

Ukrainians know that only America can provide them with the aid on the scale and timeline necessary to achieve a victory.

Elsewhere on the front lines, other soldiers told a reporter: You Americans have to decide whether you want to remain a global power.

Think in your heads as to whether we want to do that, for not doing so will cause great danger to the global community and ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, bring this bill to the floor. Let us act. The votes are here to pass that bill in a bipartisan fashion.

For the majority of Members, that decision is clear. We must help Ukraine, as well as our allies in Israel and beyond.

As I said, over 300 votes are on this floor to do just that—a bill to defend democracy, a bill to strike fear into the hearts of Putin and the axis of evil, a bill to restore America's reputation.

Speaker JOHNSON has been unable to handle this issue and fund our government simultaneously, but managing multiple priorities is the most basic part of his job.

It is disgraceful that the speakers from 23 parliaments, our allies, our friends, have written to us and said: America, America, America, respond as you have in the past to defend democracy, defend freedom, and defend the fighters for freedom.

It is disgraceful that they had to write us, but perhaps the Speaker needs that reminder. Leaders ought to lead, Speakers ought to speak up, and the United States Congress ought to stand united in its defense of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, history is watching at this pivotal moment. America ought not to be absent without leave. This is not a partisan issue. This is an issue for the leader of the free world—America. Let's act.

Mr. Speaker, bring the bill to the floor.

FAILED BORDER POLICY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I am fascinated by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle being so fixated on Ukraine when our porous southern border, our U.S. borders, are causing so much harm to our American economy and losing American lives such as Laken Riley here most recently.

We have been fairly generous to Ukraine since their problems have started with Russia. Indeed, the amount of money they received is at least 20-fold more than what we are even talking about that would secure our own southern border.

Now we see President Biden will be chasing former President Trump down to the border—in reality, a desperate attempt to stabilize his plummeting poll numbers on the issue, but let's not be kidded by that.

Today's visit, much like Biden's first and only other visit to our southern border, will be basically a photo op.

He will be visiting Brownsville, Texas, an area of the southern border that, according to reports, has had virtually nonexistent activity in recent days, weeks, and months compared to all the other places along the border where you can see plenty of footage of tens of thousands of people coming across. Create a distraction here by going over there.

This is nothing more than a smoke-screen and an attempt to distract American people from his disastrous policies and the chaos he has unleashed at our southern border.

For the past 3 years, President Biden has not only ignored the crisis at the southern border, he is directly responsible for it.

Since his first day in office, he has worked to implement his own far-left failed policies which have basically turned every town in the whole country into a border town and destroyed countless American families. We then talk about this issue here on the floor since the media doesn't seem to want to cover that very well.

There are over 60 instances of President Biden and his administration taking actions that undermine our Nation's border security.

The first thing he did when he came into office was to get rid of the procedures and the policies that President Trump had put into place.

Yet, recently in the press, he is yelling at Republicans, saying: You need to back some of our border policies we are working on. Really? Put back in place the policies that already worked.

These eight items, he could do all of these without having Congress fund or come to agreement on a bipartisan fashion on any of them: end catch and release, reinstate the remain in Mexico policy, enter into an asylum cooperation agreement, end parole abuses, detain inadmissible aliens—wow, wouldn't that be something—use expedited removal process, rein in taxpayer-funded benefits for all illegal aliens—wouldn't that be a relief for families who are struggling—issue a proclamation to suspend or restrict entry in the United States.

Those are actions he could take on his own without having to battle through both sides of the aisle in both the House and Senate.

We would be happy to do that as Republicans. Republicans have been standing for these types of policies all along.

It all changed under the Biden administration. That is why we have suffered these last 3 years with the mass amounts of people coming across our border illegally and invading our country.

We know border security is national security. That is why the bill we passed, H.R. 2, earlier on is the right policy.

Yet, it is sitting there languishing under Senator SCHUMER and the Senate Democrats who won't bring it up for a vote or discussion.

Instead, they gave us a watered-down immigration bill that would allow 1.8 million illegal immigrants a year into our country with immediate work permits, benefits, and the ability to stay even longer, thereby codifying illegal immigration.

We are going to automatically concede 1.8 million can come in illegally without process, and we are going to give you stuff. Calling that a border security package and then reaming Republicans for not being for that, it is not even a funny joke.

Let's look at the numbers. Since Biden took office, there have been 7.2 million illegal crossings of our southern border; 8.7 million entries nationwide.

The total number of illegal immigrants who have entered through our southern border is greater than the population of 36 of our individual States.

Let's not forget about the terrorists. Mr. Speaker, 340 individuals whose names appear on the terrorist watch list have been stopped trying to cross the southern border.

So far in 2024, there have been 58 individuals whose names appear on the list who have been stopped trying to enter the border. How many haven't been stopped?

The total is more than the encounters in all fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 combined. That is how bad it has gotten to this point.

It is not just terrorists crossing our border. It is also Chinese Communist Party nationals. Mr. Speaker, 20,000 Chinese nationals have illegally crossed the southern border since fiscal year 2024 began in October.

Just last week, 22-year-old Georgia nursing student Laken Riley's life was taken. How many more examples like that have to happen because of Biden's wide-open policy and today's photo op? We must do better.

SUPPORTING A NATIONAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on National Security, I rise to remind the House Republican leadership that actions speak louder than words when it comes to national security and America's defense of democracy and human rights worldwide.

In reference to the current migrant crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border, Speaker JOHNSON has repeatedly stated that "our national security begins at our border."

