

In conversation, I have asked people to just ask me to repeat myself if they can't understand me or find a quieter space to talk so I can be heard. I am grateful that I have received such accommodating support from my colleagues and the staff here in the House that allows me to use this text to speech technology to be able to participate in committee hearings and to speak on the floor.

PSP has no cure, and its cause is unknown. Some medications may help temporarily alleviate some symptoms, and an active lifestyle and physical therapies can help to slow its progress. Whatever your politics, when it comes to illness, progressive is not a good thing to be.

While I will never train for or compete in another triathlon, by working out regularly and doing physical therapy I have improved my posture and balance to help prevent falls, a common source of serious injury for people with PSP. I have a rescue inhaler and certain medications I can take immediately before social engagements that can help improve my affect and my speech.

While PSP has clearly taken a toll on my body, it has not affected who I am inside. My fellow women Members know I will still chime in on the group chat with a joke or barb, which do not need to be repeated on the House floor. I still keep my staff on their toes by riding down ramps around the Capitol complex on my walker as if they were mini roller coasters, and I am still just as dedicated to doing my job of serving my community in Congress as the very first day I got here.

I share the personal details of my journey with PSP not because I want to be told how inspiring I am or for you to feel sorry for me. I speak about what I am going through because there are tens of thousands of other Americans out there who are fighting the same battles I am, and many of their loved ones, colleagues, and neighbors are having similar struggles with how to deal with the rapid and scary changes happening to the person that they know and love.

They are likely spending months or even years going to doctor's appointment after doctor's appointment anxiously hoping for answers but are left with more questions because too few medical providers are familiar enough with PSP to know what telltale signs to look for and diagnose.

In fact, one of the most common ways to diagnose and to differentiate PSP from Parkinson's is signs of brain atrophy seen on an MRI scan which appears in the shape of a hummingbird. The hummingbird sign has become a symbol for PSP, which is why I will be wearing a PSP Awareness hummingbird pin today.

Raising awareness of PSP can mean a quicker, accurate diagnosis; the development of more effective treatments; and more time for those battling PSP to take on this disease with all the resources and support available.

I am determined to use my platform to raise awareness of what PSP is and the urgent need to do more to fight against it. I am proud that over 80 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have joined me on a resolution to recognize May as PSP Awareness Month.

I have also championed the National Plan to End Parkinson's Act that would help bring greater resources to discovering the causes, effective treatments, and a cure for Parkinson's and related parkinsonisms like my PSP. This bipartisan legislation passed the House last year with overwhelming bipartisan support, and I hope that the Senate will take it up very soon and send it to President Biden's desk.

Madam Speaker, I have spent my career uplifting the stories of those in need. I am committed to continuing that work now on behalf of the PSP community and making the most of this platform that I have for as long as I am able.

I urge my colleagues to join me this month to raise awareness of PSP and work together to fight this terrible disease.

DIRE SITUATION AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, today I rise on behalf of my constituents in western North Carolina to highlight the dire situation at the southern border and to advocate for the enforcement of our Nation's immigration laws.

The Biden administration continues to break records and not in a good way.

The number of individuals on the terrorist watch list that were apprehended illegally crossing the southwest border increased 2,500 percent from fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2023, and a record-breaking 301,000 migrants were caught trying to illegally enter our country in the month of December alone.

Our country's border control agents are overwhelmed, and they are underfunded.

What has President Biden done? He has done nothing but open our southern border up to more illegal immigrants and chaos.

I went to the Tucson sector of the southern border last year to witness the crisis for myself. I saw millions of taxpayer dollars in the form of unused border wall materials rusting away in the hot Arizona sun.

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Local law enforcement pointed out to me where the border wall ends at the top of a hill and shared how cartel members sit on the Mexico side of the mountain peak to serve as a lookout. These cartel members are able to see for miles and signal to illegal immigrants when the coast is clear so that

migrants can then flood our open border.

