

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, since we will not be together on Halloween, I thought I would share some spooky stories with you, and these spooky stories are all real, verbatim, and lifted directly from the Republican Party's playbook, Project 2025.

The Department of Education should be eliminated. Eliminate the Head Start program.

The Department of Labor should amend its hazard order regulations to permit teenage workers access to work. In other words, back to the mine, Timmy.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration should be broken up and downsized. No more weather forecasts.

Finally, no public education employee shall use a name to address a student other than the name listed on a student's birth certificate.

This, of course, will be a problem for James Donald Bowman, James David Hamel, J.D. Hamel, or, as they now identify, J.D. VANCE.

This is truly scary because it is a real plan, but Madam Speaker, I hope you and all Americans' fears are only imaginary in 2025.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF 10/7

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

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, October 7, 2023, was supposed to be a day of joy. Jewish communities around the world, including many in my Queens district, were gathering to celebrate a holiday, but instead, it was and forever will be a day of agony.

October 7 was the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust. Hamas terrorists invaded Israel, murdered over 1,200 people, took more than 251 hostages, and destroyed entire communities.

I will never forget going to shuls in Queens that night to share the news of the attack with my constituents.

Madam Speaker, 1 year later, our hearts remain heavy as we pray for all remaining hostages to be returned home safely. Our souls remain shattered as we see the rise in anti-Semitism at home and abroad.

The sacred bond between the U.S. and Israel will not be broken, and our commitment to Israel's security and countering the Iranian threat will not waver.

May the memories of all those murdered that day be a blessing, and may we continue working to achieve peace.

#### RECOGNIZING RHODE ISLAND FIRE CHIEFS HONOR FLIGHT HUB

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

Mr. AMO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Honor Flight Hub.

My constituent, U.S. Army Lieutenant John Wolf, is scheduled to participate in Honor Flight "High Voltage" on September 29.

I had the privilege of writing him a letter as part of the mail call portion of the program.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my letter be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 5, 2024.

DEAR LT. JOHN WOLF, It is with deep gratitude and respect that we honor you today on this special Honor Flight. Today, not only do we gather to celebrate and commemorate your service, but we also come together to recognize your incredible legacy both on and off the battlefield.

Your courage and dedication as a Lieutenant in the United States Army during the Vietnam War are truly commendable. Receiving the Bronze Star is a testament not only to your bravery, but to your selflessness as well, especially in the face of unimaginable challenges. Your service has not only made a significant impact on the lives of those you served with, but also your fellow Americans.

Your contributions extend far beyond your military service. For 20 years, you have inspired and educated the next generation of leaders as a social studies teacher in the East Providence School District. Your commitment to shaping young minds and fostering a love for learning is a gift that I am confident has had a lasting influence on countless students. Your impact in the classroom mirrors the dedication you demonstrated in your military service.

Your legacy of service continues to be an example for us all. Your unwavering commitment to your country and your students serves as an inspiration and a reminder of the values that bind us together.

Today, as you embark on this Honor Flight, know that you carry with you the admiration and gratitude of all those who have been touched by your service and dedication. We are honored to be a part of this journey and to celebrate the extraordinary contributions you've made to our country and our community.

Thank you, Lt. John Wolf, for your bravery, your service, and your enduring impact. You are a true hero, and today we celebrate you with the honor and respect you so richly deserve.

Sincerely,

GABE AMO,  
Member of Congress.

Mr. AMO. Madam Speaker, Lieutenant Wolf served our local community for more than 20 years as a social studies teacher in the East Providence School District. Before that, he courageously wore our Nation's uniform in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star for his service.

Madam Speaker, we must do more to support veterans like Lieutenant Wolf. We can and should build on the PACT Act, which expanded presumptive benefits for Vietnam veterans and has helped nearly 3,000 veterans in Rhode Island.

Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to stand on the House floor and thank Lieutenant Wolf and all who have served our country.

