

and for children of this country. More disability goes out to veterans from Social Security than goes out from the VA.

Congress needs to act. I would hope it would be bipartisan, but we can't even get a hearing, let alone pass a bill.

What is there to be afraid of? Every constituent listening to this ought to demand of their Member of Congress—if you disagree, if you have got a better plan, for God's sake, put it forward. How much longer do the American people have to wait to receive the benefits that they paid for?

This is an earned benefit. This is no entitlement like the other side calls it. People paid for it, and you can check it out right on your paycheck. It says FICA, Federal insurance contribution. Whose? Yours. You have paid for this benefit. Your government, your Congress, has let you down. They have not addressed this since 1971. It is long overdue that we not only address this but enhance this so that Americans get what they richly deserve, especially those in Iowa.

#### WISCONSIN IN THE NEWS

(Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we had an interesting 2 weeks out of this building, and sadly my home State of Wisconsin made the news again, in an effort to remove not just any person here illegally but somebody who had broken the law, an abuser, somebody who under normal circumstances would not be viewed favorably.

We had a judge in Wisconsin stop the hearing. Oh, let's not worry about putting this guy in jail. Let's let him sneak out the back door so he is not removed from this country.

This was after about a month ago, our Governor, Tony Evers, nice guy, came out with a directive implying that State employees ought not be that gung ho when it came to removing State employees from this country if they were here illegally.

We have two examples in Wisconsin alone in which elected officials aren't on the page of addressing the immigration laws.

I think it is important that we all be articulate enough to explain to people back home why these immigration laws are necessary and be articulate enough to explain we are not being mean to immigrants.

I do not hear enough people talk about the fact that in the prior 3 years—it goes up and down by year—but if you take a rolling average, in the last 3 years, we have over 800,000 people every year sworn in as new citizens legally in this country. How often do you hear about that? There are 850,000 people who did it right. It is not impossible to make your way here.

By the way, that is historically a very high number. If you go back to the fifties and sixties, frequently that

number was only a little over 100,000. The number of people being sworn in as new citizens is already eight times what they were in the sixties and fifties.

□ 1230

Nobody should apologize or say that we are being mean or not letting people in here. When we let in people who came here illegally, what we are doing is kicking anybody who did it the right way in the face.

We know we have a housing crisis in this country. When you begin to flood this country with another 10 million people, as happened during the Biden administration, given the law of supply and demand, we know it is driving up rents, making it more difficult all the time for the average American to attain the American Dream.

I also point out that we have significant numbers of visas which allow people to come here, as well. We have about 900,000 temporary workers or trainees at any time. We have well over 5 million people here on visas for temporary visitors for business and pleasure. As far as college students are concerned, we allow another over 400,000 people into this country on student visas.

It is incredibly easy to get into this country. Rather, it is not always easy, but millions of people come into this country legally and are able to do so. We do not have to have sympathy for people who came here illegally.

I think it is important that we educate the American public on that because we are soon going to have to start the next phase where we not only get rid of the criminal element that came in here, but we have to get rid of the 10 million people who may not have broken a horrible law but broke the law just by coming here.

It is a complete kick in the teeth to anybody who wants to come here legally to allow the 10 million people who Joe Biden let in during the last 4 years stay here.

There is one more thing I will address as we begin to work on Donald Trump's big, beautiful bill. I remind people in this Chamber that we have a system of benefits right now whereby, if you are a single parent and you marry the father of your children or mother of your children, you can easily lose over \$25,000 a year. In other words, the U.S. Government spends \$25,000 a year bribing single parents not to get married.

I thought we were supposed to treat people equally in this country, but we don't treat people equally. We have an overwhelming bias in favor of keeping parents from being married. I hope Members in this Chamber remember that as we put together Donald Trump's big, beautiful bill. We should not pass that bill unless we do something first about the massive marriage hatred that we have.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

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

Holy and eternal God, the world grieves the death of Your own good and faithful servant, Pope Francis.

In his gentle and disarming manner, he showed the world the wide embrace of Your mercy. In his humble and unassuming way, he revealed the promise and strength of Your love for all creation.

By his commitment to the poor, the downtrodden, the overlooked, and the underappreciated, Pope Francis showed us how to live Your Gospel of compassion, kindness, and faith.

Truly, Pope Francis lived his life in honor of You, O Lord, and now in his death, he honors You still. Receive him into the eternal joy of Your kingdom.

May the testimony of his life and his death give evidence that whether we live or whether we die, we are Yours, O Lord.

May his witness be unto us an inspiration that we would choose, in the time allotted to us in our lives, to live as faithfully each day for You.

In Your eternal name we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

#### PRESIDENT TRUMP'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, since President Donald Trump earned a mandate, he has been winning on behalf of American families.

Among his achievements, President Trump announced illegal alien crossings hit a new record low, which is now 98 percent over last year. The latest inflation report showed consumer prices declined for the first time in nearly 3 years, including the largest monthly decline of prescription drug prices on record and plummeting gas prices.

