

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of a remarkable constituent from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Pasquale T. Deon, Sr., who retired from the board of Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority on January 25, 2024.

Pat is the longest tenured chairman and board member in SEPTA history, serving the residents of greater Philadelphia since 1995. During his tenure at SEPTA, Chairman Deon was committed to securing budgetary stability for the transportation authority through the use of innovative financial mechanisms.

Chairman Deon revitalized the transit authority and contributed to 22 years of balanced budgets and the growth of SEPTA into the fifth-largest public transportation system in the Nation.

Moreover, Chairman Deon boasts an impressive record of bipartisan success for SEPTA, having worked with six Governors, five Philadelphia mayors, numerous county commissioners and councilmembers to secure the resources integral to SEPTA's continued operation and success.

Under his leadership, Chairman Deon advocated for the development and implementation of new technologies that put SEPTA on the cutting edge of efficient public transportation, including the introduction of the SEPTA Key, the integration of the SEPTA control center, a centralized command station, and the implementation of the Positive Train Control, a system designed to advance and improve rail safety technologies.

Moreover, Chairman Deon oversaw numerous technological advancements dedicated to making SEPTA a more sustainable system, including the introduction of hybrid buses into the fleet.

SEPTA is now a committed partner of the MACH2 hydrogen hub proposal, a project aimed to use existing technologies to generate clean hydrogen energy with the goal of transitioning the SEPTA fleet to zero-emission by 2040.

Madam Speaker, we congratulate Chairman Deon on his retirement and wish him the best in the future.

IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCHIN). 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, with no shortage of topics to discuss and cover today, the House of Representatives just recently passed the Protecting Health Care for all Patients Act, a crucially important bill. I commend the leadership of Chairwoman CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS from the Committee on Energy and Commerce to get it done today.

I appreciate my colleagues joining me today to share their messages regarding the ongoing turmoil and unnecessary strain on our border due to President Biden's inability to get that under control, as well as other topics, from women's sports and beyond.

They have come to share their messages and speak to not only America but their own district.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN), a good colleague and friend representing the Fourth District.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank Vice Chairman MOORE for yielding.

Madam Speaker, as I stand before you, America is being invaded.

Right this minute, criminals, human traffickers, drug lords, and kingpins are taking advantage of our porous border. If that thought wasn't terrifying enough, hundreds of individuals on the U.S. terror watch list are entering our country as if we don't even have a border.

Secretary Mayorkas is welcoming our enemies into our great Nation and doing it deliberately.

Madam Speaker, I have visited our southern border twice now, and I can say without a shadow of a doubt it is a turnstile for crime, cartels, and drugs.

Secretary Mayorkas has allowed this to happen at the direction of the Biden administration. He has unilaterally disarmed the border by refusing to enforce the existing laws and blatantly disregarding his oath of office, but that is not all. We know that Secretary Mayorkas has issued guidance stating that an illegal immigrant's presence alone is not grounds for deportation. Not even criminal charges or convictions or gang membership are enough for deportation.

Only in crazy town can you break the law and be rewarded.

Madam Speaker, Secretary Mayorkas doesn't want to end the mayhem at the border. Rather, he blatantly supports and is forcibly pushing for this madness. That is why there has been over—here are the numbers:

8.3 million illegal crossings nationwide;

Over 7 million illegal crossings at the southern border;

1.7 million known got-aways; and

169 terrorists caught trying to cross the border, which is an all-time record.

Do we know who is coming in, and do they wish to do us harm?

That is the point, Madam Speaker. We don't know.

What we do know is that Secretary Mayorkas has failed us all, and it is not just bad in Texas. From California to the free State of Florida, States across the country are now feeling the consequences of the border crisis.

In recent days, Border Patrol's Miami sector arrested an illegal resident with an Interpol red notice for homicide in Nassau, Bahamas;

An illegal immigrant convicted of attempted indecent liberties with a minor; and

An illegal immigrant with over five DUI convictions.

It is out of control, Madam Speaker.

Florida is located more than 1,000 miles from the southern border, but my constituents bear the brunt of this disaster, from strains on our schools and healthcare systems to fentanyl on our streets and strains on our law enforcement.