#### FOCUS ON CRIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DE LA CRUZ). 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 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, House Republicans are addressing the most important issues facing Americans across the country, and this week we will focus on crime.

Over the past 3 years, violent crime has surged under the Biden-Harris administration. Its soft-on-crime policies coupled with bail reform, open borders, and the defund the police movement has put every American in danger and threatened our Nation's security.

That is why House Republicans have brought to the floor the Keeping Violent Offenders Off Our Streets Act, to fight back against Democrats' woke agenda and give our law enforcement the tools they need to defend public safety in our communities.

Last week, House Republicans passed the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act to ensure that illegal immigrants convicted of sex offenses or other crimes involving stalking, child abuse, and neglect are inadmissible or deportable from the United States.

This legislation now waits to be voted on the Senate floor.

Republicans are the party of law and order, and we will continue to fight for the safety of our Nation's communities.

I am grateful to my colleagues for joining me this evening to talk about the importance of supporting our law enforcement and implementing robust crime policies.

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

#### HONORING RICHARD TELFORD

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I thank the vice chair of our Conference, BLAKE MOORE, for yielding me the time.

I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and service of Chautauqua County Undersheriff Richard Telford, a dedicated public servant who spent over three decades protecting and serving the people of our community.

Rich's passing is a profound loss for Chautauqua County. Those who had the honor of knowing him say that they knew they could always count on Rich. In remembering him, Sheriff Jim Quattrone said: "Rich was a man of integrity. He could always be counted on to do the right thing."

Throughout his service, Rich's sense of duty and commitment to the community he grew up in ran very deep.

After graduating from Jamestown High School and studying criminal justice at Jamestown Community College, Rich began his law enforcement career in 1991 with the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office. He quickly rose through the ranks, serving as a deputy, a sergeant overseeing the county's 911 center, a lieutenant, and later a supervisor for court security.

Rich's hard work and his leadership were undeniable. In 2021 he was appointed undersheriff of Chautauqua County, a role in which he continued to lead by strong example.

Rich's dedication to the community wasn't limited to his badge. He is remembered as a loving family man, devoted to his wife Amanda and their three children Katelynn, Andrew, and Alex.

Throughout his career, Rich embodied the qualities that we look for in public servants: integrity, courage, and respect. His actions over 33 years spoke louder than any words. Whether it was investigating fires with the department's fire investigation team or attending the prestigious FBI National Academy, Rich never stopped pushing himself to be better for his community.

Madam Speaker, our hearts are heavy today, but we are filled with gratitude for the life and the legacy of Rich Telford. His dedication and his service to Chautauqua County will not be forgotten.

Your family is in our prayers, Rich, and, Rich, you will be missed, but your contributions will live on through the many lives that you have touched.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his comments on such a dedicated public servant.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES).

#### CONGRATULATING 2024 WEST POINT GRADUATES

Mr. JAMES. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the West Point class of 2024 on their graduation this past spring and for their continued commitment to service. It is no small feat, and the country is indebted to them for their immense willingness to sacrifice.

I hesitate because I myself am a West Point grad of 2004, and I know what they are signing up for. I know how serious it is, and I am very proud of them. It is the greatest service academy in all the land, and I know that each of them will be looked at as leaders not just now but for the rest of their lives.

So I ask them all to lead with the West Point motto in mind: "Duty, Honor, Country." It is something that is ingrained into every cadet. It is something that is part of The Long Gray Line. They are our Nation's best and brightest, and I cannot wait to see what they and the class of 2024 does for our great Nation.

I also briefly want to congratulate them all on going 3-1 in their 4 years against Navy. They are winners.

