

In addition to the emergency aid, the Trump administration has put its foot down. The State Department is holding the Mexican Government accountable by blocking Mexico's nontreaty request for water from the Colorado River. This is a major win in prioritizing our farmers and ranchers, and it is encouraging to have the support of President Trump in this fight.

This is just the beginning of the war for water. I will continue to work to ensure Mexico's compliance with the treaty and deliver the much-needed water to south Texas.

CHARLIE WILLMANN CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Texas U.S. Navy veteran Mr. Charlie Willmann's 100th birthday.

Born on March 31, 1925, in Seguin, Texas, Mr. Willmann's roots have run deep in our great State of Texas, from growing up on a farm, graduating from Seguin High School, to attending Texas A&M to study agriculture education. His commitment to service took him into the U.S. Navy during World War II, where he not only selflessly served his country but also met the love of his life, Patricia.

Following his service, Mr. Willmann finished his degree and worked for Sears, Roebuck before returning to his roots. In Seguin, he managed the family farm he grew up on and raised his family: three children, five grandchildren, and now five great-grandchildren.

His dedication to work, whether raising cattle or cultivating award-winning pecans, embodies his unwavering commitment to doing things right.

Mr. Willmann's influence extends far beyond his family. He served his community on numerous boards, including Texas Farm Bureau and in his role as the county commissioner.

I thank Mr. Willmann for all of his work in our community in this great country we live in. Today, we celebrate a birthday party, an incredible century of life. Let us congratulate Charlie on this wonderful milestone.

Here is to Charlie, 100 years strong and still inspiring us all. We wish him a happy birthday and God bless him.

NIH CUTS PUT AMERICAN LIVES AT RISK

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak out against another outrageous move by Donald Trump: his attack on the National Institutes of Health.

The NIH is not just another governmental agency, it is the foundation of America's medical research. It funds lifesaving breakthroughs that doctors and scientists rely on to treat and cure diseases. It supports the work that helps us fight cancer, Alzheimer's, heart disease, diabetes, and rare genetic disorders. It fuels innovation that

leads to better treatment, more effective medications, and new medical technologies. Yet, Donald Trump and the Republicans in this building want to gut it.

Trump has proposed slashing billions of dollars from the NIH budget, which would cripple research, stall medical progress, and put American lives at risk. These cuts would mean fewer clinical trials, new treatments and advances in the fights against the diseases that impact millions of Americans. Every person in this country, every patient battling illness, every doctor searching for answers, and every family hoping for a cure would feel the consequences of these disastrous cuts.

Let's be clear about what is at stake. The NIH funds over 300,000 researchers across the country, supporting studies that have led to some of the most important medical breakthroughs in history. This funding helped develop treatments that have increased cancer survival rates, improved heart disease prevention, and even led to vaccines that protect us from deadly viruses. It is responsible for nearly every major medical advancement of the last century.

These cuts are not just numbers on a spreadsheet. They are a direct threat to American lives and health. If Trump and Republicans succeed in slashing NIH funding, it means that crucial research into diseases like Parkinson's, ALS, and multiple sclerosis will be delayed or abandoned altogether. It means that hospitals and research centers will struggle to continue their work. It means that the next big breakthrough, the next cure, the next lifesaving drug, the next medical innovation that can save each one of our families and your family could be lost forever.

For Texas, the consequences would be severe. In 2023 alone, the NIH invested over \$1.5 billion into Texas research institutions. This funding supports critical work at UT Southwestern in Dallas, where scientists are pioneering new cancer treatments; at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, where researchers are leading the fight against Alzheimer's and heart disease; and at the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M, where cutting-edge biomedical research is shaping the future of medicine. If Trump's cuts go through, these institutions will lose the funding they need to continue their vital work.

This attack on the NIH is part of a larger pattern. This is the same Donald Trump leading an administration that rejects science. He is threatening all of our health. He downplayed COVID-19, costing hundreds of thousands of American lives. He ignored public health experts and spread antiscience conspiracy theories while hospitals were overrun with dying patients. Trump already tried to cut NIH funding before, only to be stopped by a Democratic Congress. This time he is taking direct aim at the very institution that helps doctors

and scientists find cures, save lives, and protect public health.

