

the ways in which our laws and our systems have moved us forward over and over again, much to the envy of many.

We have a strong economy, the strongest economy in the world, great innovation, great communities, great schools, good elections, but we have to look this time in the face.

In July 2020, I didn't speak these words, but I wrote these words and submitted them to the Chamber. I think that they are worth sharing in part because we are in an election year. I am not politicking, and I am not abusing this lectern or my time or my space here.

These elections seem to drive us further from each other than they do drive us together. It is like we can't see each other. I am from a politically popular State, Michigan. People are campaigning and competing for Michigan, so I see it all. I see what is going on with these national campaigns.

On July 9, 2020, I submitted words to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Madam Speaker, I rise today with respect to our democracy. We boast a steady history, no matter the circumstance, of maintaining a peaceful and efficient process upon the conclusion of our Presidential elections. Whether a President continues in office for another term, experiences defeat, or concludes holding office due to the constitutional term limit, our democracy has flourished to the benefit of the American people for centuries.

Now, I am going to guess that we are going to have a passionate, heated November 5 and a result is going to happen. I am going to make this extension, similar to how I did in written form 4 years ago, of committing to that peaceful process.

This is not to shame, scold, or admonish. We are in a new time. We are not struggling with the pandemic. We are not struggling with people not being able to work and dealing with some other matters that kept them pent up, but we are here to flourish as the 21st century hits its quarter mark.

When I think about what happened, and I was here as the 2020 election happened and then debates pursued and fights and claims of malfeasance, which were really never proven, but I stand here because, from 2000 to 2020, we had a lot of frustrations with our Federal elections. 2000 was one. It was major.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Michigan has 15 minutes remaining.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, 15 minutes, a good 45 minutes of going strong here, and not a sip of water. Mr. Speaker, I will use my 15 minutes.

I am going to say this because we had the 2000 election, which was really determined by the Supreme Court. People who were in the political process and people who surround the lawmaking of this Nation, instead of saying, gosh, what are the American people telling us over and over again? We are closer together than we are further apart.

□ 1945

We have a four-seat effort to have a new majority in the Congress. We have a 50–50 Senate.

We have an electoral college, which was somewhat designed to placate and recognize legal and important matters in the United States of America.

We have an electoral college that has determined a handful of these elections, particularly in this century. We want to say your vote matters.

Well, the popular vote is recognized, but it is not determinative, and we really haven't reformed or adjusted a thing. We have just continued on.

We haven't made amendments. We haven't added States to the Union. We have just said, this is the way it is going to be.

We are experiencing a somewhat frustrating and tragic uptick in the disappointment of our fellow countrymen and women. They don't trust the system.

It astonishes me. This is the time in the process of elections where, of course, I am in rigorous conversation with voters, but I am also in rigorous conversation with people who aren't voting the way I am. Why is that?

I know that the world changes really quickly after an election, and we have to find a way to keep going. We have to find a way to make sure that this institution hits its pitch level of perfection. It will never be perfect, but in terms of outcomes and results.

Frankly, if you don't understand why people are voting a certain way, if you are just quick to write them off or to make a judgment or an insult, and maybe this is a lecture to everyone, but it is really just a point of personal privilege, you are not on the path to succeeding, and we know that.

I take pride as a liberal, as a Democrat who came in and won because people who voted for the 45th President voted for me, and I recognize that. I took that seriously. I always kept it up.

We have had a couple of impeachments last term and this term and the term before it. Every term I have been here, impeachment comes up. It is not clear to me that impeachment is even working for its intended purposes.

Now, the last time we impeached a President, I thought, well, that is very impeachable because of the dereliction of duty and the total abandonment of the roles and the responsibilities of the Commander in Chief. The government was being attacked. There is no excuse about it. Well, that impeachment failed. The impeachments are failing.

We do have elections, and elections have to be fair, we can say that, but they have to be trusted. They have to be trusted.

Whether it is me or another elected official always deems someone as political it is because they are falling in a party, well, you are on that side and I am on this side. The trust can only extend so far, and that becomes painful to our democracy.

While I haven't proposed every answer on every reform, de Tocqueville, certainly when he was evaluating our Nation and exploring it and writing about it, said "Nothing is more wonderful than the art of being free, but nothing is harder to learn how to use than freedom." The freedom of our fellow citizens, our fellow residents, and the freedom as lawmakers who have been bestowed a trust on behalf of the citizens of our district, the voting residents of our districts, to continue to help to form a more perfect Union.

