

grandmother to her beautiful grandchildren. As a mother and grandmother, myself, I know how much of a blessing family is.

I wish there could be more opportunities for us to work together DEBBIE, but I know you will do a fantastic job as you enter your next chapter of life serving as Maricopa County Supervisor.

Thank you for your commitment to helping make Arizona a better place to live, for helping our nation, and for upholding conservative values.

We will all miss you!

THANK YOU TO JO-ANN YOO

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

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my heartfelt gratitude to Jo-Ann Yoo for her lifetime of public service on behalf of the AAPI community in my district and the entire city of New York.

This year, Jo-Ann will retire after 13 years as executive director of the Asian American Federation, an organization dedicated to supporting the 1.5 million Asian-American community members in New York City.

Under Jo-Ann's leadership, the AAF played a leading role in combating the horrific rise in anti-Asian hate in 2020, organizing and ensuring local community response to provide safety to AAPI New Yorkers.

Jo-Ann testified at a public briefing held by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the Federal response to anti-Asian hate, and she serves on New York City's Advisory Board on Implementation of Racial Justice Commission, working to end hate and discrimination of all kinds in our city.

Jo-Ann leaves behind a lasting legacy of spirit, courage, determination, and advocacy that will be felt for decades to come. Thanks to Jo-Ann, New York City is a better and far more tolerant place.

HONORING THE LATE CORPORAL MATTHEW A. WYATT

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Corporal Matthew A. Wyatt.

After graduating high school in June 2001, Corporal Wyatt made the courageous decision to serve his country. He joined the Marine Corps, where he was based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina before deploying to Iraq.

On December 3, 2004, Corporal Wyatt gave his life to stop an enemy attack on his base. He was only 21 years old. Corporal Wyatt bravely acted without hesitation to save the lives of his fellow servicemembers.

Today, his memory is carried forward by his father, Marine Gunnery Ser-

geant Alan Wyatt; his mother, Verlene; and the entire family, who proudly uphold the three-generation legacy of military service.

Corporal Wyatt's stepmother, Lauren, also continues to honor his legacy through her work in my district office, where she serves veterans and military families, ensuring they receive the support they need.

To pay tribute to Corporal Wyatt's sacrifice, I am proud to support legislation to rename the United States Post Office in his hometown of Millstadt, Illinois, in his honor. While no act of gratitude will ever be enough to fill the void left by Corporal Wyatt's absence, I hope this naming will comfort his loved ones and remind them that his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

CELEBRATING BLUE COLLIE COFFEE SHOP

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Disability Awareness Month, we celebrate the inspiring work of Blue Collie Coffee Shop in Louisburg, North Carolina.

Since creating Blue Collie Coffee Shop, Al and Paige Sayles have provided meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Blue Collie has employed over 16 individuals, helping them gain meaningful skills and confidence while fostering an inclusive work environment where everyone has a chance to thrive.

Al and Paige's dedication to creating opportunities and building a more inclusive community is nothing short of remarkable. Their work transforms lives, opening doors and breaking down barriers one cup of coffee at a time. I thank Al and Paige.

SERVING IN CONGRESS HAS BEEN THE HONOR OF MY LIFETIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to submit extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

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

It has been the honor of my lifetime to serve in these sacred Halls of the U.S. House of Representatives. Part of that great honor is to serve with fan-

tastic colleagues, Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), my great colleague. Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, the gentlewoman from Arizona, DEBBIE LESKO, Representative DEBBIE LESKO.

Representative LESKO has served Arizona's Eighth Congressional District with distinction and honor. She has fought for Arizonans and all Americans and has been a champion for the people she represents.

It has been my honor serving with Representative LESKO in the Arizona delegation. As a colleague, we frequently collaborated as advocates on behalf of communities in Arizona.

It is an honor to stand here tonight before you and tell my friend DEBBIE LESKO how much she means to me and how much I am going to miss her in these hallowed Halls of the House of Representatives.

However, I am heartened. I know she won't be too far away, and you can bet I am going to continue to phone her whenever I need her advice or just to talk.

