

of one of my incredible constituents, Minnie Forbes, the last living owner of a Negro League baseball team, the Detroit Stars.

Minnie Forbes was born in 1932 in Mississippi and eventually found her home in Grand Rapids with her uncle, Ted Rasberry, a player in the Negro Leagues. Her uncle taught her to play softball. As a young teen, she played on the Grand Rapids' Cook's Brown Dolls softball team.

Minnie found her true love for the game working behind the scenes in team management. By 18, Minnie was a secretary for her uncle and his multiple baseball teams—the Grand Rapids Black Sox, the Detroit Stars, and the Kansas City Monarchs.

Then, at just 24, she became the owner of the Detroit Stars. Minnie was shocked but felt prepared to take over the team, and thus became one of the few women ever to own a Negro League baseball team.

As an owner of the Detroit Stars, Minnie endured racism and prejudice toward herself and her players, especially while traveling for games. Players were often forced to sleep and eat on the bus, as the restaurants and hotels refused to accommodate and even feed Black Americans. Sometimes they were even chased out of town.

The players and Minnie persevered through strife and their love of the game. The ripple effects of that persistence echoed through the civil rights movement.

Minnie and her contemporaries made strides in changing American culture through sport. We are forever indebted for their sacrifices in pursuing a more equal and equitable future for all.

I am proud to step up to the plate to commend Minnie for her extraordinary legacy, a legacy that continues to live on in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the Ted Rasberry Youth League, where I have had the honor of serving as a volunteer coach.

JUST SAY NO TO SUBSIDIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, free market capitalism is the most democratic possible way to organize an economy.

In a free market, consumers vote every day with every dollar they spend on what they want the economy to produce, who will produce it, and what they are willing to pay for it. The prices decided every day in this never-ending plebiscite also convey vast information regarding every product, including the scarcity or abundance of the resources in it, the labor conditions that produced it, and the systems that distributed it.

It is a perfect system that requires only that government protect the freedom for a willing seller and a willing buyer to make an exchange according

to their own best judgment. No force is required because both act in their own self-interest.

The price signals of that simple exchange, multiplied infinitely throughout the day, guide the labor and resources of an economy to their highest and best use according to every person's own individual interests, needs, and judgment.

Yet, politicians love to interfere with this perfect mechanism through a variety of tools designed to direct the economy—that is, to replace the judgment of individual consumers and producers in the market with the judgment of politicians.

One of the most insidious and self-destructive ways they do this is by subsidizing the things that they think consumers should buy in order to make those things more attractive. This literally stuffs the economy's ballot box, diverting resources from their highest and best economic use for consumers to the highest and best political use for politicians. Worse, it corrupts the accurate price signals that are essential for consumers to make rational decisions over allocating their own resources and thus directing overall economic output.

Insurance, electric cars, mass transit, sugar, milk, solar panels, airline tickets, housing, tuition, healthcare, film production, green energy—it is hard to find a sector of the economy that isn't rife with subsidies. We also shouldn't forget the infinite subsidies that saturate our tax code.

True, these subsidies make the cost of favored products cheaper—and who can begrudge cheaper healthcare, tuition, or housing?—but that is an illusion. The reality is that sellers will always accept subsidies by raising their prices accordingly. Those receiving the subsidies are somewhat better off, but everyone else is much worse off.

As subsidies artificially inflate prices, more subsidies are required to ameliorate their effect in a continuing spiral. It is no coincidence that the prices in the most heavily subsidized sectors—like healthcare, housing, and tuition—are rising much faster than underlying inflation.

Provide first-time home buyers with a \$25,000 subsidy, and sellers accept that windfall by raising their prices on the entire housing stock. Subsidies not only cost hundreds of billions of dollars and inflate the prices of the things being subsidized, but they also misallocate resources and misdirect consumer decisions.

Insurance, for example, is how markets assign a dollar value to risk. It is risky to build a house in a flood zone, and high insurance premiums reflect that reality. Subsidized insurance rates invite people to take risks that high premiums would otherwise warn them against.

