

through decades of transition, grappling with the impact of segregation, and working toward a vision of educational equity for all. When she retired, she did so as the longest serving member of the Boston School Committee.

Madam Speaker, she remains a source of inspiration to many. This Women's History Month, let's give this historymaker her flowers. We love and honor Ms. Harris.

CALLING OUT SIGNALGATE CHAT

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to call out the recklessness of those in this administration entrusted with our national security. I did not think I would see a day where someone with the highest security clearance is using a phone messaging app to treat matters of national security with such blatant disregard, celebrating with emojis in a group chat as they unlawfully authorize military actions.

This administration continues to make history for all the wrong reasons. I struggle to find a reference point because this is beyond the pale: the disregard for human life and national security.

Let me just make this abundantly clear to the American people. Secure channels of communication do exist to discuss classified military action. They sure as hell are not a Signal group chat. It is imperative that information like this be handled with sensitivity.

Under this administration, the United States foreign policy is a failure. Decades of diplomatic efforts to build good will and keep the American people safe have been upended. We have an unelected billionaire gutting life-saving programs like USAID's essential work to feed newborns and to give medicine to war zones.

Meanwhile, we have a cast of characters in these roles, having nothing to do with merit. It is simply their fealty and loyalty to Donald Trump. We have a cast of characters ordering military strikes in a group chat with a random journalist in it.

This is nothing to be cavalier about. This is not a drill. It is not a joke. Every person involved should be investigated by Congress. In particular, Pete Hegseth is proving himself to be unqualified to lead the Department of Defense and should never have been confirmed by the Senate.

Madam Speaker, this national security failure is proof that he cannot serve this country's best interests, and I call for Pete Hegseth to resign.

□ 1045

BORDER COMMON SENSE

(Mr. MANN of Kansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, since President Trump was sworn in, illegal crossings have plummeted at our southern border.

This past February saw the lowest level of illegal crossings ever recorded

in our Nation's history, down 94 percent from February 2024 and 96 percent from the all-time high under the Biden administration. Along the Del Rio Sector of the border, there was a 98.8 percent decrease in apprehensions compared to the highest day under President Biden.

For 4 years, President Biden and radical progressive activists tried to blame President Trump and congressional Republicans for the crisis at the Nation's border. It turns out the only thing we needed all along was a President who doesn't run from common sense and isn't afraid to enforce the law. Thankfully, President Trump is not afraid.

Just last week, Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem announced that the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, will resume construction of President Trump's border wall. Border Patrol agents have told us again and again that a physical barrier on our southern border is a key deterrent to the trafficking of humans and illicit drugs by the Mexican cartels across our southern border. Yet, on day one of his Presidency, President Biden stopped construction of the border wall. President Trump is gladly reversing this madness and making our border secure.

President Biden's failed leadership continuously put innocent American lives at risk as nearly 400 individuals whose names appeared on the terrorist watch list attempted to enter the country and gang members from MS-13 and Tren de Aragua invaded the interior of the U.S.

Some of these monsters took the lives of innocent Americans, like Laken Riley and Jocelyn Nungaray. While President Biden barely expressed empathy for the lives he put at risk, President Trump took action, deporting these violent criminals and gang members from the start of his Presidency.

On November 5, 2024, 77 million Americans, including myself, voted to restore commonsense border policies to our Nation's Capital. The President is providing that common sense, and I am deeply grateful to have his strong leadership back in the White House.

I thank President Trump for standing for our country and securing our border. Promises made, promises kept.

HONORING CRAIG BEAM

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of an American patriot, Craig Beam. I congratulate Craig on his well-deserved retirement from the U.S. Marshals Service.

When most Americans hear of a fugitive on the run, their natural instinct is to protect their loved ones within and avoid coming across the wanted criminal at all costs. Craig's approach to protecting his family and loved ones is a little different. When danger or bad actors present themselves to our communities, Craig has run toward them and worked swiftly with his fellow marshals to remove these criminals from the streets.

In August 1993, a convicted marijuana grower walked into the Frank Carlson Federal Building in Topeka, Kansas, for his sentencing. What was a normal day in Topeka suddenly turned into gunfire and tragedy as the convict's car and his person were covered with explosives and pipe bombs.

As building staff hid in fear, Craig and his fellow law enforcement agents put their fear aside to get innocent civilians to safety. In all, five Kansans were injured that day, and a court officer, Gene Goldsberry, was tragically killed. Deputy Marshal Beam and three of his fellow marshals were recognized for their heroism with the Director's Distinguished Service Award.

Serving in law enforcement and the U.S. Marshals Service is a selfless calling, and for the last 34 years, Craig Beam has done it effortlessly. Not many people openly run toward danger and put their safety at risk for the sake of their communities, but for Craig, it is second nature.

I thank Craig for his selflessness and for 34 years of dedication to keep Kansas safe. I congratulate Craig on his retirement.

PUERTO RICO'S ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. HERNÁNDEZ of Puerto Rico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Madam Speaker, last Friday, I opened my district office in Caguas, Puerto Rico. I had about 10 other colleagues join me, and when I finished my speech and turned to greet my constituents, the power went out.