We must reclaim trust. We must utilize every facet of this body, not in perfunctory terms, not for show, which is why I have carved out an hour of my evening to make this extension and to make this reflection and to dare to proclaim that a reformed and strengthened American democracy will best serve us to the future generations and those before us today.

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

FAILED BORDER POLICIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROSENDALE. 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 Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, tonight we are going to speak about the border, the failed policies, and the false security that has been created under the Biden-Harris administration.

It is a target-rich environment, I will tell you. We have many examples of the problems that have been created and the policies that created those problems before us.

Keep in mind we have examples of what is also to do right, not theories, but we have hard examples of what to do to secure our border that were implemented under the Trump administration.

Yes, now we have examples of what not to do as we look at the current wide-open border and the massive problems that were created under the Biden-Harris administration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) my distinguished colleague, to kick this off.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding tonight.

Mr. Speaker, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS' tenure as border czar has been a complete and absolute failure. For

the folks who claim she was never in charge of the border, I will read President Biden's own words from March of 2021.

He specifically assigned Vice President HARRIS with the task of "stemming the migration to our southern border."

I understand the White House would like to rewrite that bit of history, but a simple Google search will show that it isn't just House Republicans calling her the border czar. She was widely referred to as such by the mainstream media at the time.

Since her appointment, HARRIS has gone to the border only once. Even worse, she never spoke to either of the past two chiefs of Border Patrol.

While the Vice President was failing to meet her new responsibility, our Commander in Chief was busy undoing the successful border policies of President Trump.

Here is where that has gotten us. More than 10 million people have tried to cross into the United States illegally in less than 4 years. More than 52,000 illegal immigrants with criminal backgrounds have tried to enter our Nation illegally. Those are just the ones we know about.

Keep in mind more than 2 million people managed to evade Border Patrol under this administration. That is more got-aways under Biden-Harris than in the previous decade combined.

This is a direct result of open-border policies and a refusal to uphold the immigration laws already on the books.

In July alone, there was a daily average of 3,300 encounters at the border. Former President Obama's DHS Secretary noted a few years ago that any more than 1,000 encounters per day overwhelms the system.

Mr. Speaker, the border crisis is far from over, and it continues to threaten our national security. In the last 2 years, Border Patrol officials have seized an average of 2,000 pounds of fentanyl every month coming across the border, enough to kill 458 million people. The real question is: How much fentanyl did they fail to seize that is currently killing our citizens?

More than 350 people who are on the terror watch list have been stopped trying to cross the southern border.

A recent report revealed that 99 of them were released into the country after being stopped at the border.

It was also widely reported this summer that more than 50 illegal immigrants with ties to ISIS were on the loose after being released from custody, all of this on Vice President KAMALA HARRIS' watch.

This week, House Republicans will bring to the floor two pieces of critical legislation. The first is a bill to ensure that any illegal immigrant who is convicted of a sex offense or crimes involving stalking, child abuse, and neglect are deported.

The second is a piece of legislation that claims to end the free hotels, healthcare, and cash given to hundreds

of thousands of illegal immigrants being housed in our Nation's major cities.

It is well past time to stop incentivizing illegal immigration. It is time to support what the American people overwhelmingly support, immigration done the legal way.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, you can see there is a long list of problems, and we have many speakers here who want to speak to those problems this evening.

It is critically important for the American people to hear that not only do we identify what these problems are, but the Republicans have been bringing solutions forward to address these problems.

We have been bringing solutions that we know will work. They are not, again, theories. These are issues that have been addressed, and we know that the solutions that we are recommending have been utilized by the Trump administration and are extremely effective.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

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

During his time in office, the Biden administration continues to break records but not in a good way. Last month, Customs and Border Protection seized close to 1,700 pounds of fentanyl at the border, a 30 percent increase from just July.

Over 200,000 Americans have now died from illegal drugs being smuggled across the southern border, and this number only continues to increase. This also comes after 3 years of broken border records and overwhelmed Border Patrol agents.

Some of the first executive actions taken by President Biden undid the Trump administration's attempts to get the situation under control.