Planeloads of illegal immigrants are being off-loaded in our communities during the middle of the night at taxpayers' expense.

Madam Speaker, the border is a fight, but it is a fight worth having. When it comes to the border crisis, Americans are looking for leadership, not denials, distractions, or deflections. It is time to impeach.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I can't overemphasize the point about fentanyl enough, and I am glad the gentleman made it again.

That was something that was top of mind, as I just had constituent meetings in Utah, particularly with law enforcement, in trying to squelch this overabundant invasion of fentanyl. It is catching people in situations that they would have otherwise not gotten into. It is overtaking our communities, and we need to communicate about it and have it addressed.

Fentanyl becomes more and more the clear topic that we need to get out ahead of, and I think that is something that is motivating the Republican Conference more than anything to address this border issue.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, Vice Chairman MOORE, for yielding and for claiming the time this morning to discuss these important issues facing our Nation.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear. The President has the existing authority to close the southern border today. No act of Congress is necessary, no new law is needed.

Section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes the President to, "suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens," whose entry he finds "would be detrimental to the interests of the United States."

This is authority that has been used in the past successfully by previous Presidents to gain control of the border when it has lost control.

His refusal to do so signals his unwillingness to secure our border, despite Customs and Border Protection

reporting more than 8 million illegal encounters nationwide, including 361 on the terror watch list since President Biden took office, in just 3 short years.

Let's be honest with the American people, Madam Speaker. If the President seriously thought an act by Congress was necessary to secure the border, and if he was actually willing to do so, why didn't he do it when Democrats controlled both the House and the Senate?

The answer is simple. It would go against the White House's policy and the President's policy and desire to keep our borders open and let into this country millions of people illegally.

As a candidate, President Biden made this clear. He said it multiple times on the campaign trail. So this isn't a policy failure. It is the policy of President Biden.

Now that it is an election year and the majority of Americans believe the situation at the southern border is a crisis, according to at least recent CBS News Polls and others, President Biden is attempting to put a Band-Aid on what is, in my opinion, a bullet wound, and worse yet, a self-inflicted bullet wound.

Except, attached to that Band-Aid, are multiple, unnecessary, and costly items that will only make matters at our borders worse.

The Senate border bill isn't a border bill, it is an immigration bill that legitimizes President Biden's open-border policies and steals money from our grandchildren and great-grandchildren and relatives far into the future.

On behalf of all sensible Tennesseans whom I represent, I could not in good faith vote for this bill in its current form. Rather, we must enact serious and stringent border security reforms, like the ones passed by the House almost 1 year ago in H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

New law is not needed in order to empower the President to deal with the problem at our southern border, but rather, to force the President to deal with the problem at our southern border.

Throwing money at the problem won't solve it. Passing new laws won't solve it, unless the President is either forced or develops a willingness to enforce the laws of this country and stop the flow of illegal immigrants and illicit drugs into this country, his proposals will only make matters worse.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing any legislation that will only memorialize or place into law the policies of this administration to allow illegals to flow into the country.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for his willingness to always show up and share his message. His constituents and Americans alike appreciate it.

Madam Speaker, I am from Utah's First, and I call it the best district. I believe California is also the First Dis-

trict, so we will also call it the best district.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), the first best district.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, we come to this microphone day after day, especially the last 2½ to 3 years, recounting the difficulty that we—"we," this collective body, the House and Senate, and the government in general—we are putting the people of this country through, this unnecessary pain, unnecessary crisis, just one after another.

□ 1200

This isn't made by weather or nature or even foreign enemies, per se. We are causing it by the actions either from this administration directly or their bureaucracy. It is one thing after another. In my home State of California, we echo that in spades there as well.

One of them right now is the condition that we are treating women and girls in this country. Now, the usual saw might be about abortion or something. No, look what is happening. For girls and women in their sports, in their opportunities, you have men masquerading as women because they can't cut it on a men's team in sports, for example, so they switch over and just start competing on a women's team or girls' team in school.

