

Secretary under President George W. Bush, stated that Republicans have failed to put forward any evidence that meets the bar for this impeachment. This is a bogus impeachment process that is used as a political tool in an election year.

In reality, Secretary Mayorkas has done all he can to improve conditions in the ports of entry where fentanyl comes through every day through wheels, not through migrants.

He has done all he could to bring technology to the border in a balanced approach, but even so, Secretary Mayorkas can only execute the laws that are written by Congress, and this Congress has been negligent, derelict in its duty not to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

Instead of acting with us to fix this issue, Republicans are pursuing a bogus impeachment inquiry, trying to lay a problem that has dragged for decades upon decades upon decades in Republican administrations and Democrat administrations at the doorstep of Secretary Mayorkas. It is a bogus, political tool that they resort to every 4 years to try to get elected.

And that is why, Mr. Speaker, they choose not to fix the problem. They don't want to put it in the rear-view mirror. They want to go to it every 4 years so they can flame xenophobia against ordinary immigrants like myself.

I stand here to denounce this bogus, baseless impeachment proceeding against Secretary Mayorkas. If anybody should be expelled, it is the leadership of that party that has been negligent in their duties to address a balanced approach that takes into consideration border safety, that takes into consideration immigration reform, that takes into consideration the impact on the economy of farmworkers, that takes into consideration the root causes of migration in the hemisphere.

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PREPARE FOR THE DRY YEARS NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, next week, California is expecting more atmospheric rivers that are bringing welcome rain to our State. I am grateful for this rain and know many of my fellow farmers are. Unfortunately, this is deja vu for many of us in the Central Valley since not much has changed in the last 12 months to better prepare ourselves for a consecutive wet year.

Just last year, after 3 years of extreme drought, our State was hit with enough water to supply farms, communities, and homes for years to come. Unfortunately, extreme environmentalists and Sacramento bureaucrats have denied the approval of new water storage projects and restricted how much water we are able to pump

with complex and contradictory regulations.

The devastating flooding in my district and the millions of gallons of water that were flushed out to the ocean were the direct result of water mismanagement. Many of my constituents are still picking up the pieces from this flooding. These storms brought to light many flaws in our existing disaster relief programs.

We must improve coordination between Federal agencies involved in disaster relief like FEMA, Army Corps, and the USDA, so that residents and industries know who to turn to and have timely access to disaster assistance programs and services.

As we continue working to get additional disaster assistance for these communities, we must work to ensure we are better prepared for these types of weather events because we know that eventually the rain will stop.

Drought is a recurring feature in California's climate, and the time to prepare for those dry years is right now. Maximizing what can be moved at all times through the delta, especially during these atmospheric river events, and investing in water storage infrastructure and conveyance projects is critical to capture and store as much rain as possible. If we don't, we will inevitably find ourselves in another man-made water shortage.

We cannot let this water go to waste, and we cannot let the lessons learned from last year's storms be in vain. Thousands of livelihoods, the future of agriculture in California and America's food security depend on it.

UPHOLD JUSTICE AND ACT WITH COMPASSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. VASQUEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker:

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish by Mr. VASQUEZ is as follows:)

Today, I rise to tell you about my visit to the Cibola County Correctional Facility, and to demand changes to mistreatment within immigration detention centers.

Many of these centers, like Cibola, are operated by private companies. And what we have seen is that the conditions inside these facilities are unacceptable, lacking humanity and access to the civil rights that these immigrants deserve.

The detainees, whose only crime is entering this country without papers, informed me in person of these deplorable conditions, including food that is not even fair for the dogs. They do not have access to the legal system. They are locked in solitary cells for asking for help. They can't even wash their sheets. They leave them locked up for almost a year, while they wait to go before a judge. The mistreatment of those seeking refuge is something we

should never accept in our Nation. It doesn't matter if they are from Ukraine, Afghanistan or Venezuela.