Biden threw open the border. Whether he did it for political reasons or through sheer incompetence, it is costing Americans half a trillion dollars every year.

Now, we have fentanyl flowing across the border, courtesy of the Mexican cartels, tearing apart families and the very fabric of our communities in the North Carolina mountains.

Our border is being overrun with lawbreaking migrants, overpowered by drugs, and overwhelmed by what this is costing our Nation.

By conservative estimates, more than 2 million illegal immigrants have been turned loose and are now unaccounted for in America, and that doesn't include those who managed to give Border Patrol agents the slip or the millions who have been living here illegally for years.

These are not small numbers, Mr. Speaker. This is mass migration into our country, facilitated by our very own President.

What is the Biden-Harris solution? How does President Biden and his appointed border czar plan to solve a problem that they manufactured?

Last month, a DHS report found nearly 530,000 individuals were flown in and paroled by the Biden administration under the error-plagued mass parole program for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans, a program that was previously paused due to mass fraud and abuse. You can't make this up, folks.

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 have cosponsored and voted for H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which is the strongest border security package passed by the House in American history.

□ 2000

Senate Democrats and President Biden could take real, concrete steps to solve this migration crisis, and address everything from court backlogs to the trafficking of unaccompanied children if they would just get behind H.R. 2.

Why are the Democrats so adamantly opposed to commonsense legislation to protect Americans and close the southern border, you might ask?

One of my Democratic colleagues apparently said the quiet part out loud. In no uncertain terms, she said that she wanted more illegal immigrants to come into our country to give liberal sanctuary cities a higher population for congressional districting and the electoral college.

She said: "I need more people in my district just for redistricting purposes," in reference to illegal immigrants coming in droves to New York.

To solve the problem once and for all, I introduced H.R. 7109, the Equal Representation Act, which allows a very basic question to be asked in the U.S. Census: Are you a U.S. citizen?

Given all the other information the government collects during a census, this is a very reasonable thing that we should know, especially as the census count determines congressional apportionment, and only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote.

My bill prohibits anyone who is not a United States citizen from counting toward population totals that determine the number of seats each State has in the U.S. House of Representatives. This would go an incredibly long way to helping us determine who is actually in our country, which is not an unreasonable thing to want to know.

Knowing who is in our Nation and keeping out those who are trying to break our laws and brazenly waltz across our borders is basic national security. Our own President is failing at

the task of keeping this Nation safe and secure.

I ask my colleagues from across the aisle, and this administration, to work with Republicans to pass this common-sense legislation that actually goes to fix the problem.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for participating tonight and helping us to shed some light on all the problems that have been caused by this wide-open border that has been created by the Biden-Harris administration.

I yield next to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN), my good friend, a fellow duck hunter, and chairman of the Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding. I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), my dear friend and colleague, another Representative from Arkansas for joining me here at the well.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to honor and remember the remarkable life of my constituent, Jennifer Ann Morton, a beloved daughter, sister, aunt, and friend whose life was senselessly taken far too young.

While I did not have the opportunity to meet Jennifer myself, I understand she was a warm-hearted woman with unwavering principles. Born and raised in central Arkansas, Jennifer attended the University of the Ozarks for her undergraduate education. She later attended UAMS, where she obtained her license in respiratory therapy to pursue her passion for taking care of children as a respiratory therapist in the Infant Toddler Unit at Arkansas Children's Hospital. Her dedication to her work and her love for the children she cared for were unparalleled.

For nearly 20 years, Jennifer was a loyal supporter of the Texarkana Baptist Children's Home. The team at Baptist Kids knew Miss Jennifer as a compassionate and empathetic contributor to their mission, someone who never hesitated to support Arkansas children. With each donation, whether monetary or gifts for the kids, she always sent a personal and intentional letter to express her gratitude and care for the folks at Baptist Kids.

Her tender and caring heart was evident through her love for her nephews. She loved to spoil them. On every single holiday, she would always buy them matching pajamas.

Friends, this was a woman who devoted her life to caring for children. Her dedication was such that she would often leave work after a long shift and go to the store to buy new clothes for her patients, ensuring they were always comfortable and cared for.

However, above all, Jennifer always put God first. Everything else came second, no matter what.

