

is a testament to the strength, leadership, and dedication of women across our State.

Governor Reynolds has made an excellent choice in appointing Chris to this important role. I had the pleasure of serving alongside Chris in the Iowa Senate and have seen firsthand the kind of leader she is.

Chris has been a tireless advocate for education, technology, innovation, conservative budgeting, tax cuts, and accountability in government during her time in the Iowa Senate. Her ability to roll up her sleeves and find practical solutions makes her uniquely qualified to serve our State in this capacity.

From her leadership on the school board of the Pleasant Valley School District, to her work in the technology sector, Chris has proven herself time and time again. I am proud to call her a friend and excited to see the continued success she will bring to Iowa in this new role.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Senator Cournoyer. Iowa is fortunate to have her.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT GAO, NATIONAL STUDENT POET

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert Gao from Champaign-Urbana on being selected as one of five National Student Poets.

The National Student Poet Program is one of our Nation's highest honors for youth poets presenting original work. It is an incredible accomplishment that reflects Robert's talent, artistry, and the power of his work to inspire others.

Robert says that his writing is influenced by his family and exploring his identity. He described that he fell in love with poetry because it allowed him to put his soul onto paper in a way that nonfiction writing couldn't.

Previously, Robert has been recognized by The New York Times, the National Young Artist Foundation, and the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

We are all so proud of Robert and cannot wait to see him continue to grow as an author and an artist.

CONGRATULATING MACON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(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, I rise to congratulate the Macon County High School football team for securing their first State championship.

The Tigers advance to the playoffs often. They have done so 20 times in the last 55 years. This year, they captured the big Class 4A BlueCross Bowl title after defeating Melrose 45-15.

Twin brothers, Zach and Gabe Borders, are credited as standouts. Gabe ran for 117 yards and completed his team's only pass for a touchdown. His brother, Zach, earned MVP after his 250-yard performance, which included four rushing scores in the second half.

The Tigers were fortunate to have both brothers on the field, especially considering that Zach has undergone surgery and has pins after multiple breaks to his collarbone.

I congratulate all of the players, their families, and Coach Kyle Shoulders, and I congratulate all who prayed over the health of this senior class.

Go Tigers.

END GUN VIOLENCE IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

(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 to address a crisis in the Virgin Islands.

On December 13, a shooting claimed the life of another of my constituents. My deepest condolences go to the families and loved ones of each of the 42 victims who have died by homicide in 2024 in the Virgin Islands.

Throughout the Caribbean, gun violence, driven by unemployment and drug and human trafficking, is pervasive.

During a recent codel to Barbados, led by Leader JEFFRIES, we heard similar concerns from our Caribbean allies.

The Senate must pass the ONDCP Reauthorization Act, which includes my Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy Act, to combat the illegal trafficking of deadly drugs which traverse through American territories in the Caribbean.

In the Virgin Islands, 93 percent of guns recovered by law enforcement were trafficked illegally into the territory, and the homicide rate is nine times higher than the continental United States.

We need our Federal partners, especially ATF, to provide resources and maintain a presence in the territory.

MAKING AMERICA GREAT AGAIN

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, led by President-elect Donald Trump, House Republicans are looking forward to 2025 and the 119th Congress with great enthusiasm, advancing a conservative agenda.

With the new Republican majority in the Senate, we will work hard on behalf of American families to deliver solutions to drive down the crippling costs of inflation, eliminate regulations, lower energy prices, and provide for a reduction in Federal overreach in schools, and much more.

House Republicans are committed to securing the borders, promoting family values, supporting small businesses, creating jobs, and backing our allies while establishing peace through strength.

House Republicans, led by the leadership of Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, will resume, making America great again.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent as warned by the FBI. Trump will reinstitute existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAYOR MARK MURPHY

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of my good friend, Mayor Mark Murphy, and to recognize his lifetime of service to the city of Orange.

Mark was a loving husband, a lifelong Orange County resident, and a committed public servant. He served our community for more than 30 years as the Orange County Transit Authority chairman, city of Orange councilmember, and then city of Orange mayor.

It is because of his love for his neighborhoods and his community that he earned the nickname "Mr. Orange."

Mark's passion was improving our community's parks and recreation centers. He oversaw the construction of Grijalva Sports Center, the expansion of the Orange library, and the acquisition of several park spaces.

While many know Mark for his strong advocacy, his voice as a singer is less known. He actively participated in his church choir and even sang on stage during park concerts.

Mark was also known as a Harley-Davidson bike rider.

Mr. Speaker, we love Mark and his legacy continues.

CALIFORNIA NEEDS A WATER STORAGE SUPPLY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I can't emphasize enough how important it is for the ag economy and for the security of this country that my home State of California provides so many of these essential crops in high percentages. Many of these crops you see, 90 to 99 percent, even 100 percent, are grown in my home State.