How are we even at this point of entertaining this as a legitimate and wise way of doing things?

I keep asking, where are the feminist groups on this? Are they so locked into politics and being unified with the left that they are willing to sacrifice the futures of girls and young women in college with scholarships? Plus, the camaraderie of sports anyway, the goodness that comes from working as a team or those individual efforts you have in individual sports of excelling and finding that just dashed because there are a couple of biological males competing in that same sport with some of the built-in physical advantage they have in many sports, maybe not all but a lot of them.

We see them losing opportunities for scholarships at the college level or winning the gold medal in whatever sport it is.

I am glad to stand with the female athletes as they continue what has been a long fight to have that opportunity in sports. We have title IX coming along. We had some fits and starts getting there, but they deserve to have the same opportunities as men do.

It is a different fight these days. What we see is the left actually intentionally erasing women. Their opportunities are being taken. As I have said, the spaces on sports teams, filling out the rosters, with biological males on there, they lose scholarships, or on the podium, as they win their medals, being replaced with biological men.

Americans in these sports across the country are rightly outraged at what

has happened and what is happening to women's and girls' sports. I have signed on to several initiatives at the congressional level to protect women and girls, such as the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act that keeps men from taking scholarships, roster spots, and championship titles from women athletes.

Indeed, it is a point of insanity where we are with this. It is really unfair that they would have to even fight for this opportunity to compete on a stage, on a field, or what have you, with biological men; be pitted against them in contact sports, possibly physically harmed due to the physical advantages that are frequent, or the indignity of having to share a locker room space the way you are raised, with modesty, with the obvious separation of the sexes—up until this recent phenomena that seems to be having so much momentum amongst the left, amongst people who it seems like have really lost their sensibilities.

This is an effective silencing of the voices of female athletes, with the expectation to conform, all because of a gender identity ideology that is running amuck right now. Indeed, we are kind of a laughingstock as a country from some of the countries that are still developing their own sports and contemplating what the heck is it they are doing over there.

Women are being directly hurt by this, as I mentioned, with the physical harm, concussions, skull fractures, other injuries, and being pushed out of their opportunities by this intrusion of males.

It is imperative for the next generation of girls that they be able to grow up and know that they are cared about, that they are loved, that they matter, instead of just being erased from these opportunities. It is just unbelievable we have to talk about this.

Indeed, under this Biden era and others, my home State of California and several other States that are doing this, it is one crisis after another.

I want to talk about energy for a minute, too, because that is another unneeded crisis that is being inflicted upon the people of this country due to the cost.

Now, energy is the basis for so much of our economy and the cost of our economy. In my real life, I am a farmer. Before the 2022 crop, we saw the price of fuel double and the price of fertilizer triple. In 2023 it came back down a little bit. In my home State of California, it is still often normal to see \$5 fuel out on the roadway there. It is all because the day President Biden came in, he started having an anti-American energy policy, which is harming our ability to develop and transport natural gas, which is very important, for example, in fertilizer production, but also in warming grain storage around the country, putting warm air on the grain so it will dry out and stay preserved, and so many other forms of use of natural gas, heating homes and operating power plants.

With the miracle of hydraulic fracturing developed not that long ago, America came from being an energy user to the ability to be a major energy exporter. The prices came down so much that other countries were actually looking at locating more and more factories here because the cost of energy was going to be so low.

We have the Biden administration doing everything it can to cut off more development and usage of natural gas at the pass. Why is that? Natural gas burns cleanly. It is one of the good transition fuels as we move from other forms to that, but we still need all of them. We need all of them.

Hydroelectric power is clean, CO₂-free electricity, yet it is being pushed out as more and more dams—in my own district in northern California, four dams on the Klamath River are being attacked right now. One of them has already been taken down. Ostensibly, the idea is to save fish there, even though the fish historically really haven't traveled up the river the way it is claimed. They aren't true spawning grounds in a lake that is warm, Klamath Lake, and not ideal for this type of fish. Science doesn't seem to matter on that, because it is a political situation that is being hustled on us.