He has indicated that border policy would be the Republican hill to die on. He even insisted that the House would

not act on a foreign aid package unless it included substantive provisions to enhance border security, his “top priority.”

However, the actions taken by the House Republican leadership do not live up to those words. Three weeks ago, a bipartisan coalition in the U.S. Senate negotiated a national security agreement that proposed the most significant reforms in decades, introducing new emergency border authorities, including granting the President the ability to close the border under certain circumstances, anti-fentanyl and anti-human trafficking provisions, and resources to enhance security at the southern border.

President Biden indicated a willingness to sign the compromise agreement, when passed. Instead, at the direction of former President Trump, Speaker JOHNSON declared the bill dead on arrival in the House before he even received the final text.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should debate and amend, when necessary, and pass a commonsense border security and immigration bill to end the crisis at our border and regain control of our border.

Similarly, following Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine in February of 2022, the House Republican leadership released the following statement:

They said, “We stand in complete solidarity with the innocent Ukrainian people and vow to continue to support them as they defend themselves from Putin's unprovoked onslaught.”

The Speaker personally echoed those commitments during his meeting with Ukrainian President Zelenskyy in the Capitol last December.

However, after the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed a bipartisan foreign aid package that includes over \$60 billion in assistance to support the Ukrainian military and people, a bill which also included provisions for \$14 billion in aid to Israel and nearly \$10 billion in humanitarian assistance for civilians in Gaza, the West Bank, Ukraine, and other populations affected by conflict, the Speaker once again declared the bill dead on arrival.

Upon his election to the speakership, Speaker JOHNSON pledged that the House Republican Conference, and I am going to give you a quote, “And we will restore sanity to a government desperately in need of it.” That could not be further from the truth.

As evidenced by another looming government shutdown, this Republican majority remains mired in internal party dysfunction and legislative chaos to the great detriment of U.S. national security, our international partners, and the American people.

We are now one day away from a partial shutdown that would disrupt critical Federal programs, including veterans' outreach services, air traffic control training, food assistance for low-income families, and an estimated 200,000 military families who now rely upon WIC to alleviate food insecurity—

according to the National Military Family Association.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House Republican leadership to set politics and partisanship aside and work with Members on both sides of the aisle to immediately address these critical priorities.

We also have an opportunity to urge the United States Treasury to take control of the \$300 billion in Russian assets that are in the possession and custody of U.S. and EU banks. Take that \$300 billion and give it to Ukraine so they can fight for their freedom and feed their people.

CONGRATULATING MEGAN MORONEY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Savannah-born singer Megan Moroney for ranking among Rolling Stone's “The 100 Best Albums of 2023” list.

Born in Savannah, Georgia, Megan Moroney comes from a household steeped in musical talent and traditions influenced by iconic songwriters in classic country, southern rock, and Americana.

After completing high school, Moroney set off to receive a degree in accounting at the University of Georgia. Go Dawgs.

During her freshmen year at UGA, Megan was provided with the opportunity to open for a well-established country artist at the renowned Georgia Theatre.

This unexpected opportunity sparked Megan's interest in crafting her first original song.

Reflecting on her journey, she shared that she never thought she would be a singer professionally.

Moroney connects with her audience through her music by speaking her truth about the emotional experiences she has faced.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Megan. I look forward to seeing her continued success in the future.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF LEANNA PIVER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Leanna Piver, a varsity cheerleader and student at Georgia Tech.

Leanna has been awarded a posthumous degree by Georgia Tech after her passing.

Leanna learned dance and theater, and she was accepted into the Atlanta Workshop Players performing arts company while at Parkview High School. After high school, she was accepted into Georgia Tech and joined the cheerleading squad as a flyer.

Leanna tragically passed after a car accident in 1998. She is remembered by all as a loving member of the Tech family.

The Georgia Institute of Technology granted a bachelor of science in busi-

ness administration posthumously for Leanna as a gift to her parents, who celebrated their 50th anniversary and love for Leanna.

While Leanna's life was cut tragically short, her legacy lives on through memories, the scholarship created in her name, and so much more.

CONGRATULATING MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD RECIPIENT COLT BROCKINGTON

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Mr. Colt Brockington.

Colt is the 2023–2024 recipient of the Milken Educator Award of the State of Georgia. This award is given to a younger educator who has extraordinary accomplishments and achievements. Only the best of the best receive it.

Colt is an alum of Wayne County High School and a graduate of the College of Coastal Georgia. He now serves as a science teacher and mentor to students and faculty at Wayne County High School.

Colt develops plans to enhance student learning by collaborating with teachers and students alike to provide a nurturing and academic environment.

His leadership abilities in the classroom are also seen on the field, with Colt holding the positions of Wayne County head softball coach, assistant baseball coach, and athletic academic adviser.

Colt inspires his students on and off the field with his dedication to the future of education at Wayne County High School.

Congratulations to Colt.

RECOGNIZING GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS HALL OF FAMER KIM GUSBY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a major accomplishment that has been awarded to Kim Gusby.

Kim is a Savannah-raised journalist and has recently been elected to the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame. This comes after 20 years of broadcasting in the Savannah area. Kim is an award-winning journalist and the longest-serving morning news anchor in the area.

She is known throughout the community for tirelessly giving back at every opportunity. In 2019, Kim founded The Village Scholarship Fund, which provides necessary resources for high school students aiming to start college.

Kim was also named Outstanding Georgia Citizen in 2019.

Congratulations to Kim. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this honor.

CONTINUE AMERICA'S LEGACY OF FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, every generation or so, our country is challenged with a fight. It is a fight in which we