Just 10 days ago, at only 48 years young, Jennifer's life was tragically and senselessly taken. Early in the morning on September 8, an illegal im-

migrant crashed into Jennifer while recklessly driving drunk through Little Rock.

Maynor Herrera, the man responsible for her death, was found fleeing the scene of the crash and was apprehended by the Arkansas State Police. He was charged with negligent homicide, DUI, driving without a license, weapons violations, and more. We later learned that he had already been deported from the U.S. in 2018. Due to our current chaotic immigration and border policies, there is no telling when he reentered, how he evaded Border Patrol, or how long he had been living in Arkansas.

This tragedy should have never happened. He should have never been in our country to begin with. The Biden-Harris administration's open-border policies are allowing thousands of men like Maynor Herrera to enter our country every single day.

We are failing our country. We need to step up, secure the border, and put an end to this chaos before any more innocent Americans lose their lives because of failed policies.

Before I close, I would like to recognize the brave Arkansas State Troopers who quickly responded on the scene on September 8: Sergeant Dakotah Bailey and Trooper Hunter Glover were the first to arrive on the scene. Corporal Benjamin Ibarra and Trooper Chance Fortune also responded.

Sergeant Bailey detained Herrera as he fled the crash, and Trooper Glover notified Jennifer's father, Jimmy, what had happened. I spoke with Jimmy just Monday, and he told me that Trooper Glover was kind, patient, and respectful in his actions that day, characteristics that the family will undoubtedly remember. Arkansans are blessed to have law enforcement officers who lead with respect and dignity above all else.

Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Morton's legacy will never be forgotten. We will remember her as a God-fearing and compassionate woman who cared deeply for her family and dedicated her life to caring for children. May God bless Jennifer's loved ones as they mourn her loss, a life taken far too soon.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his remarks. I think that this reflects very clearly on the losses that our country is suffering. It is much, much more than monetary consideration. We are losing lives every single day. We also have to acknowledge the hundreds of thousands of lives that have been lost from fentanyl overdoses.

Mr. Speaker, we have many of our colleagues lined up here to speak. Right now I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), my very good friend.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the vice chair for yielding, first of all, and I thank his dedication to this country and his friendship to me, and he will be missed. He is a good dude.

Mr. Speaker, the State Department has been giving out cash vouchers to il-

legal aliens. Now, imagine this. There are veterans living, literally, under bridges in the district I represent, yet they are giving folks that come over our border yours and mine hard-earned tax dollars. We don't know who the heck they are.

They have never been able to provide an actual number or amount. That is by design, Mr. Speaker. I have heard it stated, our country has been flooded with 10 million, 11 million, but I think it is probably closer to 15 million illegals in the last almost 4 years, and nobody knows exactly how many. Again, that is by design.

You add to that list the answers we don't have. Not only do we not know how much they have received in assistance, dadgummit, we don't even know how many people have received this assistance. The White House will not give us this information. We have all had the phone calls and the emails and the letters. We have seen the pictures of the buses unloading folks when they drop these folks, illegals, out into our districts, and no one can tell us who the heck they are, where they came from, or if they are expected to return anywhere. All you can count on is more tax dollars being spent.

We are \$35 trillion in debt. Every 100 days we add another dadgum trillion dollars, and neither party has a plan to pay it back. You cannot put a pin down on how much money we have doled out. We have got some serious problems.

Caravans travel fast and word of mouth travels even faster. These people know about the benefits that they are going to get before they even start their journey. They are more educated at it than, I daresay, any State Department official that is supposed to know what the heck is going on.

We are incentivizing illegal immigration, which means we are incentivizing breaking the law. Everybody knows it is wrong. They know it is wrong. We know it is wrong, but they are willing to forgo it. They know these folks are going to be voting. They know they are going to add to their rolls. One way or the other, they are going to get a driver's license, and then they are going to go to another State, and they are going to present that driver's license, and they are going to get a voter registration card, or they are going to do it within their own State.

The abject failure to secure our border is severely straining our communities. I can remember when I was mayor of Knox County, we had one school that had over a dozen different languages, and the population of that school was under 300. We are required to provide services for those children. Now, dadgummit, it is not the kids' fault. It is the breakdown of this town, the breakdown of the system that has caused this problem.

