

and was responsible for printing seven separate publications. He was dedicated to local, independent journalism and never hesitated to follow a difficult story.

Outside of his public life, Mr. Dwight was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. To those who knew him, he was endlessly curious, and never afraid to try new things. He always knew how to ask the right questions and was driven by unflinching dedication to the common good. The mark he left on his community, state, and country will never be forgotten, and for that, we are forever grateful.

HONORING LOVE THY CITY DAY IN TYLER, TEXAS

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Love Thy City event held in Tyler, Texas, a community-wide initiative that reminds us that service to our neighbors doesn't start in Washington, it starts in the heart and in the home as it extends to every corner of this earth.

Organized by local citizen-leaders, churches, nonprofits, and volunteers of all ages, Love Thy City is a day of service to others rooted in the great command to love our neighbors. That's a principle that transcends politics and parties. It transcends race and gender and every difference between us. It is our shared responsibility to care for everyone around us just as the Good Samaritan did—not because Government would tell us to, but because the Love of Christ propels us to.

Whether it's cleaning up a park, helping a neighbor in need, or simply showing kindness to a stranger, Love Thy City challenges us to use our active faith to lead by example and invest in our communities—not just with words, but with action.

This is what makes East Texas strong; faith, service, and a deep love for God and for one another. I'm proud to honor this effort today and to recognize all those who give their time to love their neighbor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2025, I was not recorded on Roll Call Nos. 191 and 192. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Nos. 191 and 192.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BECCA BALINT

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on July 14, 2025, due to weather-related travel delays. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191;

YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUN SAFETY INCENTIVE ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Gun Safety Incentive Act, a commonsense and life-saving measure to address one of the most urgent crises facing our Nation: the epidemic of gun violence, particularly as it affects our children.

I am proud to be joined in this effort with my co-leads—Representatives ROBIN KELLY and LUCY MCBATH—who, like me, believe that protecting children, families, and veterans should be above politics.

Firearms are now the leading cause of death for children and teenagers in the United States. Every year, more than 2,500 young lives are lost to gun violence. For children under the age of 13, these deaths most often occur inside the home. In 2021, firearms accounted for nearly 19 percent of all childhood deaths—a staggering 50 percent increase since 2019.

Disturbingly, three out of every four children under the age of 10 live in a household with a firearm. More than a third of these children have reported personally handling an unsecured gun in the home.

We can and we must do more to prevent these tragedies. The Gun Safety Incentive Act takes meaningful, practical steps to promote responsible firearm storage and protect our children.

First, the bill provides a 10 percent federal tax credit through 2030 for individuals who purchase certified firearm safes and secure storage devices. This incentive directly supports gun owners who take steps to store their firearms safely—an action proven to reduce the risk of accidents, suicides, and theft.

Second, the legislation directs the Department of Justice to develop and promote voluntary best practices for secure firearm storage, making this information readily accessible to the public both online and in print.

Third, the bill requires clear labeling on all handgun, rifle, and shotgun packaging, stating: "Safe Storage Saves Lives." These labels will also direct consumers to DOJ's storage guidelines, ensuring that every gun owner receives trusted, research-based information on how to keep their weapons out of the wrong hands.

Finally, the bill authorizes funding for Safe Firearm Storage Assistance Programs—community-based efforts that promote secure storage practices through education, outreach, and local partnerships. These programs meet people where they are and empower them to be part of the solution.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not about politics—it is about prevention. It is about using the tools at our disposal to keep guns away from children and out of the hands of those who might harm themselves or others. The Gun Safety Incentive Act is a reasonable, measured, and life-saving response to an ongoing public health emergency.

I urge all my colleagues—Democrats and Republicans alike—to join me in supporting

this critical legislation. Let us stand together to protect America's children from senseless, preventable tragedy.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Chair, I want to commend the managers of the House Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations bill for including my amendment, No. 269, to provide a \$24.1 million increase within the RDT&E-Defense Wide Account, to the Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment Program's (IBAS) Fan-Out Wafer level packaging program in the en bloc package.

Semiconductors support nearly all Department of Defense (DoD) activities. Ensuring secure access to leading-edge semiconductors, however, is a challenge. The pandemic exposed the challenges associated with the global supply chain, the changing global semiconductor industry, and the sophistication of U.S. adversaries, who might target military electronic components.