We are going to lose this hydroelectric at the same time that many are mandating by the year 2035 or 2045, or whatever they want to make up at the time, that we have to have X amount of electric cars or electric stoves or electric leaf blowers and lawnmowers. Heaven knows, we will be moving into trucks and trains and even airplanes.

They are taking away the ability to generate electricity, clean, CO₂-free, baseload power such as hydroelectric and really clean fossil fuel but still a very clean and efficient natural gas.

I have been attending a lot of seminars on nuclear energy as well. There is another CO₂-free power source that is baseload, that is dependable, that is 24/7. And we are having such difficulty procuring and permitting new nuclear plants. The technology has continued to improve and get better. For these smaller plants, it would be more ideal locating near cities where the technology, the safety is there, but we can't hardly talk about that. We have to have a breakthrough on that so we can be energy independent with low cost and what would appear to be renewable energy.

Renewable isn't just windmills and solar panels, which are really unreliable. We have the opportunity to have baseload power that would be low priced and available 24/7 with these technologies. We have roadblocks time and time again. They want to tear down dams. They want to get rid of natural gas. They are hesitant on nuclear energy. There just doesn't seem to be a solution for the left, because everything is "no." It isn't all going to be served by solar panels and windmills, because those are a tiny percent of our overall grid.

The rest of the world is going ahead with oil and gas development and usage. The curve is going way up around the rest of the world. It is only us and a couple other western countries that are hamstringing our ability to be energy independent, develop the energy we need, and have an economy here. Instead, we are going to export our economy to China and Asia.

We are harming ourselves by having this administration in charge with their wrong-headed, backward policies on this. We need energy independence. We can do it. We can do it cleanly and responsibly.

I mentioned CO₂ a couple times, CO₂ meaning climate change and the fear factor that is causing around the country. I remind you; CO₂ is only 0.04 percent of our atmosphere. When asked, the average person on the street who is busy with their lives doing what they do, they will typically guess, from all the hype, somewhere between 20 and 50 percent. No, it is 0.04 percent.

With the U.S. and a couple other western countries actually flattening their CO₂ production, even dipping down a little bit, it is certainly not us that would be the so-called problem. It is the continued export of jobs, export of economy, and export of manufacturing to places like China and the Pacific rim where they don't have nearly the protections.

As we keep talking about a carbon-free life and going zero carbon, it is actually not necessary. Because so little of the atmosphere is carbon dioxide anyway, it is not a threat. It is one that is used by government, by organizations, by international organizations, to try and control more and more of our economy and of our lives; taking away our vehicles, taking away our mobility, telling us we need to live in stacked communities instead of the way we live; running people off the rural areas like in my district and the western States, running people out of the cattle business and such by introducing wolves, decimating the deer and elk populations, as well as livestock; basically pushing people out that are productive people that serve all of those folks that make these policies that live in the cities.

I guess maybe they need to go to the end of the food line when they are talking about what they are doing to devastate agriculture, as well as these other industries that provide the minerals, electricity, energy, and everything they need.

There are so many crises that are unneeded in this country, I could go all day long, but I shouldn't. I hope people will take heart on this and look at what the policies are that are being made by the Biden administration, by Democrats in the Senate, and the majority in my home State of California, 3-1 Democrat majority with Governor Newsom, and the havoc that is being wreaked on the people of California with these wrongheaded policies. Certainly, I would invite the rest of the

country not to emulate what California does.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I served on the Natural Resources Committee with the gentleman from California. The point that we continually tried to make is that American innovation and American leadership need to be invested in.

The policies that are playing out and the rhetoric and all of hyperbole, it moves us away from improving the situation on anything related to energy. It is fascinating. He and I had a chance to spend a lot of time on that.

To further emphasize and discuss the bill we just recently passed, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, is an incredibly important voice within our conference, from Pennsylvania's 13th District, and a physician himself. I look forward to hearing his thoughts.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his leadership and for holding this Special Order today.

Mr. Speaker, it was here in the U.S. Capitol, just a few hundred feet from where we are standing, that President Abraham Lincoln called on all of us "to care for him who shall have borne the battle."

