

standard deduction support, and who does it help? It helps lower- and middle-income Americans, plain and simple. It increased the number of people who took the standard deduction and gave them the best tax benefit. It is the wealthy folks who itemize, for the most part. Right there, we are already targeting middle- and lower-income Americans.

The second piece is doubling the child tax credit. In 2017, Republicans doubled the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000. That is something that has been incredibly bipartisan. Democrats, in their own version of reconciliation, have enhanced that, as well.

I lead the Family First Act, which is another enhancement of the child tax credit, and I am looking forward to, hopefully, getting that passed through. That is another key win.

There are numerous business provisions that help. Real wage growth, economic activity, and strong GDP growth are helping.

Mr. Speaker, any time you have the White House, the House, and the Senate under one party, then people get a little bit chippy. They get a little bit partisan as we try to get significant pieces of legislation through. It is not going to be any different this time.

That was the case in 2017. I wasn't here then, but as I was sort of watching from the sidelines on these types of things, I get it.

Then, in 2021, the Democrats had the White House, the House, and the Senate. They did the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act, and they tried to do Build Back Better. Those were incredibly partisan approaches, which I firmly disagreed with, but that was the piece that took place at the time.

We have an opportunity going forward for these next few months to be able to deliver on something that is very important to every American family, and that is making sure that they have consistency in the tax code so there is not going to be a massive tax increase on American families next year. It is something I am proud to be working on, and I hope that we can celebrate it as a key piece of success as we look past this first 100 days of the administration. We are 4 months into our 119th Congress, and this is going to be a key piece.

Democrats will say over and over again that this is just a tax break for the billionaires. Mr. Speaker, when you cap SALT like the Republicans did, that only hurts wealthier folks. I hate to bring them that news. I believe it was BERNIE SANDERS who was criticized by The Washington Post—again, The Washington Post—by giving three or four Pinocchios when they say that these tax breaks that Republicans do just go to benefit the wealthy. That is The Washington Post saying to call it as it is. These are Pinocchios. These are complete lies that the tax policies that Republicans put forth actually strengthen and target the middle- and lower-income Americans.

We will say that over and over again. Unfortunately, my Democratic colleagues will say this is just going to benefit the billionaires.

I hope that, deep down, they would come to some realization that that is just a lie. Their own media is saying that it is just a lie. It is just one of those things that exist back here, and we are probably going to be dealing with that a lot for the next few months. The reality is this is good, strong tax policy that is going to benefit American families and workers.

In addition to some of the successes we have had over the last few months, this is something we have to be able to lock in and accomplish. I look forward to being a key part of that as we move forward.

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

TRUMP IMMIGRATION POLICIES

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. TAKANO of California was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House for a Special Order hour with my Congressional Progressive Caucus colleagues. I do so on the 100th day of the Trump administration, and I note that this is a day when we received the news that our economy has contracted and that we are witnessing confusion, chaos in our markets, and uncertainty about our economic future.

We can also mark this day by stating that our country is in the midst of a constitutional crisis.

The administration is disappearing individuals without due process in defiance of court orders. They are ripping people from their homes and communities, putting them on secretive flights, and sending them overseas, including more than 280 individuals sent to the brutal CECOT prison in El Salvador without so much as a hearing.

The Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the administration must facilitate the return of one such man, Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father, but the executive branch has ignored the highest Court in the land, saying that their own views matter more.

Just last night, the President of the United States admitted in a public interview that he could return Mr. Abrego Garcia if he wanted to, but he is choosing not to. He has openly mused about sending American citizens

to El Salvador next because it always starts with those without power, the most vulnerable, but it never ends there, and that should terrify every American.

I want to take the opportunity to draw attention to another case that has captured the public conscience, that of Andry Jose Hernandez Romero, a 31-year-old gay Venezuelan makeup artist and asylum seeker who was forcibly disappeared without due process.

Andry entered the United States legally, fleeing persecution for his sexual orientation and political beliefs. He passed an initial asylum screening and had no criminal record. Yet, without warning or due process, he was forcibly removed to El Salvador and imprisoned in the notorious CECOT facility.

What is the evidence against him? A couple of crown tattoos above the names "Mom" and "Dad," symbols of his love for his hometown's Three Kings Day celebrations.

Andry's case exemplifies the dangers of unchecked executive power and what happens when the rule of law is pushed aside.

I call on President Trump to free Andry.

There are so many others to talk about: students who have been snatched off the streets, young American citizens kicked out without so much as a hearing, and the list goes on and on.

I want to be clear that this is not just about immigrants. This is bigger than that. If the government can violate the Constitution with impunity in these cases, then it can do so anywhere to anyone.

To the Americans listening at home, I ask you: How would you feel if masked men grabbed you in broad daylight and refused to show their ID? I know I would be terrified, and I bet you would be, too.