IBAS is dedicated to ensuring that the DoD is positioned to effectively address industrial base issues and support the National Security Innovation Base. This includes strengthening and protecting the domestic semiconductor supply chain to provide access to leading-edge capabilities to accelerate innovation. One of the next generation semiconductor technologies that IBAS is focusing on is called Advanced Packaging.

Advanced Packaging essentially removes the green circuit board, and connects each component chip onto each other, like how individual Lego pieces can be stacked on top of each other to form a Lego set. This next generation process fully integrates all component chips into a single, advanced packaged, chip. Currently, 98 percent of these advanced packaging, integrated processes, are done in Asia, where foreign entities can insert malicious processes into these integrated chips in a way that is not easily identifiable. IBAS is working to provide secure, credible, and reliable domestic advanced packaged semiconductor manufacturing capability.

Fanout wafer level packaging technology is a critical leading-edge advanced packaging technology, providing a high degree of size, weight, and power performance improvements over traditional packaging processes. My amendment will allow the DoD to leverage existing public-private-partnerships to quickly expand domestic U.S. based semiconductor manufacturing development platforms for critical advanced semiconductor system integration, including fan-out wafer level packaging technology.

U.S. global leadership in semiconductors depends on U.S. owned firms operating at the leading-edge of advanced packaging technologies. The next generation of electronic devices will require significantly greater functional density, in other words, packing chips together even more tightly than current technology allows. This requires technical leadership in semiconductor advanced packaging

processes, including fanout wafer level packaging.

I believe Congress should continue to provide the resources necessary to update our domestic microelectronics security framework. I am proud of the work being undertaken in my district's semiconductor technology district, known as NeoCity, to support domestic semiconductor manufacturing technology development as we work to address this critical supply chain. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to support this goal.

PROCLAMATION FOR FULTON
COUNTY'S DEMISEMISEPTCEN-
TENNIAL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing Ohio's 9th Congressional District, a region that embodies the industrious spirit, deep-rooted history, and resilient communities of Northwest Ohio. Today, I am privileged to join in commemorating an extraordinary milestone in our shared story—the 175th anniversary of Fulton County.

Whereas, on April 1, 1850, the State of Ohio officially established Fulton County, carved from portions of Lucas, Henry, and Williams Counties, as well as territory once disputed by the State of Michigan; and

Whereas, the county was named in honor of Robert Fulton, visionary inventor of the steamboat, reflecting the pioneering innovation and transportation legacy of the region; and

Whereas, Fulton County was one of the last counties organized in Ohio, emerging from the resolution of the Toledo War and the shifting of state lines that helped shape the boundaries of Northwest Ohio; and

Whereas, from its early seat in Ottokee to its present-day seat in Wauseon, Fulton County has grown alongside the railroad, agriculture, and industry—serving as a vital link in both Ohio's past and its future; and

Whereas, its 406.8 square miles of rich farmland, flowing rivers, and vibrant towns have been home to generations of Ohioans committed to hard work, community, and service; and

Whereas, for 175 years, Fulton County has stood as a proud testament to the enduring values of self-reliance, civic engagement, and American perseverance;

Now, therefore, I, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, do hereby recognize and celebrate the DemiseMiseptcentennial of Fulton County, and offer heartfelt congratulations to its residents, leaders, and communities on this momentous 175th anniversary.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand to honor Fulton County and its distinguished history on this momentous occasion. May the legacy of Fulton County's past continue to inspire progress, unity, and pride for the generations to come.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER MYKUL
THOMAS

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary individual from our

community, Department of the Air Force Police Officer Mykul Thomas, who has been a beacon of inspiration at the gates of Buckley Space Force Base. As he prepares for a new assignment at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, I want to honor the profound, positive impact he has had on countless individuals entering the installation.

For so many, Officer Thomas was more than the first line of security; he was the first source of motivation for the day. He understood that his post at the gate was a unique opportunity to make a difference in people's lives. This understanding comes from a deep personal philosophy, one taught to him by his mother, who gave him his unique name, Mykul. He lives by the creed that the two most important days in life are the day you are born and the day you find out your "why". Officer Thomas found his "why" in uplifting others, and he lived it every day at the gate.

His commitment was put to the ultimate test one fateful day, when a young man drove up to his gate, not to enter the base, but to say a final goodbye. Officer Thomas immediately engaged with the young man, and he shared a simple, powerful message: that life is worth living and that he was important. That heartfelt intervention saved a life. This remarkable story is a testament to Officer Thomas's character. A belief that we all have a gift to be something and to do something, and he has certainly used his. His actions demonstrate that even in moments when motivation is hard to find, we are not alone.

