

Palestine, but, more importantly, the cancer clusters in Fifth Ward, Texas, in Kashmere Gardens and Settegast in the northeast part.

The legislation, H.R. 7023, Creating Confidence in Clean Water Permitting Act, does the complete opposite by limiting the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate the discharge of pollutants into the United States' waters. Those waters then trickle into the soil.

That is what happened in Kashmere Gardens in Fifth Ward, where water pollution trickled into the soil and created cancer clusters in our neighborhoods. This area has the highest number of cancer clusters and cancer victims in the State and maybe the Nation.

I am trying to fight it. I have put in an amendment that will require the Administrator to submit a report to Congress.

I will not stop until we end the cancer clusters and stop the polluters that are over the people of this Nation. I will continue to fight.

---

#### ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-95)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Joint Economic Committee and ordered to be printed:

#### ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

*To the Congress of the United States:*

When I was elected President, a pandemic was raging and our economy was reeling, and trickle-down economics had undermined our nation's growth long-term. I was determined to rebuild from the middle out and bottom up, not the top down, because when the middle class does well, we all do well. We can give everyone a fair shot and leave no one behind. Our plan has brought transformational progress.

In the near term, my Administration moved quickly to help hard-working families and businesses make it through the pandemic, with a historic rescue plan that vaccinated the nation, delivered immediate economic relief to people in need, and sent funding to states and cities to keep essential services going. We worked with the private sector and labor unions to ease bottlenecks and shortages in our supply chains, getting goods flowing again and making our economy more resilient for the future. Today, America is in the midst of the strongest recovery of any advanced economy in the world.

Along the way, we've achieved one of the most successful legislative records in generations, bringing new opportunities to communities of all sizes nationwide. We're tackling years of

underinvestment in public infrastructure, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing, making sure the future is made in America by American workers. We're making the biggest investment in American infrastructure in generations, including over \$400 billion for 46,000 projects in 4,500 communities to date. These projects are rebuilding the nation's roads, bridges, railroads, ports, airports, public transit, water systems, high-speed internet, and more, in every part of the country. We're also making the most significant investment in fighting climate change in history—advancing breakthroughs in clean technology, boosting energy independence, lowering electricity costs for hardworking families, and revitalizing fence-line communities smothered by a legacy of pollution. At the same time, we're working with the private sector to strengthen America's semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries as well, empowering workers and small businesses to share in the benefits.

Already, my Investing in America agenda has attracted \$650 billion in private investment from companies that are building factories here in America. We've ignited a manufacturing boom, a semiconductor boom, a battery boom, an electric-vehicle boom, and more. My agenda is creating hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs, so folks never have to leave their hometowns to find work they can raise a family on. Today, America once again has the strongest economy in the world. A record 15 million jobs have been created on my watch, giving 15 million more Americans the dignity and peace of mind that comes with a steady paycheck. The unemployment rate has been below 4 percent for the longest stretch in over 50 years, and we've seen the lowest unemployment rate for Black Americans on record. Economic growth is strong. Wages are rising faster than prices. Inflation is down by two-thirds. We have more to do, but folks are starting to feel the results. Real income and household wealth are higher now than they were before the pandemic, and consumer sentiment has surged more in recent months than any time in decades. Americans have filed a record 16 million new business applications since I took office, and each one of them is an act of hope.

Importantly, we're paying for many of these historic investments by making our tax system fairer. We've cut the deficit by \$1 trillion since I took office, one of the biggest reductions in history, and I've signed legislation to cut it by \$1 trillion more over the next 10 years, in part by raising the corporate minimum tax to 15 percent and making the wealthy and big corporations start paying their fair share.

It's clear that we're making tremendous progress for the American people, but we have more to do to finish the job. My Administration is going to keep fighting to lower costs for hardworking families, on everything from

prescription drugs, to housing, childcare, and student loans. Folks in Washington have tried to reduce prescription drug costs for decades; our historic Inflation Reduction Act is getting it done. It for example caps the cost of insulin for seniors at \$35 a month, down from as much as \$400; and starting next year, no senior on Medicare will pay more than \$2,000 a year in total out-of-pocket drug costs, even for expensive medications that can cost many times more. It also protects and expands the Affordable Care Act; as a result, more Americans have health insurance today than ever.

We're also making real gains in expanding access to housing: More families own homes today than did before the pandemic, rents are easing, and a record of around 1.7 million housing units are under construction nationwide. We'll keep working to lower housing costs and boost supply, by expanding rental assistance; speeding builders' access to federal financing to build more affordable homes; and reducing mortgage payments for first-time homebuyers. Meanwhile, we're standing up for workers and consumers, and cracking down on unfair hidden "junk fees" that companies like airlines, banks, and insurers slip onto people's bills.

At the same time, we're working to get every child in America the strong start they need to thrive. The American Rescue Plan expanded the Child Tax Credit, cutting child poverty nearly in half in 2021. We'll keep fighting to restore it, and to guarantee the vast majority of American families access to high-quality childcare for no more than \$10 a day. Our rescue plan also made the biggest investment in public education in American history; today, we're pushing to further boost funding to schools in need, to expand tutoring and afterschool programs, and to ease teacher shortages. I'm keeping my promise to ease the crushing burden of student debt as well. Despite legal challenges, we've canceled \$138 billion in student loans for nearly 3.9 million Americans, including more than 750,000 teachers, nurses, firefighters, social workers, and other public servants. Such widespread debt cancellation is freeing people to finally consider buying a home, having a child, or starting the small business they always dreamed of. In all, our agenda is making the promise of America real for many millions more Americans than ever before.