Today, the House voted on legislation which will help us to carry on President Lincoln's promise. By passing the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, the House voted to ensure that any patient using a Federal health program can never be turned away on the basis of using the quality-adjusted life years formulas.

Known as QALYs, these formulas have been used to determine if patients should receive certain medical treatments. In essence, this is rationing of medical care.

As a doctor, I treated patients at the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Blair County, Pennsylvania. Eliminating the use of these formulas for all Federal programs will ensure that our veterans will be able to receive the care and the treatment that they need and that they deserve, continuing the promise of Abraham Lincoln.

□ 1215

Further, this legislation will help to protect Americans with disabilities and those with chronic diseases as well as children who receive their healthcare through Federal programs like CHIP.

Today, I was proud to vote in favor of this legislation that protects patients' access to the latest medical technologies and to the latest innovations.

Proudly, I can say that this legislation passed the House, and proudly I can say that we have voted to protect American patients.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the doctor from Pennsylvania for his remarks. I appreciate his support on the bill and communicating the importance of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I welcome the gentleman from the Sixth District of Virginia to share his remarks.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the nearby State of Virginia (Mr. CLINE).

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for hosting this Special Order and for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I want to talk about a subject that is in the news right now: the crisis that has been created by this administration on the border and the intentional encouragement of millions of migrants to make a dangerous journey from across the globe to the United States. Crossing the border illegally, often seeking a better life, but declaring asylum when they have crossed the border illegally is not the solution.

Yesterday, we had a vote to impeach Secretary Mayorkas. That vote failed by a single vote. I thank the gentleman for his leadership in switching his vote to be with the prevailing side, so that he can perform the parliamentary maneuver and bring it back for a vote when we do have all of the supporters of impeachment in the House Chamber ready to vote. Hopefully, we will see that next week.

Madam Speaker, for over 2 years, the Biden administration has stood by their policies and watched as the worst border crisis in history continues to worsen. The results of these open-border policies speak for themselves. There have been over 1 million illegal migrant encounters since October, including 302,000 in December alone and 19 individuals on the terrorist watch list.

These policies have fueled a national fentanyl epidemic, put more money in the hands of cartels and human traffickers, opened the border to national security threats, and prevented ICE from deporting most of those here illegally, even convicted violent criminals and gang members.

What is extremely tragic about this crisis that we find ourselves in today is that most of this could have been prevented. The Biden administration assumed office with strong border security policies in place, and, yet, instead of taking responsibility and maintaining sound policies that would fix these issues and enforce our immigration laws, President Biden and the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, dismantled our border security.

We have given this administration all the tools that they need to do their job and secure the border. There are laws on the books that basically spell out exactly how to secure the border, how to detain those coming across the border illegally, and how to prevent those from coming across the border illegally, but this administration has actively worked to find every loophole and do just the opposite.

We, all 435 Members of this body, swore to defend the Constitution, yet the Department of Homeland Security Secretary, who took a similar oath,

has the audacity to come before Congress, the Judiciary Committee on which I am proud to serve, and lie under oath saying that we have operational control of the border. Secretary Mayorkas has the audacity to neglect his oath to safeguard the American people and our community, and this body must hold him accountable.

It is our duty to hold those accountable who neglect their duty, regardless of their position. Secretary Mayorkas has purposely and knowingly disregarded the rights and security of this country's citizens and failed in his responsibility to protect our homeland.

The American people rightfully deserve action. It is imperative that we, as Representatives of the people, ensure that those in positions of power are held to the highest standards of accountability. That is why I will continue to fight on behalf of my constituents, whom I am proud to serve every day, to continue to ensure their safety and hold Alejandro Mayorkas accountable for his dereliction of duty.

It is long past time we restore our Nation's rule of law and sovereignty. We must impeach Secretary Mayorkas, and it is my hope that we do so next week. The American people deserve better.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for sharing his perspective from his district just west of here. I think that is the point. A lot of folks come up and use this time to share a message in speaking to their constituents, but across the country this impacts everywhere. We use the terminology that every State is a border State, but it does impact everywhere.