More importantly, I am confident her character, demeanor, and principles will continue to serve her well in Maricopa County, where she has been recently elected to the Board of Supervisors. However, I am worried about it. In Congress, DEBBIE represented 800,000 people with full-time staff, but now she will represent over a million people with just one full-time employee. DOGE should learn something from you.

Congress' loss is Maricopa's gain. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with her. I applaud her for her service and wish her all the best. Arizona is a better place because of DEBBIE LESKO.

May God bless her and her husband, Joe.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative GOSAR for his remarks. It means so much to me.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON), another colleague.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to send off my colleague, DEBBIE LESKO, and honor her long career in public service.

I first got to know DEBBIE when she was working on pension reform as a State senator and I was working on pension reform as mayor of the city of Phoenix.

We were both elected to Congress in the year 2018, and over the last 6 years, we have probably canceled each other's votes out more often than not.

□ 1830

Mr. Speaker, you know what? We have developed a really great friendship, spending so many hours together, talking about our families and politics at Sky Harbor International Airport and DCA as we wait to board our weekly flights back and forth to Washington.

I want to say something about DEBBIE. She inspires me. She is a survivor of domestic violence, and she got out of an abusive marriage.

Do you know what she did?

She poured herself into our community on the Peoria school board, at the State legislature, and now as a Member of the United States Congress. That is a great American success story.

Over her years in public office, she has shown immense courage in sharing her story as a domestic violence survivor and using her office to fight for other survivors to receive the care and attention they deserve.

To DEBBIE's husband, Joe, I see you on those weekly flights. It is not easy being a congressional spouse. I see the long hours you put in, in supporting DEBBIE. Thank you for sharing her with us.

I am going to miss DEBBIE in Congress, but she is continuing her work in public service as a newly elected Maricopa County supervisor. DEBBIE, I have one request in your new role. Please don't ever let the Cyber Ninjas back in Maricopa County.

In all seriousness, I am wishing you all the very best. Godspeed, Congresswoman LESKO.

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you so much, Representative STANTON. I greatly appreciate the words. I will tell Joe, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), my friend and colleague who I have known for many years.

Mr. BIGGS. Thank you. You didn't have to put the "many" in front of that, DEBBIE.

It is true. She was a young child when we first met.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to speak and recognize my good friend, DEBBIE. When I was serving from the east side of the valley and DEBBIE got elected to the school board, I started hearing about DEBBIE LESKO is going to be this great conservative politico. I did not know DEBBIE at that time, but I got to observe her. Then we ended up serving in the State legislature together, and she was dynamic and exciting and actually conservative.

As GREG mentioned, she worked on pension reform. The bulk of that took place after I left, thankfully, because pension reform, as anybody who has ever done it knows, is one ugly thing and takes a lot of courage. DEBBIE exhibited courage, and I would get reports on how she was doing that.

She brought in people with very disparate interests. She worked with them. She got them on board, and she would tell them where the rubber met the road. That was really awesome.

Then I am here, and then the next thing I know, DEBBIE is here with me. The bad news for me is that she is going home to Maricopa County. She is going to do a great job there.

This is great news for Maricopa County which, by the way, is one of the largest counties in the country. It is

about, what, 5.5 million people in the county, something like that, with only five supervisors.

DEBBIE has told me this. I know she has told PAUL this. I know she has told GREG this, and I know she has told DAVID and JUAN this: she only has one-and-a-half staffers. That is really bugging her. I can tell you that. She is going to do a great job.

She has been a great friend.

I will also pay homage to Joe and DEBBIE's family who have been so supportive, literally, for many years.

So with that, I—

Mrs. LESKO. Don't make me cry, ANDY.

Mr. BIGGS. I am like Winston Churchill. I am a crier.

DEBBIE, Cindy and I love you.

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you very much, ANDY.

Congressman BIGGS, you are a great friend. Thank you so much. We will be working many years together. I am going to keep calling you.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER).

DIANA and I sit with each other in the women's row. And sometimes guys want to, you know, infiltrate, and we kick them out.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Exactly. Exactly.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and legacy of my dear friend and colleague, Congresswoman DEBBIE LESKO, from the great State of Arizona.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Congresswoman LESKO for almost 4 years. In that time, I have had the opportunity to get to know her, working on the Energy and Commerce Committee and the caucuses we share.