We cannot afford to let this happen. We must fight back. If we care about our families, health, and future, we must reject these reckless cuts and demand more funding for NIH, not less. The research being conducted today will determine the treatments available tomorrow, and the investment we make in science now will save lives for generations to come.

This is not a partisan issue. Well, rather, it should not be a partisan issue. Disease does not care whether you are a Republican or a Democrat. Cancer doesn't check your voter registration. Alzheimer's doesn't ask where you fall on the ideological spectrum. This is about protecting the health of every single American.

I urge my colleagues in Congress and every American listening to stand up for science, stand up for medical research, stand up for the NIH. The health of all of our families could depend on it.

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RECOGNIZING PEYTON BOLLING, MISS AMERICA'S TEEN

(Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of Arkansas's own, Peyton Bolling. She was crowned recently as Miss America's Teen, and she made history in doing so, the first Miss Arkansas' Teen to win the coveted title of Miss America's Teen.

Madam Speaker, this comes just a year after another Arkansan, in this case, Madison Marsh of Fort Smith, Arkansas, was crowned Miss America 2024.

When Peyton Bolling came to my office last year, she shared with me her passion for civic engagement, an issue that demands the attention of our next generation of leaders. Her passion to serve began at a young age as a daughter of a U.S. Marine Corps colonel.

Peyton's dedication only grew in time as she witnessed government in action as a U.S. Senate page. Now, she is taking her passion nationwide, encouraging our young people to get involved and shape their communities for the better.

This Rogers, Arkansas, native and proud Bentonville High School Tiger has made Arkansas proud.

I congratulate Peyton. I look forward to seeing all that she accomplishes as Miss America's Teen and beyond.

GOP CREATING CHAOS IN ELECTORAL SYSTEM

(Mrs. TRAHAN of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, we are witnessing yet another shameful

attack on the fundamental rights of millions of Americans.

House Republicans are forcing a vote this week on the so-called SAVE Act, a bill that does nothing to stop inflation from driving up grocery prices, nothing to end Donald Trump's trade war that is pummeling the stock market, and nothing to protect Americans' retirements. Instead, this is a messaging bill, sloppily written and dangerously flawed, designed to create confusion and chaos in our electoral system rather than strengthen it.

The SAVE Act claims to prevent noncitizens from voting in Federal elections. At first glance, that may seem logical, if not for the fact that it is already illegal and has been for decades. Noncitizens caught voting in Federal elections already face deportation and even jail time.

Time and again, when pressed for evidence of widespread noncitizen voting, Republicans have failed to produce a single credible example. The reason? Because the problem they claim to be solving simply doesn't exist.

Why are we here today? Why are we debating a bill that addresses a non-existent problem while hardworking American families are struggling with rising costs and economic insecurity? Because Republicans in Congress don't have real solutions. Rather than addressing the issues that matter, like lowering grocery costs and helping families get ahead, they are prioritizing a bill that disenfranchises millions of American women.

Roughly 69 million women, about 25 percent of eligible voters in our country, have IDs that do not match their birth certificates, usually because they changed their name once they got married. Under this bill, if they don't have a passport—and half of Americans don't—they wouldn't be able to register to vote.

Think about that: Tens of millions of women, the backbone of our families and our communities, stripped of their right to vote simply because they got married.

Imagine a woman who has voted in every election since she turned 18, who pays her taxes, who contributes to her community. One day, she learns that because her name changed when she got married, she is suddenly unable to register to vote in her State.

No amount of documentation, no Social Security card, no marriage license, no previous voter registration will satisfy the requirements of this bill unless she possesses an updated passport or a birth certificate that matches her current name.

This isn't just bureaucratic nonsense. It is an outrageous attack on the rights of women across our country.

