

Finally, beyond the numbers as it relates to my resolution regarding support for IVF, IVF has a genuinely positive impact on individuals, families, and communities.

IVF and other assisted reproductive technologies contribute to the birth of over 10 million babies globally every single year. In the U.S., 12 percent of women of reproductive age have utilized assisted reproductive technology.

Infertility is a deeply personal and obviously devastating issue. I am calling on my colleagues today on both sides of the aisle, Republican and Democrat alike, to join me in expressing the sentiment in the whole House of Representatives that we are dedicated to protecting the American Dream of starting a family by cosponsoring this resolution.

BRINGING KAI LI HOME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Speaker, we, the United States Government, must do everything in our power to bring my constituent, Kai Li, home from his unlawful imprisonment by the Chinese Communist Party.

Since 2016, Kai Li, of Huntington, New York, has been unjustly imprisoned by the Chinese Communist Party.

In 2016, Kai Li visited Shanghai to mark the first anniversary of his mother's death. When he arrived at the airport in Shanghai, Chinese Communist Party authorities immediately arrested him on what they called espionage charges.

For months, Kai was held in secret detention without access to legal counsel. Almost 2 years later, in July of 2018, in a one-hour secret trial, Kai was convicted of espionage.

This is yet another example of the Chinese Communist Party's long history of aggressively targeting and detaining individuals on trumped-up charges of spying.

Since coming into office 14 months ago, I have called on the administration to do everything in its power to bring Kai Li home to his family, including his son, Harrison.

Soon, I will be introducing legislation to urge this administration to prioritize bringing Kai Li home and end his unlawful detainment. We must right this wrong and fix a broken situation.

POLICE EXPLORERS PROGRAM

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Speaker, the Suffolk County Police Department has an exciting program to increase interest among teenagers in pursuing a career in law enforcement. It is called the Police Explorers.

Participants in the program must show an interest in a law enforcement career, meet minimum academic standards, and have no criminal convictions or history.

The Police Explorers program is a learning-for-life program, which pro-

vides participants with police training and community service experience.

I had the chance to meet with Sergeant Linda Piotrowski of the Suffolk County Police Department in my Hauppauge office, and she briefed me on this program.

We had a great discussion about public safety and how to increase awareness among young people interested in a career in law enforcement.

As the son and grandson of police officers, I am thrilled to see efforts to increase law enforcement recruitment numbers and to help those interested in a career in law enforcement. Together, we must continue to support and back the blue at every opportunity.

COMBATING THE RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to condemn the disturbing rise in anti-Semitism in this country and around the world, especially in the months following the October 7 terrorist attacks committed by Hamas against the people of Israel.

Since October 7, America has seen a demonstrable rise in anti-Semitism on college campuses where students have been harassed and even insulted simply for being Jewish.

Despite their years of elitist rhetoric, talk of safe spaces, and feigning how they welcome all cultures, duplicitous liberal college presidents have refused to take action to protect these students.

In America, every student should be free to live and learn without fear of harassment or physical violence. America's colleges must do better.

Here in Washington, I am proud to cosponsor several pieces of legislation to support Israel, hold Hamas and Iran accountable, and condemn anti-Semitism, including H.R. 6090, the Anti-Semitism Awareness Act, which would require the Department of Education to clearly define anti-Semitism and ensure anti-Semitic hate crimes on college campuses are properly investigated and prosecuted.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LALOTA) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O sovereign Lord, 2 years into this unrelenting conflict between Russia

and Ukraine, we appeal to You to act in condemnation against the unprovoked and the unjustified aggression and the heinous and hateful crimes against the Ukrainian people.

Uphold the cause of justice and defend these men and women who have called to You in their need. For they have been a testimony to faith, waiting patiently for You, fearing not when evil people have succeeded, and never losing heart even as the wicked carry out their schemes.

Protect them from their enemy but preserve them also from themselves, that they would refrain from acting out in anger and responding in wrath. In the horror of this interminable war, prevent them from resorting to vengeance, deliver them from exercising the very evil they are now enduring.

May all who suffer at the hands of such aggressors be assured that You, O Lord, laugh at the wicked for You know their day is coming. Though they draw the sword and bend the bow, You, O righteous one, will cause their weapons to pierce their own hearts. You will cause their strongholds to break.

Make firm the steps of those who delight in You. Though they may stumble, they will not fall, for You, O Lord, will uphold them with Your hand.

In the strength found only in Your name do we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. PLASKETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

LEAP DAY

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Leap Day, which means the folks I represent in Tennessee will be subject to an extra day of the disastrous economic policies of the Biden administration that have resulted in record-high inflation and an unaffordable cost of living.

Look no further, Mr. Speaker, than a recent report that said December was the least affordable month on record to own a home, as home prices hit an all-time high.

December marked the 11th straight month of higher home prices and a 5 percent increase in prices over the entire year.

Coupled with higher interest rates, thanks to the Biden administration's reckless deficit spending, the American Dream of owning a home is quickly evaporating.