Accurate price signals are absolutely essential if consumers are to make rational decisions as they vote every day on what the economy should produce,

and they are just as essential if producers are to know what consumer demands they most need to fulfill.

Now, subsidies are so deeply ingrained in the economy that getting rid of all of them seems like a fool's errand. Every subsidy has a constituency, and the bigger the subsidy, the more powerful the constituency. Budget writers grappling with the largest Federal debt in history, and with an economy operating well below its potential, should be looking for every way to reduce, eliminate, or reform subsidies or substitute for them other mechanisms that can serve the same societal aims without doing so much damage.

Here is a modest proposal to Messrs. Musk and Ramaswamy: If you want to balance the budget and improve the economy, just say no to subsidies. Not only will such a hunt save hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars, but it will also reduce the overall cost of the things being subsidized and reinvigorate the economy by restoring the flow of capital to its most productive use.

ANTI-ARAB HATE CRIMES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the recent surge in anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab, and Islamophobic hate crimes in our country.

The constant dehumanization of Palestinians has very real and deadly consequences. The hateful rhetoric, including from many elected officials in this Chamber and in the media, is leading to violence in our communities and putting countless lives at risk.

Hisham, Kinnan, and Tahseen are childhood friends, all college students. They were spending Thanksgiving break with Hisham's family in Burlington, Vermont, when they were shot by a man sitting on his porch. They were targeted while wearing kaffiyehs and speaking Arabic. Hisham is now paralyzed from the chest down.

These hate crimes are not isolated incidents, Mr. Speaker. In October of last year, a man from Farmington Hills, Michigan, posted on social media, asking if anyone in the metro Detroit area wanted to come to my district to go hunt Palestinians.

This threat to commit mass murder horrified our community in Dearborn, many not wanting to open their doors, as they were already grieving the loss of so many loved ones and friends from the horrific genocide taking place.

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Last month in Detroit, 7-year-old Saida—I wish people would take the time to actually listen to her interview as a Yemeni-American child of Muslim faith—was playing at her local park and was brutally attacked. A man approached her out of nowhere and slit her throat with a knife. Saida ran home to her parents covered in blood.

As a mother, I cannot fathom the horror her parents must have felt at that moment watching their little girl come running in, bleeding and terrified.

Saida survived but she would live with the trauma for the rest of her life. Nightmares keep Saida awake at night. She said she dreams her attacker is right next to her.

In Texas, a mother wearing a hijab was watching her children swim in the community pool when she was approached by a woman interrogating her about what language she was speaking.

The woman then jumped into the pool, attempted to drown her 3-year-old Palestinian daughter who was gasping for breath, for air, as she was pushed under the water in the deep end of the pool. The woman threatened to kill the whole family as the police were carrying her away.

Her mother said: We are American citizens originally from Palestine, and I don't know where to go to feel safe with my kids. My daughter is traumatized. Whenever I open the door, she runs away and hides telling me she is afraid that lady will come back and try to attack her again.

Here we go with Wadea. Everyone knows about Wadea, I hope. In Chicago, a 6-year-old child was brutally attacked in his own home by his landlord, of all people. His mother ran to the bathroom to call the police.

His attacker was yelling, you Muslims must die, while he stabbed little Wadea's body 26 times. They had to pull the knife out of his small body.

His mother came back, and she saw Wadea's lifeless body there. They were taken to the hospital and all she felt was just this sense that she will never ever be able to see her child.

"We are not animals. We are humans," Wadea's uncle, Yousef, said. These stories, as horrifying as they are—I am thinking of the fact that these are the ones who made the headlines. Behind them are countless others, unreported incidents with families living in fear and communities being targeted.

I was approached by a father who said his child was on her school bus and somebody tried to rip her hijab off.

I said, did you report it?

Who do I report that to, he said?

What terrifies me the most, again, are these acts of violence are born from a culture of dehumanization.

Where is the outrage from my colleagues in this Chamber?

Why don't my colleagues denounce Islamophobia, anti-Palestinian, and anti-Arab hate?

We must push back against dangerous rhetoric that fuels this violence and call out those that continue to push for dehumanizing narratives that contribute to and spread this kind of violence.