The worst part, Madam Speaker, is that Republicans have known that this was an issue with this bill for years, and they have done nothing to fix it. They either don't care that millions of American women will be stripped of their right to vote or that has been

their goal all along. Either way, this is going to create chaos in every State in America, and it is going to make it harder for Americans to participate in their democracy.

It appears to be the latest in a long series of tactics, like polling place closures and gerrymandering, designed to silence voters that Republican politicians don't think they can win.

That is not how democracy works. You don't get to silence millions of Americans just because they might not like your policies. You represent them, too.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this dangerous legislation and protect the rights of every eligible voter in the country because our democracy is strongest when every voice is heard and every vote is counted.

ENSURING ELECTION INTEGRITY

(Mr. LAMALFA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I wanted to speak a little bit about the SAVE Act and what it is supposed to do to ensure election integrity for our country.

The commentary that this is somehow going to disenfranchise people who normally vote is just part of the rhetoric of this place that obscures that our elections aren't completely secure when we have millions of illegal immigrants in this country who have been given driver's licenses, IDs, without having passed the muster of actually doing citizenship efforts.

Why should that apply to elections? You already see municipalities around this country trying to give the right, the privilege, of votes to people who are not here legally.

In the previous example given, if someone has had a recent marriage but their name doesn't quite match yet because they haven't gotten their legal documents, there is a provision for that called provisional voting that you can utilize at that time of election and then go through the process of proving, yes, this is my citizenship in order to ensure that we have elections with integrity.

When our elections are key to deciding who makes the laws in this country, who makes the policy decisions, they need to be secure. If we can't trust the people in office who are actually chosen by American citizens, what exactly do we have?

Only American citizens are supposed to vote in Federal elections. Weak laws have made it, as I mentioned, easier now for noncitizens to get on the voter rolls in certain municipalities.

When President Biden took office, that administration let at least 4.6 million illegal immigrants into the country, with nearly 2 million more slipping in without being stopped, and these are probably low numbers. It is hard to estimate.

Some blue States, as I mentioned, have given these individuals driver's licenses and other benefits, which then can help them in loosely run State election rolls illegally register to vote in Federal elections. We need to draw the line at least at Federal election levels.

Some blue cities have let them vote in local elections to cause even more confusion and abuse of the process. It is deliberate.

Federal law has blocked States from requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote, making it easier for the system to be exploited. That is actually against the Constitution.

How would the SAVE Act go about fixing this? CHIP ROY's SAVE Act would require proof of U.S. citizenship and identity shown in person at the place of election when registering or on voting day. This rule would apply either when someone signs up at the DMV, a government office, or through the mail.

Making fair exceptions, if someone is a citizen but doesn't have the usual paperwork, like for religious reasons, they could go through, as I mentioned, an alternative process with strict rules like sworn affidavits.

The bill also makes sure there are accommodations for disabled Americans so they aren't wrongly excluded.

It addresses cases when someone's documentation might not match their legal name, as I mentioned here, with their name change through marriage, divorce, or adoption.

Some people, especially married women, may face these issues if their IDs don't exactly match. Under the SAVE Act, it would require setting up a process in the States to confirm the identity in these cases, therefore allowing them to vote while it is being sorted out.

It could include showing legal documents like a marriage certificate or a court order proving a name change. These provisions ensure that legitimate voters aren't turned away while still keeping strong safeguards against fraud.

In cleaning up the voter rolls, the SAVE Act requires States to remove noncitizens from voter rolls and gives them access to Federal databases to help verify citizenship at no cost to the States. Election officials that ignore these rules or allow noncitizens to register can be sued and penalized, as they should be.

The Election Assistance Commission will also update Federal registration forms to make sure these new security measures are properly put in place. This matters because Americans deserve to know that their vote counts and isn't canceled out by illegal ballots. What an insult.

This isn't about politics. It is making sure only legal voters decide who represents us in Washington, as well as at the State and local levels, as it should be.

The SAVE Act is a simple, common-sense way to restore trust in our elections and keep them honest. If we want