The people who actually pay taxes in this country are the ones who are paying for this. Our healthcare system, education, social safety nets, et cetera, are all breaking down. We don't even

know what people are buying with this cash that they are getting or where they are sending it. There is no way of telling.

Does it make it back to the cartels? I suspect it does. Who the heck knows? Nobody knows. Our State Department has a terrible track record under Secretary Blinken. That track record is bought and paid for with the American citizens' tax dollars. It is not in my notes, but it is on my heart. One thing I think we ought to remember if we read our Scripture: Jesus was talking, and he said, how you treat the least of these is how you treat me. Those 300,000-plus children that have come over our dadgum border, Mr. Speaker, nobody knows where they are, they don't know what hell those kids are in. I think our minds don't have to wander very far to know what conditions they are living in if some of them are even still living. We will pay. God will rebuke this Nation for that.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his remarks. I certainly appreciate him being here this evening, again, shedding light on these massive, massive terrible problems that this open border has created. It is much more than monetary costs to the taxpayers across this Nation. There are lives that are lost and there are lives that are suffering as a direct result of it.

Next I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Arkansas (Mr. HILL), my good friend. They have a showing this evening.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding to me.

I have to start out, Mr. Speaker, and thank my friend BRUCE WESTERMAN, my colleague in the Arkansas delegation, for paying tribute on this tragedy that we witnessed in our central Arkansas area of a life lost of an honorable citizen doing the Lord's work, caring for kids every day, who tragically lost her life due to the drunk driving by an illegal alien who crossed our border more than one time without any repercussions.

I thank Congressman WESTERMAN for his words in memory of Jennifer Morton. I join him with thoughts and prayers for her family, for her friends, for the loss of a skilled therapist at Arkansas Children's Hospital. However, Mr. Speaker, this is just emblematic of what we are confronting in this country: deaths like that, deaths from fentanyl, and massive human trafficking.

The Mexican drug cartels are making, truly, billions of dollars from those human trafficking fees of coaching, urging, pushing migrants across the southwest border of the United States to the point that there are millions entering our country illegally.

I thank my friend, Mr. ROSENDALE, for yielding me the time. My concern tonight that I want to highlight is the number of these that are potential terrorists in our country.

□ 2015

Just last year alone, 1 year, 169 individuals were caught on the terrorist screening database. That is more apprehensions, Mr. Speaker, than in the last 5 years combined. Isn't that an indication of just how open this border is?

The question is: Where are they once they cross into our country? What has become of them? They were encountered by Customs and Border Protection, they were encountered by TSA at an airport, but what has become of them? Those of us on the House Intelligence Committee and on the Homeland Security Committee have been tirelessly trying to get the answers to those most basic questions.

Since last fall, Congress has been requesting information from the executive branch to better understand the severity that this threat poses.

In my judgment, Mr. Speaker, it is a clear and present danger to our country, but how do we gauge that threat? How do we gauge the severity of it posed by known and suspected terrorists who have crossed our open southwest border at or between the ports of entry? Literally, with millions of got-aways, how are we supposed to extrapolate that risk? Is it greater because they obviously were avoiding detection, or should it be a ratio similar to what we witness today when they are encountered?

On numerous recent occasions, FBI Director Chris Wray has stated in Congressional testimony his concern about our open border and the increased threat of terrorism. He suggested that the threat of attack against Americans in the United States is at "a whole other level," that is his quote, and that he sees "blinking lights everywhere." That is his quote, Mr. Speaker, but it is from last fall, a year ago.

Actions speak louder than words and why his warnings have our attention. The executive branch's lack of coordinated, fused action, in my judgment, contradicts what he said.

During the annual threat assessment hearing last March, in open forum, I pressed Mr. Wray on this commonsense question: Where are these individuals? How have they been handled? Who knows about it?

Mr. Wray at that time could not answer, and to date, the FBI's responses have been less than satisfactory to the Members of Congress on the House Homeland Security Committee and Intelligence Committee.

The information is trickling in, but it is not the comprehensive, coordinated response with actions that I believe, in my judgment, our Members are seeking.

House Intelligence Chairman MIKE TURNER and House Homeland Security Chairman MARK GREEN have joined me in pressing for these answers. We led a letter in April to the Government Accountability Office to review the process of identifying which terrorist watch list individuals are trying to come into

our country and where they are once they are released. What is the policy there?