On a more serious note, the country will be better off because of their sacrifice and determination.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the following 24 grads of the 2024 class from Michigan:

Kathryn Cornett of Muskegon  
Dominic Curti of Bloomfield Hills, who is a fantastic intern, by the way  
Lucas Dickerson of Sterling Heights  
Colton Dougherty of Garden City  
William Drake of Bloomfield Hills  
Jason Fargo of Portage  
Alexandria Goss of St. Clair Shores, in my district

Aiden Griggs of Traverse City  
Shane Haener of Brownstown  
Joseph Hickson of Orchard Lake  
Timmy Kipfmiller of Freeland  
Brandon Liu of Northville  
Brennan McAlister of Chesterfield  
Titus McClary of Detroit  
Mark Miller of Grand Blanc  
Eamon Mott of Bloomfield Township  
Andrew Przekora of Metamora  
Alexander Roos of Hackensack  
Atef Sikazwe of Novi  
Dawson Stec of Canton  
Chelsea Tene-Kuate of Macomb also in my district

Emily Vanderploeg of Hudsonville  
Kyle Wallace of Brownstown  
And the son of my sponsors when I was a West Point cadet, Second Lieutenant Robert Sundy of St. Joseph.

The class of 2024's service and sacrifice will never be forgotten. God bless them all and Godspeed to them.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his comments.

I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) to address the House.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading this Special Order tonight as we certainly have plenty of things to talk about and what Congress and our Federal Government should be doing.

The topic I am going to hit on is the crime situation.

Now, you will hear different things reported in the news on how crime is in the U.S. Well, I think normal people, regular everyday Americans see that it is a problem, but the way it is reported or the way it is spoken about under the Biden-Harris administration is like, oh, crime is not a problem, crime is down.

Tell that to the people or the storefront owners in various blue cities where you see these massive break-ins by hordes of people smashing their way in and smashing the countertops and all that, taking cell phones and jewelry and whatever else might be on their minds.

Where do they come up with the statistics like crime is somehow down?

Well, we are seeing more and more evidence that perhaps the mayors of these blue cities, perhaps other leaders, are telling their people to not report

them. If the police departments—and many jurisdictions around this country are underreporting what is really going on. I guess that is how you can skew the statistics to look like they are better, and that crime is somehow down.

I tell you, theft is up, breaking and entering is up, violent crime is up, and it is due to lax policies.

As a Member from California here, it is very acute in some of our large cities, as well as we have these soft-on-crime recent efforts being made by the Newsom administration and others that have basically made it almost a free-for-all in my home State.

For example, the dollar amount got bumped up several years ago via one of the propositions fooling the voters as to what the proposition was actually doing on crime. Prop 47, which is one of the big problems, was known generically as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, yet all it did was relax the level of felonies down to misdemeanors to the level of \$949. That means you can steal \$949 of stuff out of the store and still have it just be a misdemeanor instead of a felony as it should be.

People go in sometimes with calculators and add up how much they can steal and brazenly carry it out the door because there are not enough police around, and, of course, the retailers, especially the large corporate box retailers say, oh, don't dare go and try and impede them, don't go talk to them, don't even go out in the parking lot and take a picture of their car or their license plate because we don't want to offend them or we don't want to incur that somebody might get injured.

Well, I tell you, people are getting injured by this happening. The price of everything in the stores—I mean, look how many stores are closing around the country as it is, and then tell that to the mom-and-pop stores that only have one or maybe two markets that they deal with and they are not supposed to do anything about this rampant crime, the rampant stealing happening in their stores?

So this was put in place in my home State by legislation called AB 109, which is supposed to be trying to help empty overcrowded prisons, as they termed it at the time.

Now, I don't know that the prisons are overcrowded, I actually had a chance to visit them, and thankfully they let me out of them when I was done with the visit, but you see, prisons are designed with two bunks in them, and they were only keeping one person in there due to somebody's idea of how that would be crowded.

So what else happens?

When the Federal court ruled that California had overcrowding, they started trying to release prisoners to meet a number. Also, the State had several out-of-State prisons it was contracting with to take some of its extra prisoners.

What do they do first thing?

They bring those back. They bring them back from out of State, which

they are actually getting a good deal on the cost of keeping them in those out-of-State prisons. They actually brought them back home so they could crowd them even more and have even more to release.

Does that make an ounce of sense to anybody?