My bill, the Humanitarian Accountability Act, is a critical step in ensuring the humane treatment of immigrants. The intention of my legislation is to bring to light the treatment of immigrants in detention centers. We must face reality—there is an opportunity to ensure that we can treat everyone with dignity and humanity.

For example, when the majority of immigrants are Spanish speakers, and the guards and these companies do not provide them with information in Spanish, it is an injustice to access to the legal system, and to this Nation of laws.

Imagine fleeing your country in panic, suffering abuse, losing everything, risking your life, and then facing a judge who will decide your future without having access to a lawyer because you did not receive the information in your language, and they did not give you access to your documents in a detention center.

On this visit, I spoke to a man from Venezuela, a soldier from his country who was seeking refuge, and he told me that he could not present evidence of his asylum case due to the lack of internet access in the detention center. These injustices are done on purpose. He and many others at this center deserve the opportunity to have the resources to present their asylum cases.

Colleagues, we have to make a decision. Do we ignore the suffering at the border and continue giving millions of dollars to the private companies that cause this suffering? Or do we uphold justice and act with compassion? My legislation is a response: a commitment to ensure that all immigration detention centers operate with basic standards that protect the human rights of all who seek refuge in our great Nation. After all, we are a nation of immigrants.

I ask my colleagues to support the Humanitarian Accountability Act, be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves, and bring about the change our immigration system so desperately needs.

Hoy, estoy presente entre ustedes para contarles sobre mi visita al Centro Correccional del Condado de Cibola, y para demandar cambios a los malos tratos dentro de los centros de detención de inmigrantes.

Muchos de estos centros, como el de Cibola, son operados por compañías privadas. Y lo que hemos visto es que las condiciones dentro de estas instalaciones son inaceptables, faltando humanidad y acceso a los derechos civiles que estos inmigrantes merecen.

Los detenidos, cual su único crimen es entrar a este país sin papeles, me informaron en persona, de estas condiciones deplorables, incluyendo alimentos que ni son justo para los perros. No tienen acceso al sistema legal. Los encierran en celdas

solitarias por pedir ayuda. Ni pueden lavar sus sábanas. Los dejan encerrados por casi un año, mientras esperan ir ante un juez. El maltrato de los que buscan refugio es algo que nunca deberíamos de aceptar en nuestra nación. No importa si son de Ucrania, Afganistán o Venezuela.

Mi proyecto de ley, la Ley de Responsabilidad Humanitaria, es un paso fundamental para garantizar el trato humano a inmigrantes. La intención de mi legislación es traer a luz el tratamiento de inmigrantes en los centros de detención. Debemos enfrentarnos a la realidad—hay oportunidad para asegurar que podamos tratar a todos con dignidad y humanidad.

Por ejemplo, cuando el mayor de los inmigrantes son hispanohablantes, y los guardias y estas compañías no les proveen información en español, es una injusticia para el acceso al sistema legal, y a esta nación de leyes. Imagínate escapar de tu país en pánico, sufrir abusos, perder todo, arriesgar tu vida, y luego enfrentar a un juez que va decidir tu futuro sin tener acceso a un abogado por que no recibiste la información y en tu idioma y no te dieron acceso a tus documentos en un centro de detención.

En esta visita, hable con un hombre de Venezuela, un soldado de su país que buscaba refugio, y me dijo que no pudo presentar evidencia de su caso de asilo debido a la falta de acceso al internet en el centro de detención. Estas injusticias se hacen a propósito. Él y muchos otros en este centro merecen tener la oportunidad de tener los recursos para presentar sus casos de asilo.

Colegas, tenemos que tomar una decisión.

¿Ignoramos el sufrimiento en la frontera y le seguimos dando millones de dólares a las empresas privadas que causan este sufrimiento?—O—defendemos la justicia y actuamos con compasión? Mi legislación es una respuesta: Un compromiso para asegurar que todos los centros de detención de los inmigrantes operen con estándares básicos que protejan los derechos humanos para todos los que buscan refugio en nuestra gran nación.

Después de todo, somos una nación de inmigrantes.