I have done more by adding language in the fiscal 2024 Intelligence Authorization Act to require Homeland Security and the FBI to regularly brief the Intelligence Committee on these policies, on these procedures, on just how these encounters, these individuals, are treated and how they are coordinated.

President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, and their agency heads bear the ultimate dereliction of duty and need to be reminded that border security isn't a partisan issue, Mr. Speaker. Border security is a national security issue.

Here we are just after the recent 23rd anniversary of 9/11, and it serves as a stark reminder that we need to immediately address where these terrorists potentially are in our country and ensure that a day like 9/11 never happens again.

CONGRATULATING DR. MARGIE SCOTT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Margie Scott, the medical director of the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, on a happy and healthy retirement.

Dr. Scott has devoted 26 years to serving veterans at the Central Arkansas VA, including 8 years as the director.

Dr. Scott orchestrated the challenging mission of providing care to nearly 70,000 veterans each year with an innovative and creative approach that has, over the years, modernized how the Central Arkansas VA operates.

The positive impact she has had is unquestionable, and the standard of care that she has set, I hope, will endure for many years to come.

I thank Dr. Scott for her steadfast commitment and service to our veterans. All of us in central Arkansas appreciate her tireless efforts that have led to veterans receiving the healthcare they rightfully deserve.

I congratulate Dr. Scott and wish her the best for a happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 19TH AIRLIFT WING'S
EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize members of the 19th Airlift Wing's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team for their efforts in securing dangerous military explosives during a recent traffic incident on I-40 in central Arkansas.

Based out of Little Rock Air Force Base, the 19th Airlift Wing supports the largest C-130 transport fleet in the world, providing humanitarian relief to victims of disasters and essential supplies to troops in the heart of enemy territory.

Following a tragic accident involving a tractor-trailer carrying military explosives, the 19th Airlift Wing's EOD team sprang into action, along with our State's first responders, to secure the hazardous cargo and move it away from civilian populations while also restoring use of the highway, in short order.

I was proud to meet with the airmen during my recent visit to Little Rock

Air Force Base and thank them for their bravery during this incident. It was truly impressive. Hats off to these brave airmen from Team Little Rock. All of Arkansas is proud of their efforts and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING PEGGY MCCALL

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peggy McCall for the nearly two decades of devoted work with Miracle League of Arkansas, an organization that provides opportunities for children with disabilities to play America's pastime.

While working at KIDsource Therapy, Peggy realized that children with special needs and their families should be able to make the same kind of memories at the ballpark that she had with her own children.

She partnered with Rotary Club of Little Rock's Club 99 in the spring of 2005 to bring a Miracle League field to central Arkansas, and that field hosted its first season that next year in 2006.

Since then, Peggy has been the cornerstone of Miracle League of Arkansas and currently serves as executive director of the organization.

In honor of nearly two decades of work to create unforgettable memories, Miracle League's field has a new name: Peggy McCall Field.

Peggy exemplifies passion and excellence for her work in our community, and all of Arkansas is better off because of her efforts.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
JONATHAN STUBBS

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lieutenant General Jonathan Stubbs on becoming the new director of the Army National Guard.

Lieutenant General Stubbs is the first Arkansan and National Guardsman to be elevated to the rank of the Lieutenant General and the first to be assigned as the director the Army National Guard.

Governor Sanders had named General Stubbs as her adjunct general of the Arkansas National Guard.

General Stubbs' quality, his character, his work ethic, and his leadership sharpened as our own TAG and are now fully recognized nationally with this great honor of leading the Army National Guard across our Nation.

Throughout his 27 years spent serving the Arkansas National Guard, Lieutenant General Stubbs has demonstrated the extraordinary ability to inspire and lead those under his command.

Whether it is at home or deployed in defense of America's Constitution and interests, Lieutenant General Stubbs has exemplified dedication, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to our country.

Lieutenant General Stubbs knows what it takes to lead our brave men and women in uniform. Though we will miss him and his leadership at home in Arkansas, we look forward to the now impressive, positive impact that he will make in this crucial role in our national defense here in Washington.

COMMENDING GEORGE H. DUNKLIN, JR.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exceptional work of a friend and great Arkansan, George H. Dunklin, Jr.

George has worked over the past four decades with conservation efforts to benefit Arkansas and the Natural State.

