

Promises made, promised delivered. I thank President Biden.

TRAGEDY IN CHARLOTTE

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

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, in the face of tragedy, we often find ourselves angry and disillusioned, but Madam Speaker, I rise today because I am thankful.

I am thankful for the strength of the Charlotte community, I am thankful for the law enforcement personnel that put their lives on the line each and every day to protect us, and I am thankful for the four officers that made the ultimate sacrifice in Charlotte this past Monday.

Thomas "Tommy" Weeks, was a 13-year veteran of the U.S. marshals, a husband and dedicated father of four children.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Officer Joshua Eyer, was a 6-year veteran of the Department who was recently named Employee of the Month. Joshua leaves behind his wife, Ashley, and their beautiful 3-year-old son.

Department of Adult Correction Officers Sam Poloche and Alden Elliott, were both 14-year veterans of the Department.

Officer Poloche was known for being active in his community, a loving husband, and a devoted father to his two sons who are set to graduate from high school and college in just a few weeks.

Officer Elliott also leaves behind a loving wife and one child.

As we mourn these four men and pray for the speedy recovery of the four other officers who were injured, let us never forget to be thankful for the heroes that walk among us and to the families and colleagues these men leave behind.

Your community is with you. We are here for you, and we are lifting you up in prayer. The days and weeks ahead will be difficult, but together, we will persevere because we are Charlotte Strong.

May the memories of these officers be the light that guides us forward and provides comfort to those who are mourning.

WE ARE BETTER THAN THIS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I wish there were many, many minutes, but let me take this 1 minute to say to the American people: We are better than this, and to offer to all of those who are in pain, those who feel that they are not respected, who have come from the Mideast and believe that people do not respect them, yes, you are. This is America. We believe in free speech, free expression.

For those who are Palestinian, we respect your view, we respect the view of those who are from Israel, and we must show that as we go home to honor our communities. We must show that.

We must also stop anti-Semitism and show who we are. If we show them who we are, that is who we are. We must show that freedom of religion counts in America, freedom of religion, freedom of speech.

Yes, we must honor those law enforcement officers who have fallen in the line of duty. This week they have died. We want them to know that they will not be forgotten.

I stand here today as I started, Madam Speaker, by saying: We are better than this. We are Americans. We will always fight for freedom.

We will always fight for your freedom. We will always fight for your ability to say that, and I will leave this floor right now to say that speech and those words are important, Madam Speaker.

DESIGNATION OF JILL BAISINGER AS ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-134)

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 Committee on Oversight and Accountability and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

This is to advise that I am exercising my authority to designate an Acting Inspector General of the Department of Commerce. I have directed that Jill Baisinger, who is currently serving as the Chief of Staff in the Office of Inspector General at the Department of the Interior, shall serve concurrently as Acting Inspector General of the Department of Commerce, effective 30 days from today.

In January, the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce resigned and the Deputy Inspector General began performing the functions and duties of the Inspector General in an acting capacity.

I have determined that during this period of transition, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) at the Department of Commerce would benefit from leadership brought in from outside of the office. In a letter to the President dated March 18, 2024, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (Committee) stated that they had reached the same conclusion after a 10-month investigation. The attached letter from Counsel to the President Ed Siskel, which I have incorporated here by reference, provides additional details regarding the Committee's investigation.

Jill Baisinger is well positioned to provide independent and strong leader-

ship to the OIG at the Department of Commerce. She has an exemplary track record in the Office of Inspector General at the Department of the Interior and previously at the Office of Inspector General at the Department of State. Her leadership experience, deep understanding of the mission of Inspectors General, and expertise in oversight and investigations will help the OIG perform its vital role for the Department of Commerce.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 1, 2024.

IMPORTANT ISSUES

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, this is an important week in the House of Representatives as we discuss several issues important to Americans across the country, from standing up for Jewish students in the midst of dangerous anti-Semitic rhetoric and demonstrations being tolerated at universities across the country to denouncing the Biden administration for their mishandling of the crisis at our southern border.

It was also Lands Week this week, and House Republicans proudly championed and passed legislation that will unleash American energy, promote outdoor access, and support local communities.

In my home State of Utah, we are deeply concerned about the Biden administration's Federal land overreach that is stifling economic growth, national security, and recreation opportunities.

I thank my colleague for joining me this evening, on a fly-out day, no less.

I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN).

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, my friend, for having this Special Order tonight to once again highlight the failures of the Biden administration on our southern border.

Since President Biden's first day in office, he has failed our Nation by refusing to secure the southern border.

During his first year, President Biden reversed several of President Trump's policies that were effective in addressing illegal immigration.

President Biden stopped construction of the border wall, even though it was already funded. Instead, he paid contractors \$6 million a day while he studied the border.

President Biden ended President Trump's remain in Mexico policy before the Supreme Court forced him to reinforce it.

President Biden came into office hyperfixated on implementing radical policies to appease progressive activists, and in turn, he has left our southern border wide open.

Since he was sworn in, there have been more than 9.2 million illegal immigrant encounters across the country, nearly three times the population of my home State of Kansas.

More than 1.8 million of those illegal immigrants have evaded the U.S. Border Patrol and slipped into the country.