A proud Marine Corps veteran of 13 years, who served as a drill instructor at Parris Island, Officer Thomas has seamlessly translated his leadership and mentorship skills into his role as a Department of the Air Force Police Officer. As Officer Thomas departs for Cape Canaveral, we thank him for his incredible service and for the spirit of hope and motivation he brought to his post each day. He has left an indelible mark on the Buckley Space Force Base community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Officer Mykul "Moto" Thomas. He showed us the powerful impact one person can have, and we wish him the very best as he continues to live his "why".

MARKING 80 YEARS AFTER TRINITY,
THE DANGERS OF NUCLEAR
WAR HAVE NEVER BEEN HIGHER

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to highlight the rising danger posed by the unchecked expansion of global nuclear arsenals. As we mark 80 years since the Trinity test, we must confront the urgent need to reverse course before miscalculation or escalation leads to irreversible catastrophe. I include in the RECORD the following article, 80 Years After Trinity, the Dangers of Nuclear War Have Never Been Higher by Norman Solomon:

The dangers of nuclear war have never been higher, but political pressure to prevent it is at low ebb. Eighty years after the atomic age began with the Trinity bomb test in New Mexico on July 16, 1945, words can't pos-

sibly be adequate to describe the extent of global horrors that today's nuclear arsenals are capable of inflicting. But mainstream US media outlets and partisan politics are routinely oblivious to the threat of oblivion.

Despite the efforts of individuals and groups striving for arms control, the national discourse ignores the likely results of nuclear buildups—which continue to boost the actual risks of annihilation. Pronouncements from the nuclear establishment about a need to "maintain deterrence" and "modernize" usually go unquestioned as to the underlying assumptions. Senators and representatives praise nuclear systems with components produced in their state or district.

Even well-informed and dedicated advocates of halting the arms race are often reduced to arguing for fiscal responsibility. Within the narrow confines of regular "national security" debates, the wisest lobbying tactic appears to be a focus on exorbitant costs of "modernizing" nuclear weapons. Yet cost-cutting arguments bypass how the weapons push the world closer to doomsday.

Northrop Grumman—the contractor for the new Sentinel ICBM, which is meant to replace the current Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles—has racked up such huge cost overruns that the project at times seemed to be in jeopardy of cancellation. Meanwhile, the political response detoured around the unique dangers of ICBMs, which (as land-based missiles vulnerable to attack) remain on hair-trigger, "use them or lose them" alert. Given the long record of false alarms, such hypervigilance is a possible tripwire for an accidental apocalypse.

"Getting trapped in an argument about the cheapest way to keep ICBMs operational in their silos is ultimately no-win," Daniel Ellsberg and I wrote for *The Nation* in autumn 2021. We added: "Better sooner than later, members of Congress will need to face up to the horrendous realities about intercontinental ballistic missiles. They won't do that unless peace, arms-control, and disarmament groups go far beyond the current limits of congressional discourse—and start emphasizing, on Capitol Hill and at the grassroots, the crucial truth about ICBMs and the imperative of eliminating them all."

More than 700 scientists signed a letter last summer going beyond the focus on cost to urge the complete elimination of America's ICBMs. The letter, organized by the Union of Concerned Scientists, explained that "the US could eliminate the land-based leg of the triad tomorrow and the US public would only be safer for it."

Progressives working to defund new weapons systems recognize that massive military spending is, in the words of Martin Luther King Jr., a "demonic, destructive suction tube"—depleting enormous resources that should be devoted to meeting human needs instead of destroying lives and threatening human survival. But for typical Congress members of either party, disputes about how to get the most bang for the buck are affirming the arms race rather than impeding it. Certain firms might lose specific contracts if some Strangelovian projects are sufficiently exposed as boondoggles, but the nuclear-arms industry and overall military business remain on a steep upward trajectory.

Congresspeople are accustomed to juggling billions of "defense" dollars. What they aren't accustomed to acknowledging—and what constituent pressure should demand they face—is that the latest weapons systems further endanger human life on Earth.

The history of the last eight decades tells us that Americans will go along with astronomical spending for nuclear weaponry if they believe it makes them safer. Unless we effectively make the case that the opposite