

Secretary Mayorkas isn't performing his job? They're not showing up to do their job at the negotiating table.

Instead, dressed in polos and perfectly creased khakis, MAGA Republicans fly down to Texas for photo ops while the real work of legislating remains undone—hamstrung by the endless drama within the House Republican Conference.

The talented, hard-working agents and officers of Customs and Border Protection don't need more political photo ops or baseless impeachments or symbolic resolutions. They need resources.

House Republicans would rather shut down the government than give those with their boots on the ground what they need to get their job done.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on H. Res. 957 and reject extreme MAGA Republicans' empty gestures and false campaign rhetoric.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I share my Republican colleagues' strong support of H. Res. 957, to hold the Biden Administration accountable for their shameful and disastrous handling of our Nation's southern border. Every day, this Administration's open border policies are allowing illegal immigrants and drugs, including fentanyl, to pour into our country's communities—including many in Kentucky's 5th Congressional District. It must be stopped.

The President has outright refused to enforce the law, and Americans are suffering for it. Data has shown that drug seizures at the U.S.-Mexico border increased by over 58 percent from 2022–2023, not to mention the drugs and fentanyl that are going around our ports of entry. In 2022, fentanyl killed over 70,000 people and accounted for over 50 percent of all overdose deaths, which are only increasing because of this crisis.

I urge my colleague to stand together to condemn this Administration's shameful treatment of our southernmost border by passing this resolution.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H. Res. 957. We have all seen what is unfolding on our southern border, and the humanitarian and security issues it raises. The complex problems facing our immigration system need comprehensive reform, not more rhetoric and demonization of immigrants.

But rather than working toward real solutions, this week House Republicans are bringing to the floor a partisan resolution condemning the Biden Administration over its supposed “open border policy.” Mr. Speaker, there is no “open border.” The Biden Administration has worked from its first day to ensure that everyone who arrives to the United States is treated fairly and humanely, while navigating within an outdated and broken immigration system. Congress has failed to pass any meaningful efforts to fix it for three decades.

The fact remains, the United States needs comprehensive immigration reform. Reform that is compassionate, fair, and at times firm. For years, businesses, law enforcement, and faith groups have reiterated the harms of the current immigration system. We do not need more resolutions that do nothing but parrot partisan talking points.

This Congress, Republicans have demonstrated no willingness to engage in finding solutions. In fact, instead of working toward

solutions, House Republicans are making the problem worse. The Biden Administration requested additional resources for the border in October of last year, including an additional 1,300 border patrol agents and 375 immigration judges, but Republicans refuse to allow a vote.

And just today, Speaker JOHNSON was quoted saying “I don't think now is the time for comprehensive immigration reform.”

If now is not the time for action, when is? If, as this resolution claims, we are in “the midst of the worst border security crisis in the Nation's history,” why is this not the time to discuss solutions? Republicans must stop using the immigration system as a political talking point and an election ploy. Congress must immediately take meaningful action to reform a broken immigration system.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 969, the previous question is ordered on the resolution and the preamble.

The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### RECRUITING FAMILIES USING DATA ACT OF 2023

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3058) to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to improve foster and adoptive parent recruitment and retention, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3058

*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 “Recruiting Families Using Data Act of 2023”.*

#### SEC. 2. STATE PLAN AMENDMENT.

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 422 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 622) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (b)(7), by inserting “through the development and implementation of a family partnership plan which meets the requirements of subsection (d) for identification, recruitment, screening, licensing, support, and retention of*

*foster and adoptive families” after “are needed”; and*

*(2) by adding at the end the following:*

*“(d) FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—For purposes of subsection (b)(7), the requirements for a family partnership plan (in this subsection referred to as the ‘plan’) are the following:*

*“(1) The plan is developed in consultation with birth, kinship, foster and adoptive families, community-based service providers, technical assistance providers, and youth with lived experience with foster care and adoption.*

*“(2) The plan describes—*

*“(A) how the State plans to identify, notify, engage, and support relatives (and others connected to the child) as potential placement resources for children;*

*“(B) how the State plans to develop and implement child-specific recruitment plans for every child in or entering foster care who needs a foster or adoptive family;*

*“(C) how the State plans to authentically engage children and youth in recruitment efforts on their behalf;*

