

NOT VOTING—26

Beatty	Higgins (LA)	Pappas
Blunt Rochester	Hinson	Phillips
Boebert	Jeffries	Rogers (KY)
Buck	Kelly (IL)	Scalise
Cárdenas	Kim (NJ)	Scanlon
Carter (LA)	Kuster	Underwood
Cartwright	Langworthy	Wexton
Crawford	Mills	Wilson (FL)
Gosar	Nunn (IA)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1635

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 8.

Stated against:

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes today. However, if I was present, I would have voted “nay” on the passage of S.J. Res. 38, rollcall No. 8.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not able to be present to vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall no. 4, “nay” on rollcall no. 5, “yea” on rollcall no. 6, “nay” on rollcall no. 7, and “nay” on rollcall no. 8.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall No. 4. Motion to Reconsider H. Res. 947, “aye” on rollcall No. 5, H. Res. 947, “yea” on rollcall No. 6, Motion to Recommit, “yea” on rollcall No. 7, H.R. 788 and “yea” on rollcall No. 8, S.J. Res. 35.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a sick family member, I was unable to be present for votes in the 2nd vote series today. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 6, “yea” on rollcall No. 7, and “yea” on rollcall No. 8.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, in order to attend a funeral of a student who was a victim in the Perry school shooting in my District, I was unable to be present for the floor votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 4, Motion to Reconsider H. Res. 947; “yea” on rollcall No. 5, Adopiton of the Rule; “nay” on rollcall No. 6, Motion to Recommit; “yea” on rollcall No. 7, H.R. 788; and “yea” on rollcall No. 8, S.J. Res. 38.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

(Ms. CROCKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, on the last day of 2023, Texas’ 30th Congressional District laid to rest a legend who served in this Chamber and was a champion of the Lone Star State: Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson passed away.

As her successor representing Texas’ 30th Congressional District, I see the impact of her 30-year tenure in Congress and her half century legacy of public service everywhere I look. Whether it was securing millions of dollars in public investment to north Texas, to the thousands of jobs she helped to create under the Chips and Science Act, she led with conviction and passion.

As Chairwoman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, she was unapologetic in advocating for Texas as the future of space exploration. Thanks to her leadership, Texas is helping us go back to the Moon and beyond and has transformed into a technological powerhouse.

I have described Chairwoman Johnson as a quiet storm. She didn’t need to make a lot of noise to create change, and through her tireless work for equality and equity, she made space for louder storms, like me, to continue her work.

Every member of the Texas delegation can remember a time when the chairwoman put politics aside and crossed the aisle in order to advance and better the lives of the people of the Lone Star State and American families across the country.

The country and delegation have lost a giant, but her work and legacy will continue to live on.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that all those who are present in the Chamber as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol please rise for a moment of silence to remember the late Honorable Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.

□ 1645

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MILK DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize a special day for our dairy farmers, National Milk Day.

National Milk Day originates back to January 11, 1878, when milk was first delivered in glass bottles in the United States.

Milk is consumed by millions of Americans every year because not only is it delicious but also provides key nutrients like calcium, potassium, and other vitamins.

This is one of the reasons why I am so thankful for the passing of my bill, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2023, which will provide these key nutrients to children and schools nationwide.

Milk is also very important to my home State of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania dairy industry alone generates 52,000 jobs and \$14.7 billion in revenue in the State.

Furthermore, Pennsylvania is ranked second nationally in the number of

dairy farms. I am so proud of all that they have accomplished.

As a descendant of a long line of dairy farmers, let’s raise a glass of milk in honor of these dairy farmers who work around the clock to bring fresh, nutritious, and delicious milk to our tables every day.

SEEKING THE TRUTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss blatant Republican hypocrisy. Yesterday, the House Oversight Committee discussed whether to hold Hunter Biden in contempt of Congress because he rejected a congressional subpoena.

It is insulting and ironic, given that elected Republicans JIM JORDAN, MO BROOKS, SCOTT PERRY, ANDY BIGGS, and former Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY did the same thing.

They took an oath of allegiance to America, but the issue is not congressional subpoenas. The issue is the truth.

Hunter Biden wants to tell the truth in a public hearing, but Republicans do not want the truth. They want a story based on lies and deceit.

They want Americans to think Hunter Biden is the problem with our country, but it is failed and incompetent Republican leadership that is the problem.

It is the unpopular and dangerous Republican agenda. That is the problem. Their blatant hypocrisy to cover up the truth is a national tragedy.

ACCOUNTING FOR TAXPAYER FUNDS

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week the EPA inspector general reported that the EPA has failed to accurately report the use of \$7 billion in 2022.

This jarring report is the clearest sign yet that the EPA is unable and unwilling to adequately serve the American people.

Under President Biden’s leadership, this failure in accountability is what we have come to expect. No one is surprised.

Whether it is creating burdensome regulations on our Nation’s coal-powered generation plants or constructing extreme methane rules for natural gas producers or attempting to ban the sale of gas-powered vehicles, the EPA has repeatedly shown that it is unable to govern effectively.