Many of the illegal immigrants trying to cross our border are military-aged men. They are not families and children. They are cartel members trying to smuggle fentanyl into our borders and cause harm to our communities. Local law enforcement shared how difficult it has been to step up when executives in the Federal Government refuse to prioritize our national security.

I sympathize with Cochise County law enforcement, and I think every law enforcement officer across this country can sympathize, too.

Sheriffs across this country have told me that they have asked to meet with Joe Biden to tell him firsthand of the problems that they are having and their request, for some reason, has not been granted. Why won't the President not meet with them? Is he afraid of the truth?

Since 2021, America has seen an unprecedented surge at our southern border. Customs and Border Patrol reports over 7.6 million encounters, and the Secretary of Homeland Security has affirmed more than 85 percent of the migrants caught illegally crossing our southern border are ultimately released back into the country. That is nearly 6.5 million migrants released into the interior of the United States by the Department of Homeland Security since January 2021.

Now, we have record levels of fentanyl flowing across our borders, courtesy of the Mexican cartels. Over 27,000 pounds were seized last year, and it is destroying the very fabric of our communities.

In 2022 alone, illicit opioids claimed the lives of 313 members of my district. That is 313 sets of mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, friends, and loved ones gone due to drug trafficking promoted at our southern border and ignored by our country's President.

During my time in Congress, I have written, cosponsored, and helped pass legislation in the House to secure the southern border and end this administration's radical and dangerous border policies. I was proud to cosponsor and vote for H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act over a year ago, last May.

Senate Democrats and President Biden could take real concrete steps to solve this migration crisis and to address everything from court backlogs to the trafficking of unaccompanied children if they would just get behind H.R. 2, but they haven't.

Why are Democrats so adamantly opposed to commonsense legislation to protect Americans and close our southern border once and for all? Instead of supporting the strongest border security package in American history, the Senate has proposed a do-nothing border bill that enriches criminal networks, uses taxpayer dollars to fund organizations that facilitate mass illegal immigration, and codifies Biden's open-border policies like catch and release.

As terrorists, drugs, and weapons flow freely into our country, I believe that we should be putting the American people first, not playing political patty-cake.

DEVELOPING A BIPARTISAN, COMPREHENSIVE, AND FISCALLY CONSERVATIVE FARM BILL

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

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, this is a week that farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers in my State of Kansas have long awaited. The House Agriculture Committee will finally mark up a 5-year farm bill.

I will start by thanking Chairman G.T. THOMPSON for leading the committee and developing a bipartisan, comprehensive, fiscally conservative farm bill that gives our farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers the certainty they deserve.

Around this time last year, the chairman and I hosted a farm bill listening session next to a wheat field in my district. We heard from 150 Kansans about their priorities for a farm bill. They were clear: They need a farm bill that gives them certainty as they work day in and day out to feed, clothe, and fuel the world. The Farm, Food, and National Security Act does just that.

This farm bill strengthens the farm safety net and protects crop insurance. Agricultural producers in Kansas understand firsthand how important that is. In February 2021, Kansas had 13 consecutive days of below-freezing temperatures, which is a 40-year record. Our producers worked around the clock to protect their cattle and ensure they survived. Just last summer, drought and market conditions in Kansas caused producers to abandon the highest number of acres of wheat since World War I. Wheat farmers have seen a 35 percent decrease in production in the last year as a result.

Madam Speaker, the reality is Mother Nature is a very difficult business partner. One bad crop year could put the livelihood of our producers and their families at risk. This farm bill gives these hardworking individuals more certainty by strengthening the farm safety net, adjusting reference prices, and modernizing the Livestock Indemnity program, dairy supports, and Conservation Reserve Program.

The committee's farm bill also maintains American food independence and invests tax dollars in places we can see a return on those dollars. America is the freest country in the world, in part because we have never had to rely on another country to feed us. At the heart of that independence is agricultural research and innovation.

