

upon congressional power and separation of powers when you refuse to do so for any Republican, including your own colleagues who defy subpoenas right, left, and center. Be careful because what goes around comes around.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mrs. LUNA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I have heard this motion called a political stunt. Let me assure my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, this is no political stunt. Congress must use its inherent authority when it deems it proper. This is a proper use of that.

I would say to the gentleman, my feelings on this have nothing to do with the current situation politically. I advocated to then-Speaker John Boehner that we use this measure on Eric Holder if he chose to come to the floor of the House for a State of the Union Address after having been found in contempt.

It may very well be, Mr. Speaker, that on the general contempt, the criminal contempt, the Department of Justice headed by Merrick Garland can use prosecutorial discretion, which they did, which is also why it is inherent on Congress to use its inherent contempt power because if we only can rely on the Attorney General to hold himself or charge himself with contempt, Congress no longer has the power to subpoena, Congress no longer has the power to do its oversight, to do its investigations into any part of the Federal Government, and we will be taking away all of the power. We will be emasculating the United States Congress.

It is not appropriate. We should have used this power 10 years ago. We should have used this power 8 years ago. Now, we must restore the ability of the United States Congress to get its subpoenas answered from the executive branch of this country.

If there is a problem, Mr. Speaker, if the executive branch thinks we have overreached, if the executive branch thinks we have done something wrong, we have a third branch to make a decision on that, but the first step is for us to recognize and defend our constitutional prerogatives to do our job and to defend the United States Congress with inherent contempt against the executive branch.

□ 2000

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

In closing, I feel very sad for our country based on what is happening right now on the House floor. I don't believe this is a serious effort. I believe it is very political, quite frankly.

What this really is about is Republicans are upset that they can't get their hands on an audio recording so they can use it in an RNC attack ad. That is really what this is all about.

When Republicans get subpoenas, they run and hide.

The Attorney General, in my view, and I think in the view of most people, has complied, has done what he is supposed to do, what he is expected to do.

We are faced with so many challenges in this country. I mentioned in my opening statement that we need to focus in on how do we help the American people, how do we continue to move in the direction of lowering inflation, creating more jobs, creating more opportunities for young people, helping our veterans, and protecting our environment. All of those things are incredibly important, and this is what we are doing. This is what we are doing here today. It is really sad.

Quite frankly, it is chilling and it is scary when you think about what could happen if they get more power. Just read Project 2025. It tells you all you need to know about what the plan is.

I have got to say again, Mr. Speaker, and then I will close, that I am astounded at the latitude that has been afforded the Republicans during this debate to say whatever the hell they want to say, to disparage the President in any way they want.

When I disparaged their resolution, they threatened to take my words down and have me silenced if I didn't withdraw those words. I can't believe it. I have never seen anything quite like this happen.

The freedom-loving Republicans, the way they respond in debate is to try to silence comments by people that they disagree with. This is chilling. This is not what this institution is about. This is not what this country is about.

I would urge the Speaker to take note of this. We have to find a way forward here where it is not so one-sided, where they can say whatever they want to say, but I can't say anything, basically. I have to watch every single word I say on this floor. This is unprecedented.

I will say, Mr. Speaker, they have a set of rules for themselves, and they have a set of rules for us, people they disagree with. If this is the coming attractions, God help our country. We need to do better.

Again, I would urge all my colleagues to vote "no" on this. I would like to be able to characterize it, but I am afraid my colleague will take offense and want to take my words down again.

This is not serious. This is beneath this institution, and I would urge my colleagues to vote "no."

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

Mrs. LUNA. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida has 3½ minutes remaining.

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

This is not a decision that we have reached lightly, but the actions of the Attorney General cannot be ignored. No one is above the law, yet the Attor-

ney General has sought to put himself above the law, and the DOJ failed to do their job, which is why we are using inherent contempt.

Despite what my colleagues may think, this is not a stupid idea but actually our constitutional duty and is well within the scope of our legislative authority to assert the House's power in this manner.

The arguments against the House standing up for itself are a last-ditch effort made by people who are intent on covering up for President Biden and Attorney General Garland.

The issue at hand is the enforcement of a congressional subpoena, a fundamental tool of oversight that is being undermined.

If this body is to continue, we cannot sit by any longer. The House of Representatives must not be ignored, and the time for action is now.

This resolution is more than Merrick Garland. It is about whether or not the House of Representatives will be able to function properly. As the court said in *Anderson v. Dunn*, without the power of inherent contempt, the House would be exposed to every indignity and interruption, that rudeness, or even conspiracy, may mediate against it.

We cannot allow this to happen, Mr. Speaker. If we do not assert our authority, we risk setting a dangerous precedent where the House's power is eroded and our ability to fulfill our congressional duties is compromised. The consequences of inaction are grave.