The inspector general’s report outlines how 99 percent of the EPA’s total award-level outlays were not reported in fiscal year 2022.

If the EPA cannot adequately account for the taxpayer funds that it

distributes, how can it possibly be relied upon to effectively regulate our energy industry?

It is time to rein in the out-of-control EPA and hold the EPA accountable to the American people.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER KYLE CUNNINGHAM

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Kyle Cunningham from the Akron Police Department as the champion of the week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Officer Cunningham heroically saved a man's life who was attempting to jump over the side of the bridge. However, Officer Cunningham held on until he and another officer were able to pull the man over the railing.

Officer Cunningham represents the very best of our dedicated law enforcement officers who answer the call to serve and dedicate themselves to protect members in our community.

Through swift action and incredible bravery, Officer Cunningham was able to save a life and give this person a chance to receive the care and resources they need.

We are grateful for Officer Cunningham's act of heroism and his continued service with the Akron Police Department and look to him as a leader in the birthplace of champions.

Once again, on behalf of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, I offer congratulations and thanks to our champion of the week, Officer Kyle Cunningham.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL BRIAN DAVIES

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Rear Admiral Brian Davies, a distinguished nuclear submarine warfare officer who succumbed to illness on December 30.

The floor of Congress is a fitting place to remember his dedication to our country and our security, where he served beneath the seas, out of sight, ever vigilant, ensuring America's dominance of the seas.

I honor Admiral Davies' full life and his dutiful service. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Brian commanded our most secret and most decorated submarine, the USS *Jimmy Carter*. Later, he commanded a submarine squadron.

His service took him under the Arctic, the western Pacific, the northern Atlantic, and the Indian Oceans. All other details are hidden, even from his own family.

I ask that our Nation also remember Brian's shipmates who continue to sacrifice so much for our Nation in silence.

I ask that we honor and remember Brian's wife, Kacey, and their daughter, Caitlin, who endured with courage the many hardships of his time in the Navy and who now mourn the loss of his honorable life.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce with Congresswoman ASHLEY HINSON of Iowa, my appropriations colleague, H.R. 6956, the bipartisan Opioid Settlement Accountability Act.

This legislation will ensure that money from opioid settlements related to the ongoing crisis are used for opioid treatment, prevention, and enforcement rather than slush funds for road maintenance or local debts.

The opioid crisis is far from over. In 2022, more than two-thirds of the reported 107,081 drug overdoses in the United States involved opioids.

While opioid settlements have totaled \$55.79 billion, many of these funds are not being used to address the ongoing damage done by the ongoing opioid epidemic.

We must learn our lesson from the tobacco settlements of the 1990s. States used money they received for transportation projects and balancing budgets instead of prevention efforts.

Today's opioid settlement funds must be used to help fight the ongoing opioid epidemic and not as piggy banks for politicians to break open and play around with.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to sign on with us.

CUTS TO THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I am deeply concerned by the impact that recent cuts to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule will have on patient access to healthcare across our great country.

On January 1, 2024, a 3.4 percent Medicare cut took effect, impacting providers all across the United States. This is in addition to previous cuts.

Providers have continued to bear the cost of many challenges that arose during the pandemic and after the pandemic, including staffing shortages, supply chain shortages, and continuing rising inflation—all of these.

As the cost of providing care continues to rise, the reimbursement to physicians who provide the care continues to be cut.

If we do not swiftly act to address these cuts now and in the long term,

patients will suffer the most. The physician shortage will continue to worsen.

Hospitals and independent community-based providers will continue to shutter their doors, and, sadly, America's seniors will be left with no option for high-quality, affordable healthcare.

I urge congressional leadership to put the health of Americans first by stopping the Medicare cuts and ensuring that patients and Medicare beneficiaries have access to the providers who care for them by not cutting them out.

KEEPING THE GOVERNMENT OPEN

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of bipartisanship. There are more than 300 of us in this Chamber that will support a bipartisan budget agreement. Yet, there are a few who want to see the government shut down.

A shutdown will lead to any number of awful things with our economy. It will hurt millions of workers and every single American.

There are more of us who are determined to keep this government open, but we need a bill, and that is what we are asking for, a bipartisan budget bill that we can pass.

Mr. Speaker, this is as serious a moment as it gets.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSING

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stress the importance that Congress address section 174 of the Tax Cuts and Job Act and continue to allow immediate and full research and development expensing by American small businesses.

Not allowing for full expensing would devastate small businesses across the country, resulting in layoffs, increased debt, and likely forcing thousands of businesses to close their doors for good.

The looming January 15 deadline highlights the growing need for Congressional action to provide continued tax relief to millions of small businesses and hardworking Americans.

As chairman of House Committee on Small Business and owner and operator of a small business in Texas for over 52 years, I am uniquely aware of the relief full expensing has provided to small businesses.

In 2017, Republicans led the way on once-in-a-generation tax reform in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and provided much-needed relief to the American people.

Amid historic inflation and increasing rates, we must continue to build on it. We can start by making the tax cuts