. It is an injustice to do what is being done in the name of justice.

I go on to close by saying in closing, I respectfully and kindly make this appeal in the name of justice and mercy for the thousands of innocent Palestinian men, women, and especially children who have been injured, killed, or had their homes destroyed with munitions bearing our fingerprints.

This is my letter that I have sent to the President of the United States. I signed it as a Member of Congress, as the progenitor of August 20 as Slavery Remembrance Day, as a scion of the enslaved Africans sacrificed to make America great.

I believe that the greatness of America will not be measured by the number of battleships that we have, the number of bombers, high-flying stealth technology.

It won't be measured by the number of billionaires we produce. The greatness of America won't be measured by how we treat people who live in the suites of life and places where all is well.

Dr. King mentioned to us—and I am paraphrasing—the truest measure of a person, and I would now add truest measure of a country, Dr. King, but he said: The truest measure of a person is not where you stand in times of comfort and convenience.

He didn't say what I am about to say now. When all is well with you, when you are the leading country in the world, when you have billionaires and persons of great opulence doing well, it won't be measured by where you stand in times of comfort.

The question that Dr. King mentions in his statement is: Where do you stand in times of challenge and controversy?

His statement was: The truest measure of a person is not where do you stand in times of comfort and convenience, but where do you stand in times of challenge and controversy?

In these times of challenge and controversy, the United States of America ought to stand for justice for all. That would include this baby.

The United States of America ought to stand for liberty for all—liberty and justice for all. That would include the Palestinian people.

The truest measure of a Nation is not about the height of our buildings, not about the billionaires, but about where we stand when we have the opportunity to stand for righteousness—not just justice by righteousness.

Here is our righteous call to the United States of America. This is it. Do not, do not, do not allow yourselves to succumb to the notion that the killing of these babies is a form of justice.

It was my honor to be present last night when the President delivered his State of the Union Address. He said many things, but I have spoken to you about the thing that was important today.

It doesn't mean that all of the other things that he said were not important. It does mean that I singled out something to talk about today, and I thank the President for what he said and for

his belief that a two-state solution is the means by which we can achieve the ultimate peace that we seek in the area that we call Palestine wherein Israel now exists. By the way, I have said Israel has the right to exist.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the time. I want to do what I customarily do when finish this, for those who are new to hearing AL GREEN speak and noticing.

I always go over and shake the Speaker's hand. There is something to be said when you express your appreciation. I shall do so.

I thank all of you for allowing me to share my thoughts with you. An injustice in the name of justice is still an injustice.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

RECOGNIZING MARCH 9 AS U.S. HOSTAGE AND WRONGFUL DETAINEE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the time.

As we witnessed President Biden's State of the Union speech last night in this historic House Chamber, the gallery was filled with families that are in mourning, Mr. Speaker.

They are in mourning because their loved ones are captive by a rogue terrorist group or by an authoritarian country or by a Nation not living up to the rule of law. Some 56 Americans, Mr. Speaker, are held wrongfully detained by another country or by a terror group.

This week, we had many of those families in the gallery last night. We had the parents of Evan Gershkovich, The Wall Street Journal reporter, held in Russia.

We had families whose loved ones are somewhere in Gaza, held by the terrorist group Hamas—Americans, and we don't know where they are or what their condition is.

In last year's defense authorization bill, Congresswoman HALEY STEVENS and I created a provision that was passed by this House and by the Senate and signed into law by President Biden that designates March 9, tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, as U.S. Hostage and Wrongful Detainee Day, so it is perfectly appropriate that last night in this gallery those families came.

Why March 9? The death of Bob Levinson, the longest held American held hostage abroad. This week, Congresswoman STEVENS and I met with the Foley Foundation and the McCain Institute who are working mightily with Members of Congress and with our diplomats to free those 56 Americans

identified as being held illegally and wrongfully abroad.

HALEY and I met with Sagui Dekel-Chen's family, one of the Hamas—I hope to say hostages, not a victim of Hamas.

We met with the family of Zack Shahin, held by the United Arab Emirates for the past 16 years. We met with the family of Kai Li, held in a Shanghai prison.

The countries that hold Americans wrongfully are many, and I think it is important that this House keep those families top of mind every day.