*“(D) how the State plans to use data to establish goals, assess needs, measure progress, reduce unnecessary placements in congregate care, increase permanency, improve placement stability, increase the rate of kinship placements, improve recruitment and retention of families for teens, sibling groups, and other special populations, and align the composition of foster and adoptive families with the needs of children in or entering foster care; and*

*“(E) how the State will stand up or support foster family advisory boards for the purpose of improving recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive families.*

*“(3) The plan provides that, not less than annually, the State shall collect and report on the State's actual foster family capacity and congregate care utilization, including the number, demographics, and characteristics of licensed foster families, including prospective adoptive families, the number of such families that haven't received a placement or are not being fully utilized and the reasons therefor, and the number, demographics, and characteristics of children placed in congregate care in-State and out-of-State.*

*“(4) The plan includes, and shall update not less than annually, a summary of the most recent feedback from foster and adoptive parents and youth regarding licensure, training, support, and reasons why parents stop fostering or why adoptive or legal guardianship placements out of foster care fail or foster and such adoptive or legal guardianship families struggle to meet children's needs.*

*“(5) The plan includes, and shall update annually, a report on the State's analysis of specific challenges or barriers to recruiting, licensing, and utilizing families who reflect the racial and ethnic background of children in foster care in the State, and the State's efforts to overcome those challenges and barriers.*

*“(6) The plan includes such other information relating to foster and adoptive parent recruitment and retention as the Secretary may require.”.*

*(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by this subsection shall take effect on October 1, 2024.*

*(2) DELAY PERMITTED IF STATE LEGISLATION REQUIRED.—In the case of a State plan approved under subpart 1 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act which the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines requires State legislation (other than legislation appropriating funds) in order for the plan to meet the additional requirements imposed by this subsection, the State plan shall not be regarded as failing to comply with the requirements of such part solely on the basis of the failure of the plan to meet such additional requirements before the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning after*

the close of the first regular session of the State legislature that begins after the date of enactment of this subsection. For purposes of the previous sentence, in the case of a State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year of such session shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of the State legislature.

**SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES IN ANNUAL CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

Section 479A(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 679b(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6)(C), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (7)(B), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) include in the report submitted pursuant to paragraph (5) for fiscal year 2025 or any succeeding fiscal year—

“(A) State-by-State data on the number, demographics, and characteristics of foster and adoptive families in the State, and the number of potential foster and adoptive families not being utilized in the State and the reasons why;

“(B) a summary of the challenges of, and barriers to, being a foster or adoptive parent, including with respect to recruitment, licensure, engagement, retention, and why parents stop fostering, adoptions disrupt or dissolve, or foster or adoptive families struggle, as reported by States based on surveys of foster and adoptive parents; and

“(C) a summary of the challenges and barriers States reported on efforts to recruit a pool of families that reflect the racial and ethnic background of children in foster care in the State, and efforts to overcome those barriers.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3058, the Recruiting Families Using Data Act of 2023, supports States in addressing the nationwide shortage of foster homes.

In the United States of America, every child deserves a home. Unfortunately, our Nation's foster care system is facing enormous challenges, with a record number of children sleeping in social workers' offices, hotels, and hospitals because they have nowhere else to go.

Iowa lost more than 200 licensed foster care homes since 2019. Washington, D.C., lost nearly half of their foster homes since 2019. States like South Carolina have seen a 60 percent decline.

These foster homes are essential to providing vulnerable children with safe, loving homes, and we have to stop this dramatic decline.

We need to make it easier to find families who are willing and able to

foster children and those generous families who choose to foster to continue.

Unfortunately, the ability for States and nonprofits to respond to the challenges is limited by the shortage of information. We need to know why foster families quit fostering if we are going to make it easier to recruit and retain them. We need to be able to evaluate what the needs of foster families and their children are so that States can set goals for improvement and be able to evaluate whether they are making progress in meeting those goals.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the steps this bill takes to modernize child welfare by taking advantage of data to support States in their recruitment and retention of foster parents so children can be cared for in safe and loving homes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, and I give a special thanks and shout-out to Representative KILDEE for his leadership on this bill and for the committee's work to strengthen the child welfare system.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me start by thanking my colleague and friend, Mr. FEENSTRA, for his work on this legislation. I think we have proven once again that while we do have our divisions in this body and some divisions in this country, there are certain issues that bring us together across party lines and across different aspects of our society.