Inflation dropped for the first time in 17 months, and Trump deregulations are saving nearly \$11,000 per family of four.

A national emergency has been declared to protect American workers and to level the playing field for American businesses.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI.

Trump is reinstating existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, exposing war criminal Putin's lies.

#### HONORING RICHARD BENSON

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable leader, President Richard Benson, as he prepares to retire after 8 years of service to the University of Texas at Dallas.

Under his leadership, the university has soared to new heights: expanding research, increasing enrollment, and strengthening UTD's reputation as one of the top public research institutions in the Nation.

During his tenure, President Benson championed innovation, supported world-class faculty, and opened doors for thousands of students to achieve their dreams. Over the past 8 years, UTD has grown in size and stature. Its impact in the Dallas/Fort Worth region and the entire State of Texas has never been greater.

This includes opening the first phase of the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenaeum, which features the UT Dallas art museum. The museum showcases an array of Asian art exhibits, as well as pieces from the university's growing collection of Latin-American art.

President Benson's legacy will live on in every lab, in every classroom, and in every life changed by this incredible university.

I thank President Benson for his vision, his dedication, and his unwavering belief in the power of education. On behalf of the entire House and the people of Texas' 32nd Congressional District, we wish him all the best in his next chapter.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### MIRACLE ON ICE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 452) to award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Winter Olympics where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 452

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Miracle on Ice Congressional Gold Medal Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The USA Olympic men's ice hockey team competed at the 1980 Winter Olympics, officially the XIII Olympic Winter Games and known as the 1980 Lake Placid games, from February 13 to 24, 1980, in Lake Placid, New York.

(2) Team USA, comprised of collegiate players, defeated the defending Olympic champion the Soviet Union 4-3 on February 22, 1980, in the final round of the 1980 Winter Olympics men's hockey tournament.

(3) The 1980 USA Olympic men's hockey team roster included—

- (A) Bill Baker (Grand Rapids, MN);
- (B) Neal Broten (Roseau, MN);
- (C) Dave Christian (Warroad, MN);
- (D) Steve Christoff (Richfield, MN);
- (E) Jim Craig (North Easton, MA);
- (F) Mike Eruzione (Winthrop, MA);
- (G) John Harrington (Virginia, MN);
- (H) Steve Janaszak (Saint Paul, MN);
- (I) Mark Johnson (Madison, WI);
- (J) Rob McClanahan (Saint Paul, MN);
- (K) Ken Morrow (Flint, MI);
- (L) Jack O'Callahan (Charlestown, MA);
- (M) Mark Pavelich (Eveleth, MN);
- (N) Mike Ramsey (Minneapolis, MN);
- (O) Buzz Schneider (Grand Rapids, MN);
- (P) Dave Silk (Scituate, MA);
- (Q) Eric Strobel (Rochester, MN);
- (R) Bob Suter (Madison, WI);
- (S) Mark Wells (St. Clair Shores, MI); and
- (T) Phil Verchota (Duluth, MN).

(4) The "Miracle on Ice" USA-Soviet Union final round game aired on tape delay on February 22, 1980, from the Lake Placid Games and drew 34,200,000 average viewers. The match is remembered as a "miracle" as collegiate hockey players defied expectations in defeating a Soviet team that won 4 consecutive gold medals dating back to 1964.

(5) Team USA defeated Finland 4-1 in its final game to win the gold medal, its first gold medal since 1960 in men's hockey.

(6) Herb Brooks, the last player cut from the 1960 U.S. Olympic team that won gold at Squaw Valley, guided the 1980 team to its historic gold medal. Known as a motivator, Brooks molded a team built around hard work, belief in oneself and belief in teammates. He reminded his team when they played the Soviets, "you were born to be hockey players, everyone one of you . . . and you were meant to be here".

(7) The tournament occurred at a time when the United States was struggling with rampant stagflation, high gas prices, hostages held in Iran, and increased tensions with the Soviet Union whose invasion of Afghanistan led to the boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics.

(8) The Miracle on Ice was a turning point for American hockey. The game was named the greatest sports moment of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated.

(9) The historic win brought hockey to the front-page of newspapers everywhere, and forever opened the door to the National Hockey League for American-born players. The impact of the event was far-reaching and is still being felt today.

(10) Since 1980 American interest in the sport of hockey has increased exponentially. Registrations with USA Hockey have increased by nearly 400 percent since 1980 from 136,000 to over 564,000, and the number of National Hockey League players from the United States has increased from 72 in 1980 to 245 in 2024.

#### SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of 3 gold medals of appropriate design to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Olympic Winter Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) DISPOSITION OF MEDALS.—Following the award of the gold medals under subsection (a)—

(1) one gold medal shall be given to the Lake Placid Olympic Center in Lake Placid, NY, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research;

(2) one gold medal shall be given to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, MN, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research; and

(3) one gold medal shall be given to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado Springs, CO, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research.

#### SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.