There have been at least 350 encounters with individuals on the terrorist watch list and more than 24,000 encounters with Chinese nationals.

Make no mistake. The Mexican cartels have been empowered by President Biden's failed policies, and they are cashing in by helping people all across the globe illegally enter our great country.

As a result, we have had more drugs on our streets and crimes in our neighborhoods. Fentanyl has poured into the country while human trafficking and uncontrollable crime run rampant.

Under President Biden's policies, every State is a border State. Border security is national security, and enough is enough.

House Republicans voted again this week to make our Nation safe and restore order to our Nation's immigration system. It is time for President Biden to work with House Republicans to secure the southern border for good.

I thank Mr. MOORE again for having this Special Order hour.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas, and we appreciate the chair for the time today on this Special Order, and I yield back the balance of my time.

HEALTHCARE UNDER ATTACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JACOBS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. JACOBS. Madam Speaker, 3 years ago during my first year in Congress, I froze my eggs, which means I went through the initial stages of IVF, except that after egg retrieval, my eggs were frozen and stored.

For weeks, I took hormone pills, gave myself injections, and went to the doctor for checkups. Then I had a procedure under twilight sedation to harvest my eggs.

Many people use IVF if they are single or LGBTQ+, if they are older or experiencing fertility issues or have suffered multiple miscarriages, but no matter the reason for IVF, it should be a valid and viable choice for anyone.

Unfortunately, IVF, like many reproductive healthcare options, is under at-

tack in the courts and here in the Halls of Congress.

Madam Speaker, 184 of my Republican colleagues have cosponsored legislation that supports "fetal personhood" giving embryos the same full legal rights as a person.

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This fringe ideology is dangerous and could be used to prosecute people for miscarriages or for having an abortion and could potentially affect access to birth control, too.

It could threaten access to IVF. During IVF, doctors often create more fertilized embryos than they plan on using, because some may be genetically unviable or result in miscarriages.

I have 17 mature eggs frozen. Patients like me pay for the storage of our eggs or embryos, and eventually some embryos are usually donated for medical research or destroyed.

Fetal personhood legislation, and even court rulings like the one in Alabama, could force patients to pay for storage of their embryos forever or leave clinics liable to criminal charges if embryos are damaged. That is why at least one IVF clinic in Alabama is ending the service.

This is just the beginning. Last week, Supreme Court Justice Alito acknowledged fetal personhood in his line of questioning in *Moyle v. United States*, a case that could decide the future of emergency abortion care.

I say this to my Republican colleagues: You can't support fetal personhood and support IVF access. You can't falsely claim to be pro-life and then rip away people's dreams of having children, and you can't hide and try to bury your true end goal.

I call on all 184 House Republicans, including Speaker JOHNSON, who have cosponsored legislation that would treat embryos as children and threaten access to IVF and other reproductive health services to come to the House floor and publicly remove their name from this bill, prove that they support IVF access, prove that they support families, and prove that they are not a hypocrite.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE).

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, first and foremost, let me thank Representative JACOBS for her determined leadership on this particular issue, among many others.

I stand here today in solidarity with Representative JACOBS, Representative WILD, and the leaders of the Pro-Choice Caucus in the United States Congress to help shine a light, as my colleague from California has done so well, on House Republican hypocrisy.

In February, as we now know, the Alabama Supreme Court issued a dangerous ruling that upended fertility care and opened the door for extremists to push through their destructive agenda.

In the months that followed, as Representative JACOBS referenced, many House Republicans have rushed to this House floor, to any TV camera that they may be able to find, to profess their support for IVF, the reproductive technology in question.

To them, I say the same admonition that Representative JACOBS offered: Their actions have clearly shown otherwise. They have already shown who they are and what they believe.

Make no mistake, Madam Speaker. If given the chance, unfortunately, extreme Members of the Republican Conference will find every opportunity to deprive Americans of their fundamental freedoms, criminalizing abortion nationwide, prosecuting the doctors and nurses willing to perform life-saving care, and pursuing this dangerous legislation that Representative JACOBS so eloquently described.

We, of course, are already seeing the consequences of that extremism across the country, in Ohio, in Alabama, and in Florida, where just today, a ban on abortion past 6 weeks of pregnancy has taken effect.

Madam Speaker, the American people will not stand for this. House Democrats will not stand for this. We will keep pushing back against these plans to drag Americans back to the laws of the last century, and we will keep working to protect the right of every woman to make her own healthcare decisions.

I again salute Representative JACOBS, and, in particular, I want to salute Representative WILD, who introduced legislation that this body must pass in the days and weeks ahead. I salute her for her leadership and her determination on behalf of every American in our land.

Ms. JACOBS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO IVF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, before we begin, I want to take a moment to acknowledge that as of today, Florida's cruel and inhumane 6-week abortion ban has taken effect. Attacks on women's basic reproductive freedom have not and will not stop. While days like today are difficult, they also remind us of the stakes that we are facing in this fight.

I, for one, am proud to stand here and declare my unwavering support for reproductive freedom. When the Supreme Court took the cruel but unsurprising step to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, my heart broke for all the women whose basic reproductive freedom would now be in jeopardy.

As a mother, a lawyer who used to represent healthcare providers, and as a sitting Member of Congress, I have