In my office, Mr. Speaker, I have a beautiful inlaid box from Syria, a custom in their country, and it is dedicated to Majd Kamalmaz, formerly a constituent of mine in Little Rock. His family now lives in north Texas. He is in Syria somewhere in one of Assad's jails.

Mr. Speaker, we need to constantly remember these families and America's obligation to not leave Americans held wrongfully detained abroad and reunite them with their family.

It is an obligation of our country, it is an obligation of this legislative branch, and we are committed to working with the administration to bring them home.

Mr. Speaker, there are Americans held in Iran. Iran is a country that Americans need to focus on because it is intricately related to everything that we see in our news.

The mullahs in Tehran are on the march against peace and prosperity in Europe, the United States, the Middle East, and across the globe.

Today, I want to put a human face on that march of terror and partnership in terror across the globe. I remember Sarina Esmailzadeh, who was wrongfully beaten to death by the Islamic Republic security forces in 2022.

Sarina was, Mr. Speaker, just 16 years old. Like young people all over the world, young people in our gallery today, young people listening in America today, Sarina was an avid social media user.

She began to upload vlogs of her volleyball, singing, and enjoying life. As she posted, she was seen breaking the rules set by the Iranian regime, including not wearing a hijab, singing, expression opinions openly as a woman.

Sarina said herself that she understood the stakes of posting these videos, but she did not let that scare her. What an inspiration to young people across the globe.

In one of her videos, she said: Why should my life be so different from teenagers in Berlin or New York, just because I was born in Iran?

□ 1215

And when referencing all that, it is banned for women but not for men in Iran.

In September of 2022, she took to the streets in Karaj, and alongside hundreds of others, protested the Iranian regime. During the protest she was

beaten to death by the Islamic Republic's security forces. All she wanted was to create an Iran that represented fully the Iranian people. Her dreams were to make the most of her life, but under the rule of the Iranian regime, this is impossible.

Iran is the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism, and their barbarism spreads across far from their borders, Mr. Speaker, and Americans witness it every day.

Iran has a stated purpose of wiping Israel off the map, destroying it as a country, wiping out the people. That is a stated goal of the nation of Iran led by the mullahs there. They are backing Hamas financially—Hamas—with training in Gaza on the attack. They back Hezbollah in southern Lebanon in their attacks on the northern part of Israel.

Iranian proxy forces, the Houthis, are disrupting global shipping in the Red Sea, affecting goods and supplies coming to Europe and coming to the U.S. The Houthis are disrupting that shipping.

Who backs them? Iran.

Who gives them targeting advice? Iran.

Who gives them the missiles to attack ships in open navigation? Iran.

Who is supplying the drones, Mr. Speaker, to Russia, to aid the invasion of Russia of its sovereign neighbor Ukraine, causing murder and mayhem daily across the nation of Ukraine; where is that munition coming from? Where are those drones coming from? Iran.

Who threatened to murder Americans like former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo here in the United States? Proxies of Iran.

The constant attacks on U.S. personnel and our allies in Iraq and Syria, who is making the attacks? Proxy militias from Iran.

All of this is culminating in their desire for a nuclear weapon to change the balance of power in the world.

Iran is behind all of this. Their brutality should not be tolerated by Western countries who believe in security in the region, and as my good friend from Texas (Mr. GREEN) just talked about, the basic human rights that we stand for in this country.

We must continue to press this regime further, not fund it as is the case with the Biden administration freeing up billions of dollars to Iran for their use. It isn't a peaceful use, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker.

We must continue to press the regime. Iran's reign of terror against its own citizens like Sarina, they are exporting that terror around the Middle East into the Red Sea. It is destabilizing and it is damaging to a peaceful future not only for prosperity in the Middle East but across the globe.

CONGRATULATING BUCK LAYNE'S RETIREMENT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Buck Layne, a good friend, on his retirement from the Searcy, Arkansas, Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Buck joined the chamber in February of 1991 after applying for an executive vice-president position. He then went on to give 33 years of dedicated service and hard work for the betterment of the Searcy community, serving as president and CEO of the chamber most recently.

During his time with the chamber, Buck has made impressive strides to build an economic development strategy and produce new jobs and careers for all the citizens of Searcy in White County.