What does that underline for you? It underlines the need for my home State to have a water supply to grow those crops. Each year it seems more and

more is being taken away regulatorily from farmers and given to environmental purposes.

We need to build more storage in my home State. We need to build what is called Sites Reservoir. We need to raise Shasta Dam. We need to look at other projects. We also need for the pumps at the delta to be running full blast at this time of year when we have this excess water running out to the ocean and filling up the San Luis Reservoir so we have that water supply for the southern part of the State in the San Joaquin Valley.

We need to do all these things in order to ensure that we have the crops to put the food on the table for Americans. At this time with the ag economy suffering so much across the country, we need to do everything we can to make their jobs easier.

MILITARY BOWL

(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, the East Carolina University Pirates will be taking on the North Carolina State University Wolfpack in what is sure to be an exciting 2024 Go Bowling Military Bowl at the Navy-Marine Memorial Stadium in Annapolis on December 28.

It will be an evening of incredible State pride, sportsmanship, and hard-hitting football by an intense in-State rivalry.

The Go Bowling Military Bowl matches top teams from the Atlantic Coast Conference and American Athletic Conference. Above all, it aims to benefit active and former servicemembers and their families. It will be fantastic to see two North Carolina teams in an excellent end to the season, especially for those players who are graduating.

It should not be any surprise who I will be cheering on, Coach Harrell and the ESU Pirates. Loyal and bold. We are purple and gold.

Aargh.

CONGRATULATING ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ AND KIONNE MCGHEE

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friends and colleagues, Anthony Rodriguez and Kionne McGhee, the new chairman and vice chairman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners.

I look forward to continuing our work together to deliver results for the people of Miami-Dade County.

With my colleagues on the commission, I worked to deliver the largest tax cuts in Miami-Dade County history when I was the mayor, and being mayor of Miami-Dade County has been

one of the highlights of my career in public service.

I understand firsthand just how effective both Chairman Rodriguez and Vice Chairman McGhee are, and I am confident in their ability to lead with conviction for the community that we represent.

Mr. Speaker, I thank both of them and wish them Godspeed.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF CHIEF OF STAFF BETSY ARNOLD MARR

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my unbelievably talented chief of staff, Betsy Arnold Marr, as she retires from the House of Representatives after more than 25 years of service.

Betsy has worked in Congress through some of our Nation's biggest moments in recent history: September 11, passage of the Affordable Care Act, the pandemic, and January 6.

Through it all, she has been a thoughtful and dynamic leader who helped navigate it all with grace, talent, and intelligence.

Before her time in the House, Betsy developed her expertise in communications and press relations, working for the Minnesota Democratic Party on campaigns and then as a reporter.

Since coming to the House, she has worked for four Members, using her skills to help run each office and mentor her colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have worked for—I mean with Betsy for the last 10 years. We will miss her dearly and wish her and her husband, Charles, well in their next steps.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAYOR MARK MURPHY

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mark Murphy, who recently passed away. Known as "Mr. Orange," Mark was a lifelong resident of the city of Orange, born at St. Joseph Hospital, and graduating from Orange High School.

He served the city for decades on the City Planning Commission, the City Council, as mayor, and on the Board of Orange County Transportation Authority, all while working full time for over 33 years at Hewlett-Packard.

He was everywhere in Orange. He also was a talented musician, singing in the choir at First Presbyterian Church and playing guitar at concerts in the park.

Mr. Speaker, I send my deepest condolences to his wife, Vikki, and moth-

er, Lois. I join our Orange community in honoring his memory and a life very well lived.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF SAM PRITCHARD

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

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my outgoing chief of staff, Sam Pritchard, and thank him for his service to Iowa's Second Congressional District.

Sam is a Cedar Rapids native and there is no one more passionate about serving their home State. He has been a trusted confidant for me since joining our team but has also become a dear friend, always offering steady advice with a good dad joke thrown in every now and then for good measure.

I also thank Sam's wife, Katie, and his children, Clare and John Thomas, for sharing Sam with us over the years. We couldn't be more thrilled for your family in this new chapter.

Mr. Speaker, even though Sam is leaving the Hill, we know he will always be a member of our team. I thank him for his service to Iowa and his service to our country.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATURNER). 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.

DETECTION EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION TO COUNTER THE THREAT OF FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE ACT OF 2024

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 8663) to require the Science and Technology Directorate in the Department of Homeland Security to develop greater capacity to detect, identify, and disrupt illicit substances in very low concentrations.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:
Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.

This Act may be cited as the "Detection Equipment and Technology Evaluation to Counter the Threat of Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024" or the "DETECT Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. ENHANCING THE CAPACITY TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY DRUGS SUCH AS FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE.

Section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182) is amended—