George has worked with Ducks Unlimited as an area chairman, president, chairman of the board of Ducks Unlimited, and has left a lasting mark on quality habitat preservation efforts for decades to come. He also has devoted time to serving as chairman of our Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

George has led a life of service to the people of Arkansas and its wildlife and their habitat. All of us from the Natural State thank him for his lifetime of hard work and tremendous dedication to waterfowl. Arkansas' reputation as a world-class place for outdoor recreation and field sports stands taller thanks to the efforts of citizens like George.

CONGRATULATING STEVE FINNEGAN

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Steve Finnegan on his first year of his broadcasting debut with his own radio show on 102.9 KARN in central Arkansas.

Steve is a passionate and gracious host who always strives to tell the truth and make sure that Arkansas voices are heard each Saturday from 12 to 3 central time.

Prior to his newfound radio career, Steve proudly served our Nation in the United States Army, helped lead the American Legion in Arkansas, and in the early 2010s, was CEO of Green Blue Environmental, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business, for over a decade.

Over the past year, he has taken an impressive veteran and small business owner background and brought his voice and expertise to the people of Arkansas and beyond across KARN's Arkansas signal and its streaming reach.

Steve Finnegan is a dedicated patriot both in his service and love of country and love of our great State of Arkansas and her people.

I congratulate Steve on an outstanding accomplishment. I look forward to the show's continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL
HESTER

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Michael Hester, a central Arkansan and member of the Arkansas National Guard.

This past August, Master Sergeant Hester was part of a six-person, all-National Guard rifle team that won the Dogs of War Trophy, a national trophy for marksmanship excellence.

Winning this revered trophy requires incredible skill and teamwork from all members of the team. Sergeant Hester served as a gunsmith and machinist for the team, playing a crucial role in the National Guard's first Dogs of War Trophy in almost four decades.

I speak for all central Arkansans when I say how proud we are of Master Sergeant Hester and his teammates for this significant achievement.

RECOGNIZING WESTON WAKEFIELD

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Weston Wakefield, an Arkansas teen golfer representing central Arkansas at the 2024 PURE Insurance Championship in Pebble Beach, California.

Weston started golfing when he was 8 years old and is a member of First Tee, a youth development organization that teaches life skills to kids and teens through golf.

The PURE Insurance Championship is in its 21st year and brings teens from First Tee chapters all over the country out to world famous Pebble Beach Golf Links and Spyglass Golf Course for the PGA TOUR Champions Tournament later this month.

Weston will be competing against 79 other teens from across the country for the pro-junior title. We wish him all the best luck in this tournament and will be sure to watch his continued success.

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RECOGNIZING CURTIS FERGUSON

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Curtis Ferguson of Benton, Arkansas.

Mr. FERGUSON's big personality and civic leadership left a big impression on everyone he met. He was truly larger than life.

Curtis passed away on June 16. Whether meeting Curtis in business, at church, or civic activities, you were smiling and glad he was helping. His family said that he had unrivaled work ethic and a big vision to match. He used these amazing character traits to create his own company, Ferguson's Furniture, and encouraged his family's entrepreneurial successes.

Curtis always had time for his family and his grandchildren. They will always remember their special trips with him and their learning experiences.

I am honored to have represented such an amazing self-made man, and I am glad I can help celebrate his life and commitment to Arkansas, Saline County, and Benton. We are all better off for this committed citizen and fun-loving business leader.

CONGRATULATING HEIDE HARRELL

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Heide Harrell, on her nomination to be the next chair of the board of directors of the Public Relations Society of America. If elected, she would be the first Arkansan to lead the PRSA.

I had the privilege of working alongside Heide as she served for 5 years as the communication and marketing officer at my former company, Delta Trust and Bank. She serves as the director for communications for Central Arkansas Water, a metropolitan water system that serves over a half million residents.

Heide has more than 20 years of communication and marketing experience,

and just last year, she received the Public Relations Society of America's Crystal Award for her significant contributions to the PR profession.

Heide exemplifies passion and excellence in her communications work and beyond, and I know she will excel if she is elected to this national role.

I congratulate Heide. All her friends, her former coworkers, and her current coworkers are very proud of this accomplishment.