From expanding existing companies in the city to bringing new ones, Buck had significant accomplishments.

I congratulate him for his outstanding work in Searcy. I thank him for our years of collaboration, and I wish him the best in his retirement.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BOB BROOKS

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Arkansas Chief Deputy Attorney General Bob Brooks. Bob passed away suddenly after a brief illness on February 11.

Bob was beloved by Democrats and Republicans, old and young, in Arkansas. He was a graduate of the University of Arkansas and the University of Tulsa College of Law. He served as chief of staff for longtime Arkansas Congressman Jay Dickey, and he led in our State as Governor Huckabee's director of the Arkansas Ethics Commission.

Most recently, he served Tim Griffin as Arkansas' Chief Deputy Attorney General. He loved his job so much, and it was always hard, Attorney General Griffin tells me, to get him to go home each night as the office closed.

Bob was a dedicated public servant who represented all that is good in Arkansas through his professionalism, his wit, and his great sense of humor.

I remember Bob for his selfless commitment to public service, his long desire to get back to Arkansas to be in a dream job, and I thank him and his memory for our warm two decades of friendship.

Martha and I are praying for his friends, his family, and his loved ones during this difficult time. Bob will be missed dearly by many.

CONGRATULATING DANIELLE ZIEMBA

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senior Airman Danielle Ziemba.

Danielle was recently announced as a recipient of the Air Force's 2023 GEICO Military Service Award.

This annual award is given to one enlisted member from each of the six service branches and the National Guard for their achievements and contributions to the men and women they serve with.

Danielle did an outstanding job in her training. She deserves this award. It is a great recognition of her commitment to the Air Force and to her fellow airmen and airwomen, and I congratulate her on this important accomplishment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 11, 2024, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3333. A letter from the Director, Rule-making Operation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard; Final Listing of 2020 Light Duty Truck Lines Subject to the Requirements of This Standard and Exempted Vehicle Lines for Model Year 2020 [Docket No.: NHTSA-2022-0012] (RIN: 2127-AM41) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3334. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Requirements for Polymer Exemption Reports and Accompanying Claims; Extension of the Reporting Deadline for 2024 [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2021-0419; FRL-11729-01-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AK68) received February 15, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3335. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; MO; Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Control of Emissions From Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills [EPA-R07-OAR-2023-0199; FRL-10830-03-R7] received February 15, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3336. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 31530; Amdt. No. 4099] February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3337. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1649; Project Identifier AD-2022-00905-T; Amendment 39-22667; AD 2024-02-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3338. A letter from the Director, Rule-making Operations, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Uniform Procedures for State Highway Safety Grant Programs [Docket No.: NHTSA-2022-0036] (RIN: 2127-AM45) received February 28, 2024, pursuant to

5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3339. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0933; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00554-T; Amendment 39-22666; AD 2024-02-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3340. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2145; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00358-T; Amendment 39-22660; AD 2024-01-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3341. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2136; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00759-T; Amendment 39-22659; AD 2024-01-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3342. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0039; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00966-R; Amendment 39-22665; AD 2024-02-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3343. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0224; Project Identifier AD-2024-00055-T; Amendment 39-22673; AD 2024-03-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3344. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hélicoptères Guimbal Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0037; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00027-R; Amendment 39-22664; AD 2024-01-52] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3345. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1219; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00004-T; Amendment 39-22651; AD 2023-26-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3346. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Removal of Class E Airspace;

Jupiter, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1587; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASO-29] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3347. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Ozark, AL and Columbus, GA [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0197; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ASO-04] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H.R. 7589. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. MOOLENAAR):

H.R. 7590. A bill to impose certain conditions on the issuance of diplomatic and student visas to nationals of certain covered nations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 7591. A bill to establish the National Patient Safety Board; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mr. CAREY, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 7592. A bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mr. CAREY, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 7593. A bill to enhance the authority of the Director of the Congressional Research Service to obtain information directly from agencies of the Federal government; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. BOEBERT (for herself, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. OGLES, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. BANKS):

H.R. 7594. A bill to enact into law certain executive orders related to immigration and border security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Armed Services, Oversight and Accountability, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 7595. A bill to amend the Tennessee Valley Authority Act to provide for further