Madam Speaker, again, we passed a very important healthcare bill today. Healthcare policy is oftentimes misunderstood and difficult to really communicate. That has continued on for decades.

I want to highlight some of the aspects of this bill that we just recently passed out of the House of Representatives. Before doing so, I wanted to use this moment to also highlight something that I have done from this podium before on why this moment, when we talk about all the crises that are going on—we have major turmoil going on in the Middle East, we have a border crisis, and we have inflation running rampant—in all of these different areas, I want the American people to know my perspective.

I want my constituents to know that right now the political reality is that we have what is called split government. We have a White House with a Democratic President and a Democratic Party. We have a Senate controlled by the Democratic Party, and we have a House of Representatives controlled by the Republican Party.

What the Republicans in the House of Representatives have been trying to do for just over the year that we have had as the majority—for a time we were in the minority—is to just highlight several different things.

Let me speak very plainly. The American Rescue Plan was passed several weeks after President Biden was inaugurated. What took place then was everything switched in Washington. When we have a split government like we do now, we usually, hopefully, get outcomes like we did with the tax package last week where Republicans and Democrats on committee sat down, looked through the entire Tax Code and realized that certain provisions had expired. They tried to uncover what the important aspects were of what we needed to accomplish.

We came to an amazing tax package that I have celebrated. I have celebrated along with my committee members; I have celebrated along with the entire House of Representatives and back home. I am so proud of the work that we did there. Oftentimes that is what creates a lot of really good results.

Returning to the American Rescue Plan, it was a \$1.9 trillion bill that within months created some of the worst inflation our Nation has seen in four decades. It is simple. When we add that much monetary supply and we have too much money chasing too few goods, then there is only one equation, and it is inflation.

When the Republicans took over the House of Representatives this last cycle, it is being reported all the time now that inflation is sort of squashed. These are simple equations. Republicans are putting the clamps on what President Biden tried to massively spend during his time when he had the White House, the House, and the Senate, because in that scenario, Madam Speaker, you don't have to even dialogue with the other party. I am proud of the work that Republicans have done in that scenario.

So I use that as an example. That is a simple equation. It is basic economic fundamentals. If we don't load up the monetary supply so much then you won't create this type of inflation, and we have been doing that. Prices are still high because a lot of these prices are here to stay, unfortunately. After a massive inflationary period, those prices stay high, but inflation is down. I am thrilled to have been a part of it and to be able to put the clamps on the Biden administration's spending appetite and get this back to a reasonable level.

The point that I am trying to draw a correlation on is we have been hitting this border issue for 3 years now, and we are going to continue to do this. It is now clear from all of the data and all of the polling—colleagues of mine from the Democratic side recognize that this isn't just a post-pandemic issue where we are overloaded on the border—we have a fundamental issue.

The thing that I am appreciative of on my side is just highlighting very specific and simple things that could be done to fix this. I wish we could do it legislatively, but they don't even need to be done legislatively. They are

simple things like re-implement the Migrant Protection Protocols or the remain in Mexico policy. This is the strongest signal to the cartels that says: You can't overrun our borders because through this asylum process, you will get put in the system, you will get a spot and you will get your case heard, but you are not allowed to be released.

It is the most simple and basic policy. If President Biden wanted to truly effect positive change at the border, then he would just re-implement things like the catch and release program. There are simple fixes to that, and I have highlighted it over and over again. I will continue to do that and to call this out. Hopefully, we can.

Even going forward, it is a tumultuous time in the House of Representatives and in the Senate right now about figuring out where to land on some of these negotiations. We cannot give up just because things seem difficult or overwhelming. We have got to be willing to find a way to massively improve our situation at the southern border.

Again, back to the legislation that we covered today and that we recently passed. This is another step to improve our healthcare system and ensure all patients get access to the best treatments and care that they need.

Chairwoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS' Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act will help ensure the value of lifesaving cures and treatments for people with disabilities is not discounted.

The bill will provide all Federal healthcare programs, including the VA and Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, as well as federally funded State healthcare programs like Medicaid, from using prices that are based on quality-adjusted life years or similar measures. Quality-adjusted life years are intended to measure the value of medical interventions relative to someone's condition and how it will impact the patient's longevity.