OPEN BORDER IS SECURITY THREAT

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for joining us this evening, helping us to shed some light on the problems associated with the wide-open border, and I think that we can see that the people of Arkansas are very fortunate to have him representing them. It sounds like he has a lot of very, very good neighbors to keep him here in office. We appreciate the work that he does.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Montana has 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, this wide-open border is a national security threat. It is much more than a monetary problem that has been placed upon the taxpayers across the United States. Somewhere in the neighborhood of \$150 billion to \$500 billion a year is being taken out of the revenue that we should be spending on our veterans, that we should be spending on our own citizens, and it is being spent on illegal immigrants as they come into our country.

Everyone is always striving to find a better place. They want to have more opportunities for their family, for their children, for their grandchildren. We hear about the Dreamers all the time. Guess what? American children and citizens have dreams, too.

My children have dreams of what they would like to accomplish in this country. My grandchildren have dreams of what they would like to accomplish and what they see that this country could be, and we are stripping away all of those dreams when we continue to leave this border wide open.

I have grave concerns about not only the millions of people who have come in here illegally that we have had encounters with but, as has been touched upon this evening, I have grave concerns about the several million people who have come in as got-aways and have not had any encounters with any law enforcement whatsoever.

What kind of problems can they cause to our infrastructure? What kind of problems can they cause to our rail systems, to our water systems, to our sewer systems, to our power grid?

Why is it that when it is so easy to sneak into our country, to walk in, to be greeted on the border of Texas, to be greeted on the border of California, and be given new clothes, be given a cell

phone, be given transportation to virtually any place in this country that you want and some traveling money to go with it—what kind of criminal do you have to be to actually sneak into our country and what plans do you have to cause problems?

What strain is it causing to our school systems? How about the human trafficking, the human suffering that is taking place with the people who are forced into the sex trade day after day? We know that it is happening.

The hundreds of thousands of children that are completely unaccounted for, where have they been sold? Where have they been transported to? What kind of hell are they living in right now? How many of them will be just lost and end up taking their own lives because they cannot endure it any longer?

What about the introduction of diseases that we haven't seen for decades that are showing up on our streets and in our schools, coming directly from the illegal aliens who are coming into our country?

How about the suppression of wages and the problems that is causing for our labor community? We are keeping the wages down. People ask, why can't we just increase the minimum wage? Because the market is so flooded with people who are willing to hire illegal aliens that we cannot get those wages up.

Then, the suffering and the families that lose loved ones every single day—about 100,000 lives a year are lost in this country due to fentanyl overdoses that we know are coming directly from the southern border. This body, this body right here, is going to have to do something about it because the administration, the Biden-Harris administration, has demonstrated they will not do anything about it.

We have passed H.R. 2, and I am told that it is the most comprehensive border security and immigration legislation that has ever come through here. We passed that, and it is over in the Senate, waiting for CHUCK SCHUMER to do something with it.

We passed the SAVE Act. We have heard so much about it for the last couple of weeks and how it is going to straighten out and make sure that we don't have illegals voting in our elections. We passed it in July, and it sits on CHUCK SCHUMER's desk, waiting for some kind of action.

The only thing that remains for us, the only thing that is left for Congress to do, is to use the power of the purse strings that we were granted by the Constitution that we continually hear about.

Continuing resolutions prohibit us from doing our job. Our job is to pass appropriations bills and to transparently and properly fund government. Continuing resolutions simply continue funding at levels that most of us voted against and on policies that most of us voted against. It is not the way to run government.

It continues to fund the very agencies that cause problems in our Nation and that have been weaponized against our citizens. They are literally growing larger bureaucracies they are using to attack American citizens, all the alphabet agencies: the ATF, FBI, IRS.

We must reclaim our authority and utilize the appropriations process as called for in the Budget Act of 1974, and thereby fund government in a transparent and responsible fashion. If not, we will see a continuation of these disastrous policies and an accumulation of the ever-growing debt, which now exceeds \$35 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, we must do this, and we can do this, but we have to stand up and declare that we are going to do this. They are tough decisions for very difficult problems, but that is what we signed up for, and I am here to make sure that it happens.

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

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on September 18, 2024, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 7032. To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide the Congressional Budget Office with necessary authorities to expedite the sharing of data from executive branch agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7377. To amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 to improve the management of royalties from oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 19, 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-5353. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5354. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5