The Big First is home to some of the crown jewels of the animal health corridor: Kansas State University and the National Bio and Agro-Defense facility. These institutions give the Nation a scientific hub of world-renowned re-

search. Kansas State University is conducting groundbreaking research into areas, including new heat-tolerant wheat varieties and higher yielding sorghum. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's state-of-the-art NBAF in Manhattan will conduct research into serious animal disease threats to be an important backstop in protecting our Nation's food supply. This work, and America's continued ability to feed ourselves for generations to come, depend on a 5-year farm bill that prioritizes food security as national security.

Madam Speaker, this farm bill makes robust investments in the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development programs that ensure our American producers remain in the international marketplace. It proactively addresses issues like deferred maintenance costs at land-grant institutions and the country's veterinarian shortage before that problem gets even worse.

I have been to this floor nearly 30 times to push for my priorities in this farm bill: to protect and strengthen crop insurance, to promote trade programs that help America remain competitive and secure, conduct rigorous oversight of the executive branch to fight Big Government overreach, and invest in agricultural research at America's land-grant universities. I am pleased that the Farm, Food, and National Security Act does just that.

We need to pass a 5-year fiscally conservative farm bill that is long enough to provide certainty and short enough for Congress to respond to market changes. Farm bills feed every corner of the Nation from New England to the islands of Hawaii, both our coasts, down to the Gulf, and even the heartland of this country, including Kansas. American agricultural producers and consumers are counting on it. The legislation we mark up this week will have ripple effects for years to come. This body and Congress must use this legislation to address the concerns we have all heard over the last several years.

When we kicked off our farm bill listening session last year, there were three combines parked behind us: John Deere, Case, and Gleaner.

When you grow up on a farm, you are born into loyalty to one of these trusted American brands. They have different styles and features, but they are all designed to do the same thing: harvest. Our listening session that day and the bill that House Agriculture marks up this week are no different. We all have different priorities and backgrounds, but we are all here to do the same thing: harvest, work hard, and effectively churn out a product, the farm bill.

America's farmers, ranchers, and ag producers deserve it, America's food and national security depend on it, and Congress must deliver it.

This farm bill is something our ag community can be proud of. It puts

dollars in places where Americans can see a good return on their investment. It tightens budgets and reins in reckless spending that doesn't serve taxpayers. Most importantly, this bill ensures that American farmers, ranchers, and ag producers can continue to keep us all fueled, fed, and clothed. The Farm, Food, and National Security Act is the first step in the right direction, and I look forward to this week's markup.

REMEMBERING U.S. AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT GENERAL EUGENE D. SANTARELLI

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Eugene D. Santarelli, who passed away on September 21, 2023, at 79 years old.

Lieutenant General Santarelli was a highly decorated three-star general who commenced his military career following his graduation from the University of Notre Dame in 1966.

A remarkable pilot, instructor, and mentor, he was qualified in and flew a dozen different aircraft types. Over the course of his career, he accumulated approximately 3,600 flying hours, including 901 combat hours.

He commanded a numbered air force, an air division, and three flying wings in his 32-year career. General Santarelli is survived by his spouse, Kay Santarelli; sister, Paula Anthony; and brother, Francis.

His dedication and service to our country did not go unnoticed. During his lifetime, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medals, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Combat Readiness Medal.

General Santarelli was at his best when teaching, mentoring, or leading through his own example. In the hearts of the Tucson community and AZ-06, Lieutenant General Santarelli remains a true hero. We extend our gratitude for his dedicated service and are eternally thankful for all his contributions.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA'S WILDCATS FOR PAC-12 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Arizona baseball team for clinching the PAC-12 conference championship after defeating Oregon State.

The Wildcats lost their first two games and were in a must-win game on Saturday night. In Arizona fashion, they had a walk-off double, scoring two runs and winning the game, 4-3.

Head Coach Chip Hale has a current season record of 33 wins and 20 losses and conference record of 20 wins, 10 losses. He is the first coach in conference history to be named PAC-12 Player and Coach of the Year.