Nonetheless, this can devalue certain patients' lives and lead to picking winners and losers, ultimately taking the decision out of the hands of patients and their healthcare provider. A ban on quality-adjusted life years currently only applies in Medicare, so by extending this prohibition to all Federal payers, we show people with disabilities and chronic illnesses that we value and cherish their lives and their ability to get the care they need.

This is particularly important in Medicaid and the VA. Medicaid serves a large population of people with disabilities, and the VA, as we know, cares for injured veterans and those with service-related disabilities like the brave men and women who serve at Hill Air Force Base in Utah's First Congressional District.

This policy also protects the ability of payers to use utilization management tools and other measures to determine cost effectiveness to keep our

healthcare costs down, so long as those measures are not discriminatory.

The Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act is widely supported by leading advocacy organizations that support vulnerable patients with chronic diseases or people with disabilities ranging from The ALS Association, to Autism Speaks, to the National Down Syndrome Society among many, many others.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman RODGERS for her passion for these issues. I urge the Senate to take this up and to seriously consider it, not to look on party lines, and pass this legislation. There is merit to this, and it will go and serve vulnerable populations.

Again, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for being willing to come and share their message. I appreciate their willingness to always come and do this and be a part of our Special Order.

I will end with just saying there are simple fixes to a lot of this, and we cannot continue to make it so difficult.

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

BLACK HISTORY MONTH OVERVIEW

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, each year in February, we have the opportunity to study the past and use it as a learning tool to move closer to a future of social equity for all. As we are now in the midst of Black History Month, it is both fitting and necessary that we look inward to our own communities and the legacy of the pioneers who paved the way.

From the foundations of our great State to the present time, Michigan's Seventh District, which I am proud to represent, has been home to many pioneering Black men, women, and organizations who have made significant contributions to every aspect of life in our State.

□ 1230

The great State of Michigan stood tall as an anti-slavery State in the Civil War and played an important role in aiding Freedom Seekers on their path via the Underground Railroad.

Today, Michigan is a hub of arts, culture, athletics, and innovation, thanks

to the contributions of our diverse citizenry who call it home.

It is my profound honor, for the fourth time annually, to highlight stories of Black Michiganders, past and present, from the Seventh District and to read their stories into the archives of this great Chamber.

HONORING THE CANADY FAMILY

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to a legendary Lansing family that has broken barriers across generations and continues to make history to this very day.

The story begins in 1927 when the family matriarch, Ms. Hortense Canady, was born in Chicago. While she didn't grow up in Michigan, she came to Michigan State University to pursue her graduate studies after attending Fisk University, where she met her husband, Clinton.

In the Lansing area, Hortense and Clinton, a World War II veteran and member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, settled, put down roots, and left an indelible mark on our community.

Clinton became a well-known and well-loved dentist, while Hortense put her passion for education and civil rights into action, becoming the first African American elected to the Lansing School Board of Education in 1968. Four years later, she and several other board members were recalled for advocating for desegregation, but Hortense did not let that deter her from working toward her core belief that everyone deserves access to quality education.

She sat on the State's Women's Commission, served as the first executive director of the Lansing Community College Foundation, and helped fund a debutante club in Lansing to fill a void for young Black women, who at the time were not permitted to share in this tradition.

Hortense founded the Lansing alumnae chapter of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, and served as its national president from 1983 to 1988. She was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 2002 and was named one of Ebony magazine's Most Influential People. Hortense Canady died in 2010 at the age of 83.

Not only was Hortense Canady impressive in her own right, but her children have continued to blaze their own trails.

Her daughter, Alexa Canady, is the first African-American woman in the Nation to be a neurosurgeon and served as the chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan from 1987 until her retirement in 2001. She devoted her brilliant mind and numerous talents to healing and welfare for thousands of young patients over the course of her career. Like her mother, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She was also named a Michigander of the Year by the Detroit News in 2002.

All three of Hortense Canady's sons became attorneys, including the Honorable Judge Clinton Canady III. Before ascending to the bench, Canady