

rights away from Americans, where we agreed to fund vaccine mandates at the Veterans Administration.

I don't think they fought for that. I don't think they fought so that we could have another report about China buying up farmland and sensitive land around military installations. We didn't stop them from doing it, but we are sure going to have a report, so that is awesome.

How about this: They fought and lost their lives so that we can continue to fund the Wuhan Institute of Virology, and we also continue to fund sanctuary cities.

It is breathtaking to me what is happening in this Chamber. The individuals that founded this Nation, that pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, they meant it. They knew how serious it was. They pledged their lives, Mr. Speaker, and we can't even honor their sacrifice by saying we are going to hold the line here and do what we said we were going to do last May.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, that is right, like literally a year ago.

I might just add on this chart, the gentleman refers to House Republicans last year, when we were trying to restore regular order and conservatives were working hard to do that and conservatives voted for a debt ceiling increase, even though we said we wouldn't and we shouldn't, we did. We voted for appropriations bills. Even though the caps were not honored, we did.

We have got colleagues saying we wouldn't work with them when we did everything we knew how to do, and by the way, by passing seven appropriations bills. Moving seven over to the Senate and ten down to the floor, we were able to enact policies to fight the radical Biden regime.

We defunded sanctuary cities refusing to report criminal illegals. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from giving lawyers to illegals, like you just mentioned. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from fast tracking asylum. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We defunded Biden's electric vehicle mandate, anti-power plant rules, and climate executive orders that are killing our economy. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We defunded ATF's pistol brace ban to save and protect Second Amendment rights. This bill doesn't.

We broadly defunded critical race theory and DEI executive orders. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the FBI from using old construction funds for a new headquarters here. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from censoring unlawful

speech, requiring the Department of Justice to create a better process for politically sensitive investigations, defunded the DOJ staff refusing to comply with subpoenas, and more.

We defunded the COVID vaccine mandates. We ended Biden's WOTUS rule. We prohibited pride flags from flying over Federal buildings. We prohibited funds for the Wuhan lab. We did all of those things. This bill does none of those and busted the caps.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY), for the purposes of a colloquy.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, we will have colleagues starting today—starting just moments ago, on both sides of the aisle, that will tell you we can't afford this government; it is spending too much. Our citizens can't afford their groceries. They can't afford housing. They can't afford their credit card bills. How did it happen?

It happened in here a couple hours ago.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, it happened right here when all but 83 Republicans voted for it. I think 132 Republicans voted for it. On the Democratic side of the aisle, I think it was 207 to 2 voted to continue to spend at higher levels, racking up more debt and more interest on our children and grandchildren.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, did Davy Crockett and William Barret Travis—not that they had them back then—but if they had, did they lose their lives so that a Federal Government could tell them you must buy this car; you cannot buy this gas stove; you will power your home this way or maybe you won't power it at all because we are going to shut off the generation that America invented? Is that what they died for?

These people and the battered bastards of Bastogne died because they wanted us to be free. They wanted the privilege and the honor to run their own lives, to make decisions for themselves. They didn't want a government that decided everything for them. They wanted a government that laid out the framework where each one of them could determine their destiny.

Now, we just voted for the government to determine the destiny right here and in so many other places. It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, and the duty of every Representative who takes the oath, to fight to ensure that the rights to determine your destiny reside with the individual and not an overbearing, out-of-control Federal Government. Today, we failed at that mission.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, those gentlemen at the Alamo, who gave their last full measure of devotion, did it for an idea. Remember what they were doing, right? They were seeking separation from the federal government of Mexico and ultimately did so. A few weeks later, at the battle of San Jacinto,

Texas wins, Texas becomes free, becomes its own nation. They are living freely. They were throwing off the shackles of a burdensome federal government which was, by the way, far less burdensome than this one.

Then they joined a union, the United States of America, under the idea that America would be amenable to Texas joining the Union to be free, to live free in a republican form of government, in a federalist system, where the people of Texas could live free under a limited government of enumerated powers that wasn't indebting its children and grandchildren into oblivion.

