

that is a great dopamine hit. If you want to save the country, learn the damn math.

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

NEVER FORGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) for 30 minutes.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Speaker, on this date 23 years ago, 246 people went to sleep ahead of their morning flights; 2,309 people went to sleep in preparation for another routine day at the office; and 343 of New York's bravest, 71 of New York's finest, and 8 paramedics went to sleep not knowing what their next shift would bring.

Yet, that Tuesday morning, those of us who were in New York on that day remember one of the clearest, bluest, most magnificent skies we have laid eyes on.

When you reflect back on the morning of September 11, 2001, one can't help but think about that what seemed a perfect morning. There was a beautiful blue sky, the temperatures were perfect, and people were beginning their day to what they thought was going to be one of beauty.

In seconds, that changed because we witnessed one of the greatest attacks on American soil in our history. At that moment, not only did downtown Manhattan change, not only did the State of New York change, not only did the United States of America change, but the world changed. We haven't been the same since, nor will we ever be.

At that moment when we were attacked and so many people ran away from the danger, there were men and women who stood in the lobby of those buildings, who stood in the surrounding areas, who hopped on rigs in firehouses throughout the city of New York, who jumped in patrol cars and ESU trucks and made their way to downtown Manhattan, running toward the danger, the same way first responders did just miles away at the Pentagon and at that field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

They ran toward danger, running up the stairs of our beloved World Trade Center, not realizing that they were rising up those stairs only to get closer to Heaven because that is where they were headed.

When those buildings collapsed in downtown Manhattan, again, the world changed. Thousands died, but while we

saw the very worst in humanity as our country was attacked by terrorists, we also saw some of the best of the United States of America.

If you think to the days following the September 11 attacks, you couldn't walk into a store and find an American flag because they were sold out.

People lined the West Side Highway in Manhattan, cheering for first responders as they made their way to Ground Zero. People were patriotic. People were rooting for the United States of America.

Just this past weekend, I stood in my district, the Fourth Congressional District of New York, on Long Island. I stood with former Congressman Peter King and our town supervisor there, Don Clavin, dedicating a street to a gentleman by the name of Bob Beckwith.

He became an icon in the days following September 11 because he was the gentleman, the city firefighter, who stood on the pile with President Bush when President Bush grabbed that megaphone and told the first responders on the pile, the ironworkers on the pile, when President Bush said to them: "We hear you. The world hears you."

If we think back on those now 23 years, a lot has changed. Tonight and tomorrow are an opportunity for us to remember and reflect and to think about our friends and our loved ones, our neighbors who died that day. It is also an opportunity to honor them.

Nearly two decades ago when I took my oath to become a member of the New York City Police Department, I swore to protect and defend the city of New York. I also made a promise in my heart, and it is the same promise that many first responders make to themselves when they take their oath, and that is to never forget—never forget our brothers and sisters who made and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Yet, 23 years later, people are forgetting, and that is why I thought it was so important this evening to have this Special Order and to invite colleagues from both sides of the aisle to talk about not just the horrific events of September 11, 2001, but the last 23 years.

An NYPD detective by the name of Lou Alvarez called the Fourth Congressional District home. He was a decorated member of the NYPD, a member of the bomb squad. He served our great department during 9/11 and spent months on that pile, digging for brothers and sisters and survivors.

He contracted 9/11 cancer. Instead of spending his final days at home surrounded by loved ones and family, he spent some of his final days here on Capitol Hill.

He was with his family, his friends, his brother and sister police officers and firefighters, but he spent it here on Capitol Hill, advocating and knowing that in just days, he probably was going to pass from this life on to Heaven. He spent his final days here, fight-

ing for funding of the 9/11 healthcare bill.

That is really one of the things that I want to focus on today, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle do the same and realize that on September 11, 2001, there were 343 members of the FDNY who died that day.

Since September 11, 2001, there have been over 343 more members of the FDNY who have died from 9/11-related illnesses.

On September 11, 2001, 23 of my brothers and sisters from the NYPD died that morning. Since September 11, 2001, over 375 more have died.

You see, this is no longer what was probably referred to 20 years ago as a New York, New Jersey, Northeast issue. There are people dying from 9/11-related illnesses in every State of this country.

There is no reason that 23 years later, heroes like Lou Alvarez need to be spending their final days walking the Halls of Congress, demanding funding that they deserve.

This is not a partisan issue. I have had the honor to work with Congressman GARBARINO, Senators SCHUMER and GILLIBRAND, and our colleagues from New York and New Jersey to continue to push for this funding.

□ 2015

Years back when the funding was first proposed, there were people from the budget office, actuaries who said the funding that was provided would carry us well to the end of the century.

They were wrong. They were wrong because more and more people die every single day. When I hear from some of our colleagues and staff saying, well, year after year, there seems to be less and less of these 9/11 survivors coming here to fight for the funding. Yes, there are fewer because they are dying. They are dying because they were told on the days following September 11 that the air was safe to breathe. It wasn't safe to breathe, and they are continuing to die.