In conclusion, we must remain vigilant and assert our authority to ensure the balance of power in our Republic.

I urge all of you to support this resolution and defend the integrity of the House of Representatives.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate having expired, without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

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. MCGOVERN. 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.

--- HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 10, 2024, at 3:39 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 3448.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

ILLEGAL ALIENS IN THE UNITED
STATES

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, as you know, there are well over 10 million illegals living in our country brought in by this administration: gang members, rapists, terrorists, Communist Chinese spies.

We have allowed Americans to be killed. More will be killed until, I am afraid, this administration is changed.

The sad part is that we funded this. Not me, but my friends across the aisle and some of my Republican colleagues.

This President and Democrats don't care. They see these people as one thing: blue votes, Mr. Speaker. They don't care what the heck happens to Americans. They never have, and I don't think they ever will.

They are losing every single demographic of voters. It is very obvious to me what is going on. They are hoping these people will replace the ones they have lost either through the Census or at the polls themselves.

Most Republicans claim to be against illegal immigration. They are not just against funding it, Mr. Speaker.

Folks need to vote. We need to elect folks that believe in the American way. Let's take our dadgum country back, Mr. Speaker. Let's take back our schools, take back our healthcare system, and take back our jobs.

FOSTERING A POSITIVE LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, as a former chemistry teacher, I understand how challenging fostering a positive learning environment can be. While technology can be a resource, it can also cause irreparable harm if not used properly.

Our community in Malvern, Pennsylvania, experienced a gross abuse of technology when teachers at the Great Valley Middle School were targeted by eighth grade students who set up fake TikTok accounts impersonating them and posting offensive and very hurtful content.

This wasn't a prank. It was a blatant misuse of social media, violating basic rules of human decency. It is inappropriate, regardless of a child's age, or whether the school is public, charter, or private.

These teachers are questioning why they continue in a profession where they can be so casually targeted, and I don't blame them. This incident highlights the misuse of technology and how it disturbs the classroom and stunts the growth of empathy.

We must confront this crisis in schools and our homes as well. Each of us has a responsibility to foster civility and decency. Our teachers deserve and expect our support. Anything less is unacceptable.

REMEMBERING BRYAN R. LEMONS

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Bryan Lemons. Bryan was chief counsel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, FLETC, in Glynco, Georgia.

Bryan oversaw the legal training provided for Federal, State, local, and international law enforcement officers.

Before his selection as chief counsel, he served as the assistant director for the Mission and Readiness Support Directorate.

Across four separate training sites as assistant director, he oversaw \$225 million in service contracts to help train over 70,000 students.

In his many years with FLETC, Bryan worked hard to ensure our Federal law enforcement agents received the highest caliber training possible.

Bryan was also a proud Marine Corps veteran where he served as defense attorney, prosecuting attorney, and senior legal adviser for executive level managers until 1999 when he made the move to FLETC.

In 2022, Bryan received the DHS Secretary's Exceptional Service Gold Medal Award.

I send my deepest condolences and prayers to Bryan's wife and to his four children.

TRUMP TAX SCAM

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

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, 7 years ago, the trump tax scam let the largest corporations off the hook from paying their fair share of taxes.

The Trump administration bogusly claimed that slashing the corporate tax rate would raise the average household's annual income by at least \$4,000.

Unsurprisingly, economists from the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Federal Reserve found that never happened. Seven years later, the bottom 90 percent of workers still haven't received higher earnings from the tax cut.

Where did the extra money from Trump's tax changes go? Straight to the very tippy-top highest paid earners. They used them to line the pockets of their already wealthy executives and shareholders with \$4.4 trillion in stock buybacks and dividends. Congress must end this rip-off.

REPUBLICAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Ohio). 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. Mr. 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. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to be back on the House floor with my colleagues to host a Special Order on the many things House Republicans are doing on behalf of the American people.

This week, we are working hard to protect consumer choice, our elections, and our national security. We have brought to the floor the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act, the SAVE Act, to defend our elections from foreign involvement and ensuring only American citizens have the right to vote in our Nation's elections.

This is commonsense legislation that would require proof of citizenship to register to vote, which is more and more critical as our borders remain wide open and our immigration crisis continues.

□ 1915

The argument on this particular bill is that it is already law that you have to be an American citizen to vote in Federal elections. We all know that. It is also illegal to continue to cross the border. We have to take action to safeguard our elections, and we are doing that this week.

We also passed the Refrigerator Freedom Act and the Stop Unaffordable Dishwasher Standards Act which protects consumer choice in home appliances.

As Democrats continue to push for burdensome regulations and bans that