Mr. FEENSTRA and I, I think, proved that with our work on this legislation, along with other Members who have joined together to put this really important act together to help foster youth have a better path forward in life.

This legislation, as Mr. FEENSTRA said, is a commonsense approach to solving one of the problems that we see in the foster care system. It will improve the recruitment and retention of foster families so that we can get more kids into safe and loving homes.

Across the country, there is a severe shortage of foster parents, and retention of foster families, of foster parents, is a big part of the problem. Most foster parents stop fostering after just 1 year, and many stop fostering after their very first or second foster placement.

Under current law, States have the responsibility to develop plans, known as diligent recruitment plans, outlining the actions they will take to ensure that every kid in their care is connected to a family that meets their particular needs. However, a recent review conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows that these plans need significant reform and improvement.

States rarely use data to inform recruitment and retention strategies, and often, they fail to engage foster

parents or foster youth, the people who understand the system better than anyone, in developing those plans.

What this means is that States continue to have difficulty finding and keeping foster parents, which has devastating impacts for those foster kids.

The most recent Federal review of Michigan's foster care system cites countless reports of children sleeping in offices or hotels for weeks and months as they await placement in a foster home.

Our social workers are doing the best they can, stepping up to take care of these children when they don't have anyone else, but that is not the kind of home that any child deserves.

As we continue to grapple with this severe shortage of foster homes, we are also seeing a growing number of foster parents drop out of the system because they just aren't getting the support that they need.

In 2023, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services reported that close to one-third of foster parents terminate their foster care licenses each year. This, of course, only puts more stress on a system that desperately needs more safe and loving homes.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation, the Recruiting Families Using Data Act, is the first step toward addressing this crisis. To help States better meet the needs of foster children in their care, the bill would replace the outdated diligent recruitment plans with family partnership plans that are developed in consultation with foster youth and their families; support foster family advisory boards, which give foster parents a voice in the policy development process; and, as the title of the bill suggests, use data to establish recruitment and retention goals and measure progress toward those goals.

This is a subject that is close to me. In my original career for almost a decade, I was a social worker working in this field. In fact, I was working in a residential agency for the most at-risk kids in our population, neglected and abused kids. So I know, from my own personal experience, the weaknesses in the system, and I know that fixing the system will require the expertise of the people who know it best.

The foster care system is known best by the people who are part of it, the families and the youth who have gone through it. By giving people a voice and using data that we derive from them and their experiences, we will find better ways to recruit and find retention strategies that really work.

While it doesn't solve the entire problem, this bill would make a significant improvement to the foster care system not just in my home State but all across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK).

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3058, the Recruiting Families Using Data Act, introduced by Representative DAN KILDEE from the great State of Michigan.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation because we know all too well that protecting America's foster children starts by recruiting and retaining the best foster families to provide safe and loving homes.

□ 1515

Mr. Speaker, I am a strong believer that we measure what we value. This bill takes a critical step to help States better meet the needs of the foster children in their care by replacing antiquated tactics with improved Family Partnership Plans to collect and utilize data to establish recruitment and retention goals while simultaneously tracking progress toward reaching these goals.

Even with the limited data that currently exists, we know that there is a severe shortage of foster parents across our country due to a lack of retention. By measuring what we value, we can better understand the root causes of low retention and help those willing to open their homes to those who need it the most.

We must never waver as a Congress and as a country to ensure America's foster families have what they need to keep our children safe and loved.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

I thank my colleague, Mr. FEENSTRA, for his work on this, as well as all my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee and throughout Congress for supporting this legislation.

As I said, there is much we need to do to improve the foster care system, to recognize the needs of foster youth, to make sure that they have a safe and loving home, to put them on a path to be the best versions of themselves. This is a step in that direction. I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Every year, thousands of families welcome foster children into their homes. Children in foster care need permanent, loving homes. Sadly, our Nation is facing a shortage of available foster homes, and children are left sleeping in hotels and hospitals and social workers' offices because they have nowhere else to go. These children need foster parents, and we need to show compassion and care for them as they face the trauma and hardship of being removed from their homes. We must do more to ensure that all children in foster care have safe and available placements.