Congresswoman LESKO is a true civil servant, leader, and dedicated mother and grandmother to a wonderful family. I know they will be grateful to be able to spend more time with her at home.

Throughout her career in Congress, Mrs. LESKO has dedicated herself to defending the very principles that our Nation was founded upon. She stood up for religious freedom, speaking boldly in favor of faith-based institutions faced with encroachments from the Federal Government.

She has defended life, introducing legislation to prevent the dismemberment of unborn children in the womb. She stood up for justice, launching the Protect Kids Caucus to defend the innocent children in our schools' healthcare and government programs.

Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman LESKO's unwavering commitment to faith, family, and freedom has left an incredible mark on these Halls and the lives of countless Americans. While her leadership will be deeply missed, her legacy of service will continue to be remembered for years to come.

Thank you, DEBBIE, for being a wonderful friend to me. I will miss you.

We are going to charge for the seat you are going to vacate if somebody wants to sit there. Okay?

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you very much, DIANA. I greatly appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT), my colleague who is sitting to my left, who I have known for a long time, too. I went to your wedding reception, I think.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, one of the magic things about DEBBIE LESKO is she has proven you can be conservative and not be angry about it. You can actually be joyful and kind and sweet and just a decent human being. I have learned more things about urban chickens from her, because I have a 9-year-old that really wants daddy to build a chicken coop. Don't laugh. She really does.

Just an observation, because we sit on this airplane every week, flying back, and I often sit next to DEBBIE. Other Members, you see them on their computers, watching movies. DEBBIE has a stack of things because she doesn't use her computer. She has a stack of papers. You know, they do make these things called laptops.

She is there with her highlighter for hours on the airplane. That is the sort of thing you notice. You can be kind. You can be loving. You can be joyful.

DEBBIE, I think you are going to have an amazing experience with the leadership of Maricopa County. Remember, Maricopa County is right now the fourth most populous county in America. I actually still believe it is going to cross over Harris County's population. If there weren't so many hurricanes in the area, we probably would have already.

I used to be the county treasurer, and trust me, after some years around here, I miss those days when you could actually do things.

I am going to miss you. I am going to miss the times when you were my guiding light. When I am just mad, because I seem to be mad a lot, you just sort of smile and say, well, that is sort of how it is.

I think you are going to do amazing things for the people of the West Valley as their supervisor. We are going to make some very tough decisions here in the next couple of years where we are going to need the leadership at our State and local levels because we don't have a lot of dollars to send. So we are going to send a lot of our problems to you soon.

We love you, DEBBIE.

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you very much, DAVID. I greatly appreciate the friendship and the work we have done together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) my other Arizona colleague.

JUAN used to work for Governor Ducey, and that is how I met him. He is such a great Member of Congress, and I am so happy he got reelected because he is in a tough swing district.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor and pay tribute to my good friend, DEBBIE

LESKO, who has been an inspiration to so many.

We worked on different projects together. You have been a speaker and a panelist for some of the programs that Laura and I have done for youth and especially for women. I think you are a shining example.

A lot has been said by those that worked closest with you, which are, of course, our colleagues from the Arizona delegation. They have talked about your wit, your grace, your smile, the way in which you carry yourself and how you execute our priorities and our conservative values.

As has been said before, you are conservative. You are just not angry about it. You have gone out there and have done the work and have put in the time.

Seeing you on that plane, you and Joe many times, is great. I would much rather sit next to you than next to DAVID or GREG. I enjoy those trips back home when I get a chance to sit with you. You are a hard worker, giving your best to your constituents every single time. Even those who live in the southern part of the State, like myself and others, we have really admired your work the entire time.

I know you are going to do great things for Maricopa County, as well, and the entire State. Laura, our six kids, and I, wish you the very best in your next journey.

You were a great source for me in my freshman year when I had questions, from the most basic ones to the most complex ones. Your peace and the way you tackled these issues was always very inspiring, but it also gave me a great deal of confidence in what we could do with this place.

You have been a great mentor and a great friend. Thank you so much. We love you, and we are going to miss you. Thank you.