The story of America is one of progress and resilience, of always moving forward and never giving up. It is a story unique among nations—we are the only country that has emerged from every crisis stronger than we went in. That is what's happening across America today. There is still work to do, but I've never been more optimistic about our future. We are the United States of America, and there is

nothing beyond our capacity when we do it together.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 21, 2024.

□ 1745

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
Washington, DC, March 21, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 4(b) of House Resolution 917, I write to inform you and the House of Representatives that today the Committee on the Judiciary commenced litigation against Department of Justice employees Mark Daly and Jack Morgan to enforce duly authorized, issued, and served Congressional subpoenas. The Committee initiated a civil action, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. House of Representatives v. Daly, No. 1:24-cv-00815 filed in the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia on March 21, 2024.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,  
*Chairman.*

SWAMP BUS PART 2: MORE  
ILLEGALS, LESS FREEDOM

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I come here to the floor recognizing the state of affairs that we find ourselves in, given the extent to which the President of the United States and his radical progressive Democrat allies on the other side of the aisle here and in the Senate, are continuing an assault on the well-being of the American people with open borders, with inflationary spending, with radical environmental agenda policies that are regulating the economy to death, driving up the cost of goods sold, and overall diminishing America and the world. There is no other way to view it than intentional.

That kind of an assault on the well-being of the American people ought to be and deserves to be met with the kind of resistance that the American people who sent us here to represent them expect.

The American people, who sent at least Republicans here to be in the majority to stand athwart the radical policies of the Biden administration, supported by our radical progressive Democrats here in this House and in the Senate, they sent us here to stand athwart those policies. Therefore, it is our duty, it is incumbent upon us to actually do so.

Last year, when given the majority, a number of us set out to change the way the House of Representatives works, or should I say, was not working.

We set out to make sure that bills could be read, that you have 72 hours to review a bill.

We set out to ensure that you would have adequate and varied representation on the various committees.

We set out to ensure that there would be a process by which we could move appropriations bills out of committee on to the floor, from the floor to the Senate, so that we could pass individual bills, try to restore what we might call regular order.

We set out to do that last year. We passed seven appropriations bills out of the House, three more from the committees down to the floor, two others were ready to go. We passed H.R. 2, the strongest border security bill that has ever been moved off of the House floor. We passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act, which would elevate the debt responsibly while making policy changes to try to drive down the amount of debt that we are racking up on a daily and weekly basis.

Those are the things we are able to accomplish as Republicans when we were honoring the commitments that we made to our constituents, and we were not hiding.

Unfortunately, today, Republicans are hiding. They are hiding behind the fear of a so-called shutdown and hiding behind the so-called razor thin majority to pass a massive omnibus spending bill—the second part of a two-part omnibus spending bill that blows past the spending caps passed on a bipartisan basis, increases the spending over the very levels perpetuated by NANCY PELOSI that virtually every Republican in this Chamber opposed not 15 months ago.

They are about to pass legislation that will blow past those caps and spend more money, and they are going to do so knowing full well that we are not achieving the vast majority—barely any—of the policy changes that we fought for all last year in the appropriations process. That is the actual truth.

We are going to abandon the efforts that we set out to change this Chamber last year, and we are doing it violently.

We got a bill this morning that is over 1,000 pages long, \$1.2 trillion, and we are expected to pore over it in 1 day, in 24 hours. We are still uncovering ridiculous uses of taxpayer funds. The American people are about to learn what some of those are.

Not only are we abandoning what we accomplished last year to try to take the House back, make the House work again, but we are abandoning the people of this country, the hardworking American people, right now, today, who are looking at their Congress and saying: What are you doing?

The hardworking Americans who sent us here are seeing their country being taken away from them right before their very eyes and seeing their way of life being eviscerated.

This isn't about holding on to power. We are not sent here to accumulate

power. We are not sent here to run for re-election. We are sent here to do something. We are sent here to fight for the people who sent us here.

What we are doing right now is looking at a country that we love, a country that is being destroyed, throwing up our hands as Republicans, and saying that apparently it is just not worth the fight because we might have a poll that looks bad because of a shut down. That is what we are telling the American people.

Instead of using the power of the purse, the power of the purse to force change as was stated by James Madison in Federalist Paper 58: "The House of Representatives cannot only refuse, but they alone can propose the supplies requisite for the support of government. They, in a word, hold the purse, that powerful instrument . . . all the overgrown prerogatives of the other branches of government. This power over the purse may, in fact, be regarded as the most complete and effectual weapon with which any Constitution can arm the immediate representatives of the people, for obtaining a redress of every grievance, and for carrying into effect every just and salutary measure."

Those were the words of James Madison, the father of the United States Constitution. When he was arguing for the adoption of the Constitution, he was saying that this body, the one that I am standing in right now, the House of Representatives through the power of the purse is the only body in the world that can restrain the power of the executive branch, the President of the United States. We, this body, in concert with the Senate, of course, hold the power to check an out-of-control President.

Are the President of the United States and the people who work for him in this administration out of control? Yes.

How do we know this? Because the President of the United States goes to the microphone and says he is going to ignore the United States Supreme Court when the Supreme Court says you cannot do what you are doing, it is against the law, with respect to student loan bailouts.

The President of the United States is ignoring his duty and his oath of the Constitution to defend the border of the United States, using policies meant for very narrow exceptions for asylum and parole to blow open the border and endanger the American people.

That is tyrannical activity, an abuse of power endangering the people that we represent. That is what is happening. That is what the President is doing.

A President who has abused his power at the FBI and in the intelligence agencies. That is what is happening, and what is the response from Republicans? Crickets. It is beyond a whimper because they are afraid that someone might cry shut down. They are afraid that they might lose their