Stop using racist tropes that feed into this hate. I know firsthand what it feels like to be targeted with hate. I receive death threats, smears, hate mail,

and relentless harassment right outside of my office.

To the families of Wadea, Hisham, Kinnan, Tahseen, Saida, and so many others who we will never know about, I want them to know I see them, I grieve with them, and I stand with them.

NATIONAL DEBT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LOPEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address our national debt.

I say to my fellow Americans, we have a serious problem. In the past 40 years, Congress, which comprises both the Senate and the House of Representatives, has only passed a budget four times.

Only four times in the last 40 years has a budget been passed by Congress. That has contributed to our overwhelming national debt of over \$36 trillion, which grows by \$1 trillion every 100 days. If we continue to pass continuing resolutions and omnibus bills, our annual deficits will double, our interest payments will triple, and for every dollar we borrow, 50 cents will go just to paying interest on the debt.

The American people are tired of Congress not doing the hard work that is necessary to bring spending under control and stop the national debt from growing. As Members of Congress, we have an obligation to bring spending under control and ensure that present and future taxpayers are not forced to fund any Federal program that is duplicative, wasteful, and inefficient.

Every Member of Congress knows that passing continuing resolutions or omnibus bills does not bring spending under control, but simply adds to our \$36 trillion national debt. The current continuing resolution expires on December 20. Once again, in the next couple of weeks, Congress will debate on how we are going to fund the government in 2025.

What will it be?

Will it be a continuing resolution? Will it be an omnibus bill or will it be a balanced budget that will fund the government in 2025?

Speaker JOHNSON assures us that it will not be an omnibus bill and because CHUCK SCHUMER refuses to pass the appropriation bills passed in the House, some will argue that the only option left on the table so that we don't face a government shutdown is a continuing resolution.

Most Americans are not aware that there is a bogeyman that lurks in the Halls of Congress. This bogeyman shows up twice a year, sometimes three times a year. It first shows up in September, and then it appears again in December.

What is the name of this bogeyman that Congress is afraid to face? Its name is government shutdown.

For countless years, the leaders of Congress have lacked the courage and strength to take on this bogeyman for

fear of having to explain to the American people why we are unable or perhaps refuse to pass a formal budget as outlined in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

The American people are not afraid to shut down the government, and I stand with the American people. It is morally wrong for Congress to force the American people to carry a \$36 trillion national debt on their backs and to expect our children to carry this growing debt on their backs as well.

I say it is time for Congress to pass a formal budget that spends less than what it collects in taxes from the American people.

I say it is time for Congress to evaluate one by one the 1,200 unauthorized expired programs that are currently being funded by Congress to the tune of \$516 billion and vote to either reauthorize or terminate each one of them.

I hear in the Halls of Congress that if we want to be home with our families during Christmas, we must settle for a continuing resolution.

I would remind Congress that we have men and women in uniform that have taken the same oath of office that we did, and many of them will not be spending Christmas with their families because they have a duty to fulfill.

We also have a duty and obligation to fulfill to the American people: that is to bring spending under control and stop the national debt from growing. That responsibility comes before family or any holiday on the calendar.

Congress should not allow the leadership of either the Senate or the House of Representatives to lead us into 2025 with a shameful continued legacy that Congress is incapable of putting people over politics and passing a balanced formal budget that spends less than we receive from the taxpayers.

CHUCK SCHUMER should put his ego and pride aside and sit down with Speaker JOHNSON and develop a plan to utilize the appropriations process outlined in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to fund the government in 2025 before the end of the year. There are plenty of days still left on the calendar to do this.

Where there is a will there is a way. Every Member of Congress should be committed to working long hours, if need be, to pass a formal budget for 2025. Together, let us roll up our sleeves and do what is right for the future of our Nation as it pertains to the budget.

Together, let us show the Nation that as Members of Congress, we are ready, willing, and able to fulfill the assignment the American people have bestowed upon us. Together, let us make history by stopping decades of wasteful spending, and together let us protect the purse of the people.

HONORING BEYONCE GISELLE KNOWLES-CARTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. LEE CARTER) for 5 minutes.