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you so much, JUAN. I am going to be calling you when I need help from the county.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), my friend and colleague who is on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I serve as his vice chair on the Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague from Arizona's Eighth District, Congresswoman DEBBIE LESKO.

I have had the distinct pleasure of serving alongside her, as she just told you, on the Energy and Commerce Committee and, more specifically, on the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, which I chair. She served this Congress as the vice chair of that subcommittee.

We explored and investigated many important issues, some of which included COVID-19 origins. She did some more work on that. There were investigations into drug shortages and the potential exploitation of unaccompanied minors crossing our southern

border. Her work with me related to world anti-doping in sports was outstanding. It was really very much appreciated.

Everyone here who has spoken already knows this. For those folks watching at home, this is one smart, tough lady. I have really, really enjoyed working with her on a number of issues over her terms here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, her hard work and her strong conservative record is obviously appreciated back home. As you have heard others say, she just recently won election to a seat on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

I congratulate you, DEBBIE, on a fantastic career in the United States House, and I applaud your decision to continue public service a little bit closer to home as a member of the board of supervisors in Maricopa County.

Your work will be missed, and it is appreciated. It also will be missed when we reconvene and start trying to tackle some tough issues, whether it be healthcare or telecom or whatever Energy and Commerce has jurisdiction over.

I thank you for your service. I appreciate you.

Mrs. LESKO. Thank you very much, Morgan. I appreciate you. You always have a great legal mind, and I come to you for legal questions. You are a great person. Thank you.

Mr. GRIFFITH. You are very kind, thank you. You, likewise, are a great human being.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), my friend and colleague who serves on the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, DEBBIE LESKO, and her service to our country.

What a great Member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I have to say I know that people should be excited that she is going to come back home and serve.

We are really disappointed that you are leaving because you are so good at what you do. As many speakers have said tonight, you are a fighter. You are absolutely conservative, and you are a fighter. You always bring people along with you. You can track people because you want to bring them into the fold and not try to fight everybody outside of the tent.

It has just been a pleasure working with you and your grasp of issues and the way you work before big hearings. You know DEBBIE is going to be prepared. You know DEBBIE is going to be there and is going to make things happen. It has just been a great privilege.

□ 1845

I remember when you said that you were running for county supervisor in Maricopa County. I first thought is—because I used to serve in the state legislature, and every legislative body in the country is so vital and so important—I couldn't help but think I first

thought, you are going to leave the United States House of Representatives and serve in county government. It just shows that it is not a title to you. It is how you can best serve.

It just means a lot. I had friends of mine and others who say: Do you think I should run for this or the other? I'd say: You are doing a great job where you are. Every level of government is important.

I remember when Janice Hahn—I don't know if you remember when she was here—she left to go be on the L.A. Board of Supervisors. I said: You are leaving to go back to run for the county board? And she said that it is bigger than a congressional district. Yours probably is, as well, or close to it.

It is a great privilege to be here to know that I am with someone who is about service, not about her own title.

We are going to miss you. I am going to say that first and foremost, but we are also excited for you. We are excited for the people of Maricopa County because they are getting one heck of a fighter. They are getting one heck of a believer.

They are getting somebody that is going to give all their heart and soul. We are going to miss you here, but they are going to love you there, as they already do, but they are going to love having you home. God bless you. You are a dear friend.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, this is kind of overwhelming, but I will yield next to one of my friends and one of the ladies that sits next to me in our women's row over here, my friend and colleague from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and legacy of my friend, Representative DEBBIE LESKO. It has been such a pleasure to serve with her in the 117th and 118th Congress.

When I first arrived, Representative LESKO was the most generous with her time, helping me navigate my way, answering questions, and offering advice. I was so grateful.

Representative LESKO is a genuinely good person, a true servant of our country, and a smart and fine lady also. I thank her for that example that she has given.

Representative LESKO has a sincere care for our children and our grandchildren, and wants to make sure that they are left with a legacy and access to the freedom and opportunities that we have all had to pursue the American Dream.