This bill is so important that it has to get passed. I thank, again, Congressman KILDEE for all his work and sup-

port for this legislation. I also appreciate the comments that he just made. I truly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3058, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5862; and

Adoption of H. Res. 957.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

## AUTHORITY OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TO CONSOLIDATE, MODIFY, OR REORGANIZE CUSTOMS REVENUE FUNCTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5862) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 relating to authority of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to consolidate, modify, or reorga-

nize Customs revenue functions, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 9, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 12]

YEAS—403

Adams	Cuellar	Hern
Aderholt	Curtis	Higgins (LA)
Aguilar	D'Esposito	Higgins (NY)
Alford	Davids (KS)	Hill
Allen	Davidson	Hinson
Allred	Davis (IL)	Horsford
Amo	Davis (NC)	Houchin
Amodei	De La Cruz	Houlihan
Armstrong	Dean (PA)	Hoyer
Arrington	DeGette	Hoyle (OR)
Auchincloss	DelBene	Hudson
Babin	Deluzio	Huffman
Baird	DeSaulnier	Huizenga
Balderson	Diaz-Balart	Hunt
Balint	Dingell	Issa
Banks	Doggett	Ivey
Barr	Donalds	Jackson (IL)
Barragán	Duarte	Jackson (NC)
Bean (FL)	Duncan	Jackson Lee
Beatty	Dunn (FL)	Jacobs
Bentz	Edwards	James
Bera	Ellzey	Jayapal
Bergman	Emmer	Jeffries
Beyer	Escobar	Johnson (GA)
Bice	Eshoo	Johnson (OH)
Biggs	Espallat	Johnson (SD)
Bilirakis	Estes	Jordan
Bishop (GA)	Evans	Joyce (OH)
Bishop (NC)	Ezell	Joyce (PA)
Blumenauer	Fallon	Kamlager-Dove
Boebert	Feenstra	Kaptur
Bonamici	Ferguson	Kean (NJ)
Bost	Finstad	Keating
Bowman	Fischbach	Kelly (IL)
Boyle (PA)	Fitzgerald	Kelly (MS)
Brown	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (PA)
Buchanan	Fleischmann	Khanna
Buck	Fletcher	Kiggans (VA)
Bucshon	Flood	Kildee
Budzinski	Foster	Kiley
Burchett	Foushee	Kilmer
Burgess	Foxo	Kim (CA)
Bush	Frankel, Lois	Kim (NJ)
Calvert	Franklin, Scott	Krishnamoorthi
Cammack	Frost	Kuster
Caraveo	Fry	Kustoff
Carbajal	Fulcher	LaHood
Cárdenas	Gallagher	LaLota
Carey	Gallego	LaMalfa
Carl	Garamendi	Lamborn
Carson	Garbarino	Landsman
Carter (GA)	Garcia (IL)	Langworthy
Carter (LA)	Garcia (TX)	Larsen (WA)
Carter (TX)	Garcia, Robert	Larson (CT)
Cartwright	Jimenez	Latta
Casar	Golden (ME)	LaTurner
Case	Goldman (NY)	Lawler
Casten	Gomez	Lee (CA)
Castor (FL)	Gonzales, Tony	Lee (FL)
Castro (TX)	Gonzalez,	Lee (NV)
Chavez-DeRemer	Vicente	Lee (PA)
Cherfilus-	Good (VA)	Leger Fernandez
McCormick	Gooden (TX)	Lesko
Chu	Gosar	Letlow
Ciscomani	Gottheimer	Levin
Clark (MA)	Granger	Lieu
Clarke (NY)	Graves (LA)	Lofgren
Cline	Graves (MO)	Loudermilk
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Lucas
Cohen	Green, Al (TX)	Luetkemeyer
Cole	Greene (GA)	Luna
Collins	Griffith	Luttrell
Comer	Grijalva	Lynch
Connolly	Grothman	Mace
Correa	Guest	Magaziner
Courtney	Guthrie	Malliotakis
Craig	Hageman	Maloy
Crawford	Harder (CA)	Mann
Crenshaw	Harris	Manning
Crockett	Harshbarger	Mast
Crow	Hayes	Matsui