Unless Congress acts, the World Trade Center Health Program will have to announce in 2027 that responders and survivors who suffer from an illness from their heroic service to our country will not be able to apply for the program. Unless this body does something, in 2028, the program will bar new enrollees and make other anticipated cuts in services.

Tonight, I am not just here to talk about the events of September 11. We all know what happened. We know who attacked the United States of America. We are thankful for the men and women who not only served this body but men and women throughout this country who left the comforts of the United States of America to defend our democracy and to fight terrorism.

Tonight, my plea is that we join together. If we all want to say that we never forget, well, then, let's never forget, and let's work together to fully fund the 9/11 healthcare program.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS), my good friend and a great supporter of first responders in New York City and throughout New York State.

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman D'ESPOSITO for bringing us together tonight to honor the 2,977 victims of September 11 but also the many more who have died since. I thank him for his service in the NYPD to the city of New York.

Madam Speaker, 23 years ago, those of us in New York City experienced the 9/11 attacks in a way we will never forget. I was a recent graduate commuting to my first job near Union Square in Manhattan when the first plane hit the North Tower at 8:46 a.m. We watched in horror as the city descended into chaos and first responders rushed in to save lives. Too many never returned.

The attacks shattered our sense of security. "Never forget" became the rallying cry for our troops entering Afghanistan in pursuit of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida. We came together to support the recovery of our city and heal our country. New York emerged stronger with enhanced security, a fortified NYPD, and the creation of the Department of Homeland Security.

Twenty-three years later, we approach a somber reality that more FDNY members have passed away from 9/11-related illnesses and cancers than from the attack on September 11, 2001.

I have attended memorials and street namings for heroes who made it home on 9/11 only to succumb to it years after.

I will forever honor our pledge to never forget by working with Representatives D'ESPOSITO, GARBARINO, and others for our first responders and survivors fighting these illnesses by ensuring that Zadroga is fully funded and that they receive the healthcare that they deserve.

During my first term, I successfully fought for 3,000 widows and children to be fairly compensated by the U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, something they fought for for over two decades. This year, I am proud to work with Congressman MIKE LAWLER on the fund the fund act and ensure that the USVSST leaves no more victims out of rightfully owed victims compensation.

As we mark the 23rd anniversary of 9/11, it is essential to remain vigilant. Today, we are a divided Nation with new challenges. Afghanistan is again under Taliban control, and thousands of ISIS-K and al-Qaida terrorists were released from Bagram Air Base during the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Our borders are wide open, and law enforcement is stretched dangerously thin. On 9/11, the NYPD had 41,000 officers. Today, it has only 33,000. According to the latest reports, over 350 suspected terrorists have been apprehended at the southern border. ISIS-K-related groups have smuggled 400 indi-

viduals with terrorist ties into the United States.

We cannot stand by and allow ourselves to be vulnerable. We must honor those we have lost and prevent even the possibility of another attack. We must secure our border. We must make our homeland safe. We must prioritize our country's security, strengthen and support our law enforcement, and ensure that "Never Forget" remains a guiding principle, not just a slogan.

Lastly, this administration has a solemn duty to deliver justice to all Americans. That means no plea deal for the 9/11 masterminds. Set a trial date, and let's pursue the death penalty.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman MALLIOTAKIS for her comments.

Yesterday, I was proud to join with Chairman MARK GREEN of the House Homeland Security Committee to lead a bipartisan delegation down to the 9/11 Memorial and Museum to give our colleagues an opportunity to witness and understand what is now Ground Zero. I am thankful that Congressman KENNEDY joined us.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman D'ESPOSITO for bringing this Special Order to the floor here this evening.

Today, we gather together to commemorate the deadliest attack on our Nation's soil. On the morning of September 11, 2001, extremist al-Qaida terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in a plot to undermine our Nation's security and our spirit of democracy. As a result, 2,977 people did not return home to their loved ones.

This unspeakable act of terror left a deep scar in the psyche of New Yorkers, Americans, and people around the globe.

In New York, we continue to mourn our native sons and daughters who were lost that day and join the Nation in commemorating those lost as well as the resilience of a city and Nation that never yielded to the terror inflicted upon us.

We also honor the first responders who were deeply impacted, hundreds of whom were killed in the wake of the attack, running selflessly into the face of danger as they fought tirelessly to help more people escape.

More than 20 years later, our brave first responders and survivors are still combating the severe health complications stemming from their heroism on 9/11 and in the weeks and months that followed. Congress must continue to support their recovery, and we must do everything in our power to stop terrorism at home and abroad.