DEBBIE, I wish you all the best as you go back to Maricopa County, Arizona, to serve the good people there.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I remember when Michelle came in, we shared someone that helped us with our campaign, and she said you need to meet MICHELLE. I met her, and I thought she was great, and I have ever since.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend and colleague from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH).

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mrs. LESKO for her

service. I have been honored to serve with DEBBIE.

She mentioned we met before I was elected, but I have to admit, it was in a nail salon the first time we met. Nobody else here can say that.

I know that so many of the speakers have talked about DEBBIE's service. It has been incredible. They have really honored you with that and talked about that.

I want to say, one of the things I just love about DEBBIE is I have never seen her in a bad mood—never seen her in a bad mood. I was her whip representative, so I had to come and ask her how she was voting. She always has a smile on her face.

I congratulate you on your new role in Arizona. I think that the people of Arizona and you county are going to be so incredibly well-served. You will do a wonderful job for them.

I thank her for her service in Congress and thank her for her friendship and her kindness. I have been so grateful for the guidance you gave me as a freshman, and I am sure so many others, because that is the kind of person you are.

I think she is especially happy that I was elected because I took her spot on the Rules Committee. I am incredibly grateful that I have been able to call her a friend for the last 4 years. I have no doubt that she is going to continue to do incredible things in her public service.

I know you are excited about this new chapter. You are going to be missed here. Come and visit occasionally. God bless, and all the best in the world to you.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, this lady, MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS, is just an energizer bunny. Every place I go, she is there. I don't even know how she does it.

I yield to a friend and fellow Energy and Commerce Committee colleague. I remember we were on a boat somewhere and flying through—it was raining like heck, and I think she had a towel or something over her face. I don't know, but it was quite the experience.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor DEBBIE LESKO, Representative LESKO.

Although I am not from Arizona, I would wonderfully be in Arizona to have her as my Representative.

Yes, indeed, we were on a boat in Grand Lake in Oklahoma for a Heat and Western Caucus event. You don't think of Oklahoma as being cold. It was cold and rainy and nasty, but we were troopers, and we were out there.

My next interaction with Mrs. LESKO was approaching her about steering and how to get on the Energy and Commerce Committee. She was gracious, kind, knowledgeable, a tremendous mentor, as she was to everybody. Honestly, I don't think I have ever seen DEBBIE smile as much as I have seen

her tonight and as I have watched this on video.

Getting on the Energy and Commerce Committee, she was just one tier above me. Although, I had served on the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis my first term between 2021 and 2022, she then came on the committee this term; so we were serving in the 118th Congress both on Energy and Commerce and on the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis.

You have heard a lot about her kindness, her mentoring, and her friendship. You have heard about her grace. You have heard how she is conservative, but not angry. That is such a great description of her.

What you didn't hear a lot about was her intellect. DEBBIE studies. She is smart. She is able to dissect through things. She is able to prioritize. She is able to condense very complex topics into a 5-minute question and answer period.

I am telling you, if you are the witness and you are giving testimony, you don't want to be on the bad side of DEBBIE LESKO. She won't be angry. She won't be vindictive. She won't use profanity, but you are going to know you have been taken to the cleaners.

She will come out with a statement. She will smile. She will lead up to it, and then, bam. You are going: Where did that come from? That is DEBBIE LESKO. That is the power of DEBBIE LESKO. That is the power of preparation.

In my time in the military, you learn: If you failed the plan, you planned to fail. She always plans. She is always on target. She always studies. She always reads. And quite honestly, isn't that what we, as Americans, want of our Congress people? If they are going to make laws, if they are going to hold government accountable, don't we want people that do the work that their constituents ask them to do? She is a role model for all of us and an inspiration on what a citizen servant should be.

Next, if you get to travel with her, you don't have to go on a boat in the rain in Oklahoma. You can go to some far-off country. She is a great shopping companion. She likes to try all different kinds of foods. She does her homework on the plane over and on the plane back.

She is just a genuine and lovely person to travel and be with. When Members of Congress have to travel places, especially far off, for the work that they do, you really want to have somebody in the seat next to you that is a joy to be with and not making all kinds of noises and all kinds of stuff. They are not high maintenance. She is a shining example of what a good travel companion and what a good Member of Congress is.