I won't lie, my immediate reaction was not all that negative. I was sort of glad that it happened while my colleagues were there so that they could see the reality that many Puerto Ricans live with on a daily basis.

Now, I am afraid that that reality is about to get a lot worse. The power companies in charge of generation and distribution of energy in the island have warned us that there will be a severe generation deficit between May and October due to a major generation unit's breakdown. As a result, we might face up to 125 selective power outages during that time. Last year, the average client faced about 10 hours without power due to these selective outages. This year, it is expected to be a lot worse.

Pause and think about that: 125 blackouts over 6 months in the United States of America. That isn't and shouldn't be normal.

The government of Puerto Rico has a plan A. First, demand that Genera PR, the company in charge of generation, fix the broken power plants before May. An alternative is that we get barges and land units to generate temporary electricity to meet the height and demand during the summer.

I will do what I can to support the government's efforts to address this challenge. I have already urged President Trump to declare a Federal emergency to support Puerto Rico's electric

grid crisis, and I have told the power companies that I am willing to support their requests for temporary generation units.

However, I also believe that the government needs a plan B in case all of this fails. The government needs to prepare the people of Puerto Rico for the possibility that power will go out virtually every day during this summer.

What can the government do? It can demand that utility companies be transparent about their planned interruptions so that the people know what to expect and can plan accordingly. It can educate and incentivize less energy consumption to prevent the need for these selective outages. It can begin preparing vulnerable populations and providers of essential services with backup sources and energy assistance.

I want it to be clear that the current government is not responsible for the energy generation crisis, but it will be responsible for how it handles it.

The government must be brave and honest with the people, not laid back and blindly optimistic because it views LUMA, the distribution company, and Genera, the generation company, as ultimately responsible. The government must care not about who gets the blame for the problem but about actually addressing the problem.

We must prepare before it is too late. Failure to prepare will have unfortunate consequences.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CIRILO TIRADO DELGADO

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Madam Speaker, I also rise to honor the life of Cirilo Tirado Delgado, who passed away last week, a few days shy of his 90th birthday.

Mr. Tirado was a respected public servant, educator, and attorney in the great Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. He served in the Puerto Rico House of Representatives from 1973 to 1984, worked in the executive branch from 1984 to 1988, and returned to the legislature as a senator from 1988 to 1996. After that, he practiced law in the town of Guayama.

I extend my condolences to his widow, children, and grandchildren. May he rest in peace.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 54 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, in this House of historic honor, these corridors of consequence, these Halls of justice, remind us that all power belongs to You, O God. All things came from You, exist in You, and will return to You in the fullness of time.

Humbled before You, then, we pour out our hearts, laying before You the work of our hands, the thoughts of our minds, and the desires of our souls. You call on us to trust You, for You alone are our refuge and our strength.

In You, Lord, is unfailing love, a love which transcends our best and sometimes failed intentions, our best laid but often poorly executed plans, but in the depth of Your love for us, transform the effect of our labor to align with Your grace plan for us and for this Nation.

In Your eternal name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GUEST led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MICHAEL REED, DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

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

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my former chief of staff, Michael Reed, who will leave the House after many years of service.

From 2019 to 2021, he served my office. Every Member of this Chamber would be lucky to have Michael serving them. He is a mentor to any staff who work under him. He is a lover of the institution and the rules that guide us, and he is a believer that this is still the best place for us to resolve our disputes.

He led us particularly during COVID and January 6. On January 6, I remem-

ber Michael finding every vending machine he could in the building to bring food to the Members at the evacuation site where we huddled, and then he counseled our staff who were waiting to know what would happen next. He predicted to me, stick around in this room because Speaker PELOSI would later gavel us in. He was right, and she was right to hire him a few months later from my staff to work for her.

We will miss Michael and his service, but he never could have done it without his partner, his wife, also a former chief of staff, Keenan. The two of them will continue to serve in other ways, but this House will miss Michael Reed.

BAN THIS QUACKERY

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

Mr. ONDER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Do No Harm Act.

As a physician, I took an oath to do no harm, but over the past several years, doctors working at pediatric transgender clinics have prescribed medications or done procedures that they know will permanently sterilize children or leave them with irreversible medical and psychological damage.

This bill is the most comprehensive legislation introduced to date to protect children from experimental and unethical practices of so-called gender-affirming care. This practice has been banned or severely limited in European countries, including the U.K., Norway, Denmark, and Sweden, and it is time for the U.S. to wake up and ban this quackery once and for all.

The Do No Harm Act builds on President Trump's day one executive order ending the chemical castration and mutilation of children. I look forward to working with the Trump administration to solidify this policy as Federal law.

PETE HEGSETH MUST GO

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

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the Representative for 72,000 veterans and tens of thousands of Active-Duty personnel who live in the Seventh Congressional District of Virginia.

As a 25-year Army veteran, former Army JAG prosecutor, and National Security Council staff adviser, I can say this: Imminent strike approval and mission launch times are highly classified.

Sharing specific launch and strike times 31 minutes before the mission begins and 2 hours before our forces were over enemy territory, in harm's way, is an egregious breach of national security. At best, the success of the operation was at risk. At worst, our pilots' lives were in danger.

This isn't a political issue. It is about trust, discipline, and the safety of our