Crime is up in California because they are releasing more.

Under AB 109 called "realignment" it pushed more and more hardened criminals down to the county jail level, which means now the county jails have to deal with them when they have got more normal neighborhood crimes or even something up to the level of assault or stealing a car or things like that, there is no room for them.

□ 1830

They are releasing people. Normally, Madam Speaker, you would have a local county jail on their own recognition or on a small amount of bail or what have you. Now, they get rid of bail, as well.

They keep pushing the problem down, and now, we have chaos at the local level for what our sheriffs, jailers, and district attorneys have to deal with locally. It all starts at the top on this.

The crime wave we saw during the riots that one summer in Portland, Seattle, and Minneapolis—especially I want to underline Minneapolis here, where the Biden-Harris administration wants to claim crime is down—Madam Speaker, you saw KAMALA HARRIS actually advocating for people to send in money so they could bail out the people who were arrested for all the chaos, damage, vandalism, and burning of Minneapolis. Let's chip in to help get them out, because she thought that was some form of justice.

In this campaign, she seems to want to run away from all that, changing her spots to some other, as a political chameleon would do.

There is no lack of crime. There is no lack of prisoners. My home State, again, is bringing the ones back from private or other prisons out of State to crowd ours even more and then closing down more and more prisons. Gavin Newsom has in mind closing down four more.

I keep telling people: It is not as if the population of our State and country are running out of bad guys. Our population of the State and our country increases anyway, so you think the number of prisoners and the number of criminals is going to increase probably commensurately with that, especially in these times when we are encouraging people to do it with lax laws.

We had AB109. We had Proposition 47 fooling the voters by saying it was somehow a safe neighborhoods, streets, and schools act. Indeed, it just lowered the level.

Then Proposition 57 came in, and it had some horrific crimes it made into misdemeanors or less, including some forms of date rape and things like that. It is horrific.

Those three things have helped put California in this mess, and a lot of times this body here tries to emulate what California does. Certainly, the White House does, bringing a lot of Californians in when they came into power. To emulate what California does isn't good for the country.

What we have in California, for example, is to counteract a lot of Proposition 47. One currently on the ballot is called Proposition 36, which will restore some of the jail sentence lengths and some of the crime classifications back up to what really should be a penalty and doing other things that are going to tighten up the idea that crime is so far paying in California because they can walk away and get away with it.

We are seeing more and more people go into these markets, stores, and big-box stores. When they are catching somebody coming out, obviously with armloads of stuff they haven't paid for—they are disguising themselves, et cetera—this is someone stealing. We are seeing more citizens stepping up and saying: No, I am not going to watch this happen.

They are detaining because the store won't do it. I consider that kind of heroic actually, but some on the corporate level might say they shouldn't do that because someone might get injured or whatever.

The buyers and consumers see that their prices go up because they can't keep insurance anymore. They go into a large-box retailer and find everything is locked up. I don't if it is this way all around the country, but the retailers, many of them in my home State, are locking up a whole bunch of the items.

Madam Speaker, you have to go ask the clerk to come open it up so you can get into the make-up counter or some of the medicine counter. I hear even socks and underwear in some cases are being locked up behind glass, or the tool section. We have to have people come help us get these items because it is going to walk out of there otherwise.

Crime is down? I don't think so because we are seeing those effects.

Madam Speaker, you are seeing it in places like San Francisco, more and more corner markets and drugstores. They might have quite a few of a particular chain of drugstore in downtown, but they are closing several of them because of the rampant conditions of theft and other things going on in the city.

Why are they promoting this? Why are their city leaders allowing this? It is a mystery to me.

It does start at the top, and when we get the signal being sent from the White House and even Congress of soft on crime, then this is what the results are going to be.

Again, in my home State, voters have an opportunity with Proposition 36 to turn back that tide at least somewhat. Even the retailers were behind it there, which generally they are kind of afraid to upset the applecart in Sac-

ramento because of the three-to-one Democratic majority there, and they don't want to make them mad.