We have not forgotten nor will we ever forget the tragic events of September 11, 2001. God bless the souls that we lost that day. God bless the survivors and the families that have carried on and persevered in their loved one's memory, and God bless America.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. KENNEDY for his words. Tomorrow is a truly somber day. It is a day when thousands of families will gather at different memorials throughout this country to pay tribute to those who were taken from us.

As we reflect, remember, and pray tomorrow and think about those souls, think about the conversations that were had as brave FDNY firefighters made their way up the stairs of the North and South Towers. Think about the conversations that were had with those Americans aboard the flights. Think about the conversations had amongst those members of law enforcement, the Port Authority, the NYPD, the court officers who were running toward danger when everyone else was running away.

Yesterday, when I visited the 9/11 Memorial, I was reminded of something that I think is so critically important about the kind of people who these first responders were. You think about New York and New Jersey and our law enforcement and fire departments, some of the biggest and most renowned in the world. They are also the best trained.

With that training comes the knowledge of the situation that you are dealing with, which tells you that hundreds of the first responders who perished on 9/11 had a pretty good idea of exactly what was going to happen, but they continued to march toward danger.

That is one of the reasons as to why this body needs to come together to fully fund and pass the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act of 2024, which will address the funding shortfall and ensure that there is adequate funding for years to come.

The bill updates the funding formula for the World Trade Center Health Program, increasing the appropriations to adjust for inflation and enrollment changes through 2090. In the short term, it adds \$2.9 billion to the special fund for fiscal year 2024.

Madam Speaker, this is not a Democratic issue, not a Republican issue. This is an American issue and one on which this body needs to do the right thing. There are no reasons in this world that heroes like Lou Alvarez and Ray Pfeifer, both of whom came from my district, need to spend their final days visiting us in our offices, asking for funding that we know they deserve.

On the eve of this day that will live in infamy, I thank my colleagues who joined us here this evening. I want to share a message with anyone listening and our colleagues on both sides of this House that "Never Forget" is not just a saying. It is not just a Twitter handle. It is not just a hashtag. It is not just something that you put on posters on social media. It is a promise.

If we truly want to never forget, then it is imperative that we put our support behind the healthcare funding that these heroes, these survivors, these Americans deserve.

Madam Speaker, I pray that those who died on 9/11 and continue to die as

a result of those terrible attacks may rest in peace and may their families expect from all of us to do the right thing because that is exactly what we should be doing.

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

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ADJOURNMENT

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5246. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Kasugamycin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0399; FRL-12005-01-OCSPP] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5247. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Announcement of the Delegation of Partial Administrative Authority for the Southern Ute Indian Reservation to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe for Implementation of the Clean Air Act Federal Minor New Source Review Program in Indian Country and the Indian Country Minor Source Oil and Gas Federal Implementation Plan [EPA-R08-OAR-2024-0194; FRL-11993-01-R8] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5248. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Indoxacarb; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0079; FRL-11964-01-OCSPP] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5249. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ophioglossum pendulum IPD079Ea Protein; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0939; FRL-11911-01-OCSPP] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5250. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Revisions; Arizona; Maricopa County Air Quality Department [EPA-R09-OAR-2021-0748; FRL-11882-02-R9] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5251. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final action — Findings of Failure To Submit State Implementation Plan Revisions for Nonattainment Areas for the 2010 1-Hour Primary Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-HQ-OAR-2024-0168; FRL-11815-01-OAR] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5252. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Nebraska; Revisions to Title 129 of the Nebraska Administrative Code; Nebraska Air Quality Regulations [EPA-R07-OAR-2024-0025; FRL-11676-02-R7] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5253. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0371; FRL-11173-02-R9] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5254. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; New Jersey; 2015 Ozone Infrastructure [EPA-R02-OAR-2022-0631; FRL-10786-02-R2] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5255. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacillus Paralicheniformis Strain CH0273; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0323; FRL-10389-01-OCSPP] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5256. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Arizona; 2015 Ozone Infrastructure Requirements [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0326; FRL-9693-02-R9] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5257. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacillus Subtilis Strain CH4000; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0318; FRL-10390-01-OCSPP] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5258. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-030, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5259. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-039, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5260. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-091, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5261. A letter from the Branch Chief, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Agency's inseason modification of 2022-2023 management measures — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #51-#52 [Docket No.: 220510-0113; RTID 0648-XC983] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5262. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Red Snapper Data Calibrations and Gray Snapper Harvest Levels [Docket No.: 240508-0133] (RIN: 0648-BM56) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5263. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 56 [Docket No.: 240506-0129] (RIN: 0648-BM46) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5264. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Allocation of 2024 Northeast Multispecies Annual Catch Entitlements [Docket No.: 240401-0094; RTID 0648-XD513] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5265. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer From North Carolina to Virginia [Docket No.: 231215-0305; RTID 0648-XD957] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5266. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries of the West Coast; 2023 Catch Sharing Plan and Recreational Management Measures [Docket No.: 240327-0090] (RIN: 0648-BM75) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-5267. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—International