I am probably over my time. It has been a real joy to serve with DEBBIE LESKO these 4 years I have served with her. She was a tremendous asset to the Energy and Commerce Committee and

the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis that we served on together. She will be deeply missed. I will deeply miss her. She will be missed in our Conference for all of the reasons that everybody has said.

Mr. Speaker, we know she is going to continue to do great things for the people of Arizona. We wish her all the best. I know her husband is very happy to have her back.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, serving in the U.S. House of Representatives has been an honor of a lifetime, very surreal. As someone said before, I think my colleague GREG STANTON from Arizona, over 31 years ago, I left an abusive ex-husband, and I had a little daughter. There were times when I had no money. I remember there was a time when I had no place to live. I went to see if I could get into a shelter, and it was full. To go from that, just trying to survive, to serving here shows you that God is good, and America is good.

Going from that, to flying on Air Force One; to sitting in my apartment in Washington, D.C., and getting a call from the President of the United States, President Trump, from staying overnight and being invited to Camp David—which not too many people get to do—and to be one of only eight U.S. Congress Members to be selected by President Trump to serve on his impeachment defense team. Wow, just absolutely unbelievable.

In the 6 years and almost 8 months that I have been here, I have been part of history. I experienced so much history that has never happened before.

I served on the Judiciary Committee during both impeachments, but it went through committee on the first impeachment of President Trump. I saw firsthand how I thought it was so corrupt and politically motivated, and it disgusted me. I was so upset. I really studied hard. I studied all of the so-called evidence, and it was just a dark time in the United States.

I was there when Robert Mueller came to Judiciary Committee to testify, and we all prepared and it was kind of really a surprise of how he testified and wasn't able to answer certain questions.

I was here in Congress and lived through COVID when Speaker PELOSI mandated that we wear masks in all of the committees and on the floor; when Speaker PELOSI put metal detectors right outside of those doors and every single Member of Congress had to go through metal detectors as if we were some type of threat.

I was here when Speaker PELOSI instituted proxy voting on the floor. It never been done before in the history of the United States; not through different diseases, not through wars, but we did it here. I joined in the lawsuit against it, thinking it was unconstitutional.

□ 1900

I was here on January 6. That was just a crazy day.

I have had one heck of a ride, one heck of a ride here, and I have met so many great people. Truly, I believe that the vast majority of Congress Members are good people, good people who want to make a difference in our lives.

I have been able to help hundreds of constituents, and that is such a great feeling because they have come up to me, and some of these constituents have come up to me crying, saying: DEBBIE, you were able to help me. I was at my wit's end. I couldn't get my Social Security payment. I couldn't get my veteran benefit payment. Your office helped me.

That is really satisfying to me.

I was able to pass legislation. Not only was I a cosponsor of the big border bill securing the border and other great bills, but there were my own bills, the Save Our Gas Stoves Act and the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act, which were passed out of this House.

I was able to serve on the prestigious Energy and Commerce Committee, the select subcommittee on COVID-19, the Judiciary Committee, the Rules Committee, the Homeland Security Committee, and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. What an honor it has been.

I also served on the whip team and on the steering committee where we would select which Republicans served on which committees and which Republicans served as chairman or ranking member on the committees.

I have made a lot of great friends, some of them are here today, and I will never forget you.

Now, it is time for me to move on. I have a great family at home. My mother is 95. My loving husband is home. I have three kids. I have six grandkids. I have a brother and a sister who all live within 20 minutes of my house. I am here in Washington, D.C., 60, 70 percent of the time. There is something wrong with that picture.

As I leave, it is kind of bittersweet, but I am happy. I am happy I am going home, and I am happy I have had this experience of my lifetime. I will never regret it.

I thank my constituents who have always put their trust in me, the voters in my district; President Trump, who has supported me; my staff that has worked in my congressional office either now or in the past and the staff here at the Capitol. You have been great people, and I won't forget it.

Thank you, and God bless all of you as God has blessed me.

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

DISCUSSION ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Arizona. I didn't get a

chance to get down here in time during the time that was set aside to honor her service, but I am glad I was down here and was able to get down at the tail end of it to hear her speech.