So far, they are sticking with it, which is actually admirable, for a change.

Fentanyl and drug charges that have been made weaker during this time would actually be increased and put back in place in prop 36. We are not talking about the guy being caught with a little bit of marijuana that Kamala Harris has made famous. We are talking about serious drugs and serious amounts of them being dealt out there that is going to be curtailed, at least in part, by Proposition 36.

I hear it is polling quite well, and I hear Governor Newsom has given up on it, too. He went so far to say that with all the support for Proposition 36, because the people are speaking back with their initiative process, that they are tired of the crime and tired of the inaction by the government, he says: I don't know what State I am in.

Well, Governor, I think I agree with you because I don't know that you know what State you are in either.

It is pathetic, and he doesn't seem to care much about neighborhoods and regular folks who have to deal with this stuff.

Lastly, this crime extends to our border, and we are talking about this Biden-Harris administration, the czar, Vice President HARRIS, allowing 530,000 illegal immigrants to be flown in on aircraft into our country and then turned loose because we can't possibly process them.

Madam Speaker, they are ending up in your neighborhoods, and they are overwhelming some of these neighborhoods. They are overwhelming the school system. They are overwhelming the other services, hospitals and all that, because they are just flying them in for an unknown reason.

They will try to float themselves on the idea that they are helping refugees or something, but it is way beyond that, especially when we find, talking to the Border Patrol, that a high ratio of them is coming from China. These are likely going to be agents of China's efforts to undermine the United States.

We are expecting also maybe another 800,000 of them are going to be attempted to be brought in by the HARRIS czar situation.

They get 2 years of the humanitarian parole and work permits, but they are not even tracked. They are completely blowing the idea of what asylum is as a temporary respite for people in a bad situation in another country. We are still sympathetic toward that, but there are no holds barred on how it is being abused, especially in this last 3½ years.

ICE officers are overwhelmed by the work they are having to do at the border and with the expectations of parole that they have to deal with. Madam Speaker, 8 million illegal immigrants have come into this country under this administration—8 million. That is

more than the size of several States, but they go on, push the Border Patrol out of the way, take their jobs, and really demean them. Morale is as low as it has ever been.

The last kicker on top of this is when the administration orders the Border Patrol agents to underreport, to skew the statistics, and to basically be forced into lies about how many people are coming in, especially those on the terrorist watch list.

We have a serious problem. People need to be brought up on charges for that, not the Border Patrol guys who are trying to execute their plan, but people in the administration who are telling them to lie about it. How pathetic. How deranged.

We have a lot of choices to be making in the next few months here. The American people are tired of the crime, and they are tired of the sieve at the border. They can make some very clear choices if they want to improve this.

In my home State of California, Proposition 36 will go that way, but also demanding from their politicians that they care about them, their communities, their storefronts, and their ability to do normal business like the United States used to until this administration has made such a farce of our borders and fighting crime.

Americans must pay attention this fall and ongoing.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I will quickly reiterate that I appreciate my colleagues for not only tonight but the last several months in communicating some of the reality that we see on the ground.

Policy matters. Policy leads directly to good or bad outcomes back home in our districts. We need to be recognizing what is going to create better outcomes and, if we have made mistakes, be willing to own it and move forward and find better ways to address the issues that our Nation faces.

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

#### HONORING KIMBERLY WYARD ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep gratitude to honor a remarkable woman and extraordinary leader, Kimberly Wyard, who is retiring after 50 years of service at Northeast Valley Health Corporation, NEVHC.

Kim's tireless dedication has transformed NEVHC into a lifeline for countless families and individuals, particularly those in our most vulnerable communities.

Kim joined NEVHC in 1974, just a year after the organization opened its

very first health center in the city of San Fernando. In the five decades since, her vision and leadership have guided NEVHC's growth to 18 health centers, providing over 300,000 medical, dental, and behavioral health visits every year, as well as nine WIC sites serving more than 38,000 participants.