That is what we just did. In addition to all of those policies that we punted to the ground, Republicans in this body just voted to support a shattering \$1.66 trillion bill, forsaking every other option we spent a year exploring.

We punted here. We had caps in place that would have spent right there, but we punted. Republicans punted in favor of that because it was the easy path in an election year, and that is what our children inherit.

That is not why they joined the Union. That is not why Texas fought at the Alamo to be free from Mexico and join the Union. They fought so that we could live free.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, free from the bondage of economic slavery. Slavery is in many forms, but when you can't make the choices that you should be able to make as a free person because you can't afford to make the choices because your government is taking from you that which you have earned, that is tyranny, Mr. Speaker. That is tyranny.

With all due respect to many colleagues on both sides of the aisle, we have one set of Members that are seeking the fundamental transformation of America, which used to look like a free country, and we have another side that is doing nothing to stop it.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend for joining me. We came here tonight to celebrate what those men sacrificed for the State of Texas but for our country and the men like them and the women like them over our history. I hope we will do better. We owe it to the American people to do better.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND IRELAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 8 AND DEC. 12, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Kelly Armstrong .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Frank Pallone .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 7,227.40				9,590.81
Hon. Michael Burgess .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Timothy Walberg .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Buddy Carter .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Jeff Duncan .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. John Curtis .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Mariannette Miller-Meeks .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Diana DeGette .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Kathy Castor .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Scott Peters .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Ann Kuster .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Nanette Diaz Barragan .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Hon. Garret Graves .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 8,928.90				11,465.31
Hon. Brandon Williams .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 8,928.90				11,465.31
Nate Hodson .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 8,928.90				11,465.31
Tiffany Guarascio .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 5,640.50				8,176.91
Sarah Burke .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 8,928.90				11,465.31
Mary Martin .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9)				2,536.41
Peter Spencer .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9)				2,536.41
Tara Hupman .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9)				2,536.41
Katelyn Arey .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9)				2,536.41
Sydney Green .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		3,381.88		(9) 8,125.80				11,507.68
Joseph Tuley Wright .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9)				2,536.41
RADM Brian Monahan .....	12/8	12/11	UAE .....		2,536.41		(9) 8,692.70				11,229.11
Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers .....					2,136.63						2,136.63
Hon. Richard Hudson .....					2,136.63						2,136.63
Hon. John James .....					2,136.63						2,136.63
Hon. Bill Johnson .....					2,136.63						2,136.63
Mary Martin .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,150.60				1,315.60
Peter Spencer .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,115.60				1,280.60
Tara Hupman .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,150.60				1,315.60
Katelyn Arey .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,150.60				1,315.60
Sydney Greene .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,150.60				1,315.60
Joseph Tuley Wright .....	12/11	12/12	Ireland .....		165.00		(9) 1,150.60				1,315.60
Committee total .....											205,398.94

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.  
<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Feb. 17, 2024.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3303. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act in an account of the Commodity Credit Corporation, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); Public Law 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982 (as amended by Public Law 108-447, div. G, title I, Sec. 1401(b)); (118 Stat. 3192); to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3304. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter determining and certifying that realistic full-up system level survivability test of the Armed Overwatch OA-1K aircraft would be unreasonably expensive and impractical, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4172(c)(1); Public Law 99-500, Sec. 101(c) (as amended by Public Law 99-591, Sec. 910(a)); (100 Stat. 3341-144); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3305. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's joint final rule — Community Reinvestment Act Regulations Asset-Size Thresholds [Regulation BB; Docket No.: R-1826] (RIN: 7100-AG 73) received February 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3306. A letter from the Program Analyst, Consumer and Government Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text

Messages [CG Docket No.: 21-402]; Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 [CG Docket No.: 02-278]; Advanced Methods to Target and Eliminate Unlawful Robocalls [CG Docket No. 17-59] received February 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3307. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan that was declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3308. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3309. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Ukraine that was declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3310. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's International Narcotics Control Strategy Report; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3311. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting two (2) notifications of an action on nomination and a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3312. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting two (2) notifications of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3313. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting two (2) notifications of a vacancy and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3314. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Report of the United States Government, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3315. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's