It has been an honor. We were classmates. We came in together, served together.

I remember when the gentlewoman told us that she wasn't running again. I found her on the floor, and I said: So, what is going on? Why aren't you staying with us? And she said one word, family. That is the right answer.

You have been a great patriot. Congress is far better for having had you in it, and we will miss you. We know you won't be too far away, and we hope to see you here.

God bless you. Spend time with your family. I feel the pain of being away as you do. I will be very happy for you, but I will give you a few floor speeches to watch every once in a while here just for fun.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor tonight because there is a lot of talk going on right now about what has been referred to as DOGE, this effort by our friends Elon and Vivek with respect to the Department of Government Efficiency.

I am not 100 percent clear yet what that looks like in terms of formality, how the incoming President, President Trump, plans to establish it and set it up.

We had some great meetings today with those two men and Members of Congress who are interested in facilitating their work.

My only problem with the named Department of Government Efficiency is I would refer to it as the department of government elimination. I think we would be a lot better off if we were eliminating large swaths of that which has been unconstitutionally created to rack up \$36 trillion in debt.

I think what merits observation is what this body needs to do to actually deliver on what people are, I think, to some degree across the country, getting excited about with respect to the prospect of the brain power that has been assembled around this department, DOGE, or this effort. Congress has to actually do our part.

We had a meeting today. There was a lot of conversation back and forth, and there were a whole lot of Members of Congress who were looking to them to say to please do this. One Member said to please help give us the fortitude, the spine, to be able to deliver on removing and cutting this waste in government.

Look, to be very clear, the use of technology, crowdsourcing, AI by these guys and other smart people around the country, the use of technology, observe it, figure out what to do with it, great. I am for it.

I support their efforts. I support efforts by the incoming President and his staff, his administration, to, frankly, massively slash and burn the bureaucracy that is sucking away, frankly, the life of the American people through

overregulation, overspending, and driving up inflation because we keep spending more and more money in this vast bureaucracy. You can't even keep up with it.

I have a bill that I introduced a few years ago, the Count the Crimes to Cut Act. Do you know why? Nobody can tell me how many crimes there are. Literally, nobody can tell me how many crimes there are in the Federal Government. Does anybody see that as a problem? We literally don't even know how many—forget cataloging them all, organizing them all, figuring out how much of them are repeated or overburdensome or perhaps out of line. We don't even know, and I can't even get that bill through the committee and down to the floor. Members of this body don't want to know how many crimes there are so we can maybe go observe and try to do something about it?

On this score is where I believe Elon and Vivek can add massive value. They don't necessarily need us to pass something to go count the crimes. They can just use technology, AI, crowdsourcing, work and put a whole lot of effort into doing that because, frankly, a lot of people don't understand this, but we are pretty short-staffed here as it relates to our offices on Capitol Hill dealing with constituents services, dealing with the stuff we deal with all the time. Having an army of people and being able to leverage that is going to be really important.

Now, let's cut to the chase. The fact of the matter is, too many Members of the United States Congress are all too excited to hide behind Elon and Vivek to do the work they are supposed to do. That is the truth. I saw colleagues going to the mike thanking them saying, oh, please save us from the scourge of bureaucracy.

Well, what the hell is our job? We actually do have separation of powers. We actually are Article I. We actually do have the ability to use the power of the purse to constrain the leviathan and the executive branch. We just never do it ever.

If we dare try, oh, the scorn, oh, the look from your colleagues when you dare come down and object to a consent request, as I did, for \$19 billion. That seems trivial now, doesn't it? I objected to a consent request for \$19 billion in 2019 for Hurricane Harvey relief predominantly heavily in my home State of Texas.

A unanimous consent request was being offered on the floor. I was at the airport. I got word that they were going to do this by consent. I thought, wait a minute, they are going to pass \$19 billion by unanimous consent on the floor of the House, and we are not there, and it is not paid for.

Well, it might be meritorious in some respects. I don't know, but I would have to look at the funding and what it is going to be used for in Texas. There are people hurting in Texas, but we have to pay for it. We certainly don't pass things for \$19 billion by consent.