What started as a single clinic has evolved into a vital network under Kim's unwavering commitment to providing care where it is needed most.

As CEO since 1996, Kim has embodied the spirit of service, ensuring that low-income families, immigrants, and underserved communities have access to quality healthcare. Her leadership, compassion, and relentless drive have changed lives by giving hope and health to those who might otherwise go without.

However, Kim's service wasn't limited to her role as CEO. She worked her way up from positions like director of the adolescent health program and clinic administrator, and she represented our community at the local and national levels, always advocating for more equitable healthcare access. Her heart has always been with the people she serves, and that love for her community has been the driving force behind any of NEVHC's success.

Today, as she steps into a well-earned retirement, I thank Kim Wyard on behalf of so many for her lifetime of service. She has built a legacy that will continue to enrich the lives of people in our community long after her work is done.

I thank Kim for everything she has done for the Northeast Valley Health Corporation and for the thousands of families whose lives she has touched. Her dedication, compassion, and leadership will forever be remembered.

When I was a little boy, my family—my 11 brothers and sisters, my mother, and my father—used to go to NEVHC. That is where we got our healthcare.

How the world turns and how it flows. I used to go visit NEVHC, and Kim was one of the people to receive me. Now that I am a Congressman and she has advocated not only for NEVHC but for healthcare for all, she has been someone who comes to my office to visit with me.

I am grateful for Kim. May she retire and have a wonderful future in whatever she chooses to do.

#### HONORING RICHARD ALATORRE

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, on this important day of Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise to honor my friend, my colleague, and a true pioneer of Latino empowerment, Richard Alatorre.

Richard Alatorre was born on May 15, 1943, in Boyle Heights, California, the son of Joe Alatorre, of El Paso, Texas, a repairman at a stove factory, and Mary Alatorre, of Arizona, a beautician. Richard and his sister, Cecilia, were brought up in East Los Angeles.

Richard found his passion for politics and civil service very early in his life when he was class president at Garfield

High School and volunteering on John F. Kennedy's Presidential campaign.

Richard would also volunteer for Leopold Sanchez, who became the first Latino judge elected in California.

Richard attended Cal State-Los Angeles, where he earned a B.A. degree in sociology. He would go on to earn his master's in public administration from the University of Southern California.

Richard was a man of many hats and roles. He was a professor at Cal State-Los Angeles and UC-Irvine. He taught night courses at the Federal prison on Terminal Island, and he was the western regional district director for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

During the 1968 Chicano walkouts and the 1970 moratorium, Richard fundraised bail money and advocated to the judges on behalf of the protesters who were arrested for a fairer bail arrangement.

□ 1845

What do all these roles have in common? Richard had a gift to uplift the voiceless and the defenseless.

Soon enough, Richard's community would see his ability and power grow, even more as he embarked on a career of elected public service. In 1972, at the age of 29, Richard Alatorre was elected to the California State Assembly, where he quickly moved up the ranks and became the Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means.

During his time in Sacramento, he fought for farmworkers' rights, increased educational opportunities for migrant families, childcare for children with special needs, and the desperately needed prison reforms.

Looking around the halls of Sacramento, Richard noticed that not a lot of people looked like him. He knew that the State's Latino community was immense, yet their representation in Sacramento was very minimal.

Richard cofounded and was the first chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus, which at the time had only five members. Today, because of his vision, we can proudly say we have 37 Latino State assembly members and State senators in Sacramento, California.

He took it upon himself to increase Latino representation throughout all of California. When then-Speaker Willie Brown appointed Richard as chair of the 1980 election and reapportionment committee, Richard was able to gain an expertise on the Voting Rights Act. Richard set out to combat the discrimination in the halls of government, and he wanted to ensure Latino voices were heard through elected offices.

He was responsible in overseeing the reapportionment of California legislative and congressional districts. Today, the State of California has 15 Congressional Hispanic Caucus members in Washington, and this is attributed to the foundation Richard Alatorre built. Richard had the foresight to believe in