Les pido a mis colegas que apoyen la Ley de Responsabilidad Humanitaria, y ser la voz de aquellos que no pueden hablar por si mismos, y a lograr el cambio que nuestro sistema de inmigración tan desesperadamente necesita.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Mexico will provide the Clerk a translation of his remarks.

BIDEN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FALLON). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are committed to conducting

the necessary congressional oversight of President Biden's administration. That is why we have initiated a formal impeachment inquiry into the President, because bottom line, Americans deserve to know that the office of the Vice President and now President is not for sale.

According to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, evidence reveals that President Joe Biden knew of, participated in, and directly benefited from his family cashing in on the Biden name. Through evidence uncovered in financial records, wire transfers from foreign entities, emails, testimony from credible IRS whistleblowers, texts, and transcribed interviews with Biden family associates, the evidence paints a clear picture.

During President Joe Biden's time as Vice President, his son, Hunter Biden, sold his father as "the brand" to reap millions from oligarchs in Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine. The family even began working with a Chinese entity during President Biden's time as Vice President. It appears that no real services were provided other than access to the Biden network, which makes this look even more suspicious.

Most intellectually honest and objective people would call this a smoking gun, but unfortunately most members of the mainstream media do not fall into this category these days. That is why most Americans have turned away from mainstream media outlets. These media outlets have lost all credibility because they refuse to dig deeper to answer the legitimate and obviously newsworthy questions that many Americans have about the evidence showing President Biden's central role in his family's unethical business schemes. That is why House Republicans must remain committed to finding answers.

Some of these answers may come from the President's son, Hunter Biden, who up until recently has defied congressional subpoenas to testify before the relevant committees. He even had the gall to recently show up to the Capitol and to a committee hearing simply as an outrageous publicity stunt. He offered to answer any question but actually answered none. Then, after making an ugly scene, he left with his taxpayer-funded security.

The Tennesseans I represent in Congress deserve transparency. They deserve to know what qualifications Hunter Biden had to serve on the board of the scandal-ridden Ukrainian oil company Burisma. They deserve to know who was purchasing Hunter Biden's artwork and why. Because, after all, we know Hunter Biden isn't an artist producing works worth the hundreds of thousands of dollars that he is receiving.

What is most unfortunate about House Republicans' work to uncover this evidence is that not a single member of the Democratic Party has joined us. This is about doing what is right on behalf of our Nation and about defend-

ing our Constitution. It is our constitutional duty to find out whether the President has committed an impeachable offense.

We will leave no stone unturned; no lead or shred of evidence will be left behind. That is our commitment, and it always will be. We are committed to finding the truth, delivering accountability and transparency to the American people, and committed to the Constitution of the United States of America above all else.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I will remind Members, we have a few more seats down front. I notice some of you all are crowded up in the back, but if you want to come down front, that would be quite all right.

Mr. Speaker, we are nearly \$35 trillion in debt right now. That is over \$100,000 per American, including children. It is all because of our out-of-control spending, and so much of that money is either unaccounted for or just plain wasteful.

The Pentagon can't even tell us where half its funds end up, and right now they have about half a trillion dollars that is unaccounted for—half a trillion dollars. Foreign aid ends up in the hands of terrorists because we don't actually track it. Pandemic fraud was through the roof because we just threw checks at people like they were candy.

Democrats also force Americans to spend a bunch of money on things we don't need. Americans could be on the hook for over \$450 billion a year to take care of illegal immigrants because the Biden administration won't close the dadgum border.

We are spending money on drag shows at military bases. We are paying for more diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in our Federal Government. We are funding government employees' out-of-State trips to get abortions. It is so ridiculous, Mr. Speaker.

Americans elected us to handle the budget, and they are suffering as a result. The Democrats' massive spending policies take more of their hard-earned money and drive up the prices, so their paychecks don't go as far as they used to.

Congress needs to stand up, Mr. Speaker, and we need to get us some dadgum guts right now and make some real fiscally responsible changes on how we spend or else we will lose this country.