However, Mr. Speaker, I am committed to passing policies that make purchasing and owning a home more affordable and lowering the cost of living for the average American and the Tennesseans that I represent.

RECOGNIZING THE 180TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S INDEPENDENCE

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 180th anniversary of the Dominican Republic's independence.

This past weekend, the streets in downtown Christiansted, St. Croix, and Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, were alive with the spirit of the Independence Day Parade, a tradition that has graced our islands for 15 years and serves as a testament to the rich tapestry of our shared heritage.

The Virgin Islands prides itself on being a melting pot of cultures, and the active participation and integration of the Dominican community showcase the strength and beauty of that diversity.

It is inspiring to see members of the Dominican community opening businesses, contributing to our economy, and taking on key roles in our government as they share their passion and their ideas.

Those efforts and achievements reinforce the value of cultural exchange and mutual respect that are the foundation of our society.

It is the fabric that weaves our communities together and allows every ethnicity and nationality to celebrate their unique culture and traditions.

Here is to many more years of friendship, collaboration, and shared prosperity between the Virgin Islands and, indeed, the United States and the Dominican Republic.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. VAN DUYNE) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

ATOMIC ENERGY ADVANCEMENT ACT

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6544) to advance the benefits of nuclear energy by enabling efficient, timely, and predictable licensing, regulation, and deployment of nuclear energy technologies, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6544

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Atomic Energy Advancement Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Subtitle A—Efficiency, Performance, and Preparation for the Future

Sec. 101. NRC mission alignment.

Sec. 102. Nuclear licensing efficiency.

Sec. 103. Strengthening the NRC workforce.

Subtitle B—Fee Reduction

Sec. 111. Advanced reactor fee reduction.

Sec. 112. Advanced nuclear reactor prize.

Subtitle C—Siting, Licensing, and Oversight Reviews

Sec. 121. Modernization of nuclear reactor environmental reviews.

Sec. 122. Nuclear for Brownfield sites.

Sec. 123. Advancement of nuclear regulatory oversight.

TITLE II—NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT

Sec. 201. Advanced nuclear deployment.

Sec. 202. Global nuclear cooperation.

Sec. 203. American nuclear competitiveness.

TITLE I—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Subtitle A—Efficiency, Performance, and Preparation for the Future

SEC. 101. NRC MISSION ALIGNMENT.

(a) MISSION OF THE COMMISSION.—

(1) UPDATE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall, while remaining consistent with the policies of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (including to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of the public health and safety, to promote the common defense and security, and to protect the environment), update the mission statement of the Commission to include that licensing and regulation of nuclear energy activities be conducted in a manner that is efficient and does not unnecessarily limit—

(A) the potential of nuclear energy to improve the general welfare; and

(B) the benefits of nuclear energy technology to society.

(2) REPORT.—Upon completion of the update to the mission statement required under paragraph (1), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(A) the updated mission statement; and

(B) the guidance that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will provide to staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ensure effective performance of such mission.

(b) OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION.—Section 203 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5843) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “(a) There” and inserting the following:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT; APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR.—There”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “(b) Subject” and inserting the following:

“(b) FUNCTIONS OF DIRECTOR.—Subject”;

and

(ii) by striking “delegate including:” and inserting “delegate, including the following:”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “for the discharge of the” and inserting “to fulfill the licensing and regulatory oversight”;

(3) in subsection (c), by striking “(c) Nothing” and inserting the following:

“(d) RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFE OPERATION OF FACILITIES.—Nothing”; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) LICENSING PROCESS.—In carrying out the principal licensing and regulation functions under subsection (b)(1), the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation shall—

“(1) establish techniques and guidance for evaluating applications for licenses for nuclear reactors to support efficient, timely, and predictable reviews of applications for such licenses to enable the safe and secure use of nuclear reactors;

“(2) maintain the techniques and guidance established under paragraph (1) by periodically assessing and, if necessary, modifying such techniques and guidance; and

“(3) obtain approval from the Commission if establishment or modification of the techniques and guidance established under paragraph (1) or (2) involves policy formulation.”.

SEC. 102. NUCLEAR LICENSING EFFICIENCY.

(a) EFFICIENT LICENSING REVIEWS.—

(1) GENERAL.—Section 181 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2231) is amended—

(A) by striking “The provisions of” and inserting the following:

“(a) The provisions of”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) Consistent with the declaration in section 1, the Commission shall provide for efficient, timely, and predictable reviews and proceedings for the granting, suspending, revoking, or amending of any license or construction permit, or application to transfer control, and in any proceeding for the issuance or modification of rules and regulations dealing with the activities of licenses.”.

(2) CONSTRUCTION PERMITS AND OPERATING LICENSES.—Section 185 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2235) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“c. APPLICATION REVIEWS FOR PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION FACILITIES OF AN EXISTING SITE.—In reviewing an application for an early site permit, construction permit, operating license, or combined construction permit and operating license for a production facility or utilization facility located at the site of a production facility or utilization facility licensed by the Commission, the Commission shall, to the extent practicable, use