Today, we will hear from a number of my Congressional Progressive Caucus colleagues as we bring a spotlight to these injustices.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR).

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAKANO for yielding. I am so grateful for his leadership and for bringing us together on the House floor to talk about what is happening here in our country every day.

Americans are sounding the alarm about the crisis that our country is in. It is not just an economic crisis, as we see our country sinking very quickly into an economic crisis, which is being reflected in Donald Trump's poll numbers. In fact, his sinking poll numbers are even being reflected in the issue that many consider to be his strong suit with the American people, which is immigration.

Americans are now realizing that Donald Trump's anti-immigrant policies are targeting everyone in our country, including U.S. citizens.

When Donald Trump eliminates due process for immigrants, whether it is

for legal immigrants or students who are here with legitimate visas, he is impacting due process for all of us.

When Donald Trump ignores an order from the Supreme Court to bring back a wrongfully deported immigrant, he is violating the rule of law, which impacts all of us.

Mr. Speaker, when Donald Trump sends immigrants to a gulag in a foreign country, believe him when he tells you that he will be doing this to U.S. citizens next. In fact, he has already begun deporting U.S. citizen children.

Just today, in the House Judiciary Committee, as the Judiciary Committee was marking up the reconciliation package, which, unfortunately, many Republicans will just blindly approve, Judiciary Committee Republicans refused to protect U.S. citizens from deportation.

It is shocking, I know.

Here is the thing: We can have strong border security and a fair and humane immigration system that works for our Nation. That is not what Donald Trump is doing. He is acting like a tyrant, and he will keep undermining our democracy, our country, and the rule of law as long as compliant Republicans allow him to.

Will there be just four Republicans who will stand with us and their constituents to protect the Constitution, the rule of law, and law and order in this country? I hope so.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative ESCOBAR for her comments.

I am outraged to hear that Republicans on the Judiciary Committee would not protect citizens from deportation. We are talking about citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

□ 1900

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, fascism always demands a public enemy. Through lies and scapegoating, the Trump administration has tried to make immigrants the enemy. They have tried to convince us that the problem isn't their abuses of power or the unchecked greed of multinational corporations but it is immigrants.

In their 100 days in office, the Trump administration and Noem, the Secretary of Homeland Security, have abused the power of the Department of Homeland Security to pursue a campaign of persecution, of mass incarceration, and of deportation.

Day after day, they have disregarded the authority of Congress, the laws of the land, and the constitutional rights of residents, the courts, due process, and every check and balance that protects us from fascist authoritarians.

No one has been spared from their abusive authoritarian assault, not United States citizens, children with cancer, not pregnant women, not fathers with legal residency, not organ donors, not student activists, not professors, not green card holders, not asylees, not DACA recipients.

Trump and Noem have wasted millions of taxpayer dollars in their criminal acts from a \$200 million anti-immigrant ad campaign to \$46 million paid to illegally detain people in offshore prisons to more than \$300 million to militarize and end parole and due process at our borders. There is no end to how they will abuse their power, and we have to say: Enough.

As I demanded yesterday in the Homeland Security Committee, Noem must step down. We can't give one more dollar to this administration to continue its unconstitutional, anti-immigrant, authoritarian agenda.

I will close with this: Today, Trump, Noem, and the administration have made the immigrants the enemy. Tomorrow, it will be whoever they deem undesirable.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RAMIREZ for standing up for the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER.)

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern regarding our First and Fifth Amendment rights. Our constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech and right to due process are under attack by the Musk-Trump administration.

You don't have to like what someone says philosophically, politically, or otherwise, but free speech is not based on what you like or dislike or choose to hear or not hear; it is based on one's ability to express themselves. It is not conditioned on what you like to hear. Free speech is free speech.

We will not stand by while they violate the principles that form the bedrock of our democracy. Right now, this administration is defying a Supreme Court decision that ordered them to facilitate the return of an individual who was deported without due process. Alongside others, he was sent to an inhumane prison in a different country without a hearing. This happened in the United States, violating his right to due process. There are many individuals whose stories deserve to be told, so today I am going to highlight just a few.

Last week, I led a bicameral codel to two ICE detention facilities in Louisiana where Mahmoud Khalil, Rumeysa Ozturk, and Wendy Brito are being held.

Mahmoud Khalil is a lawful permanent resident and Columbia graduate student who was detained because of his participation in a peaceful protest. I had an opportunity to sit and visit with him. He said, without fear of contradiction: I am not anti-Semitic. I am not pro-Hamas. I am simply concerned about my homeland and the treatment of the people that are there.

Rumeysa Ozturk is a Ph.D. student detained because she wrote an op-ed in her school newspaper.

Wendy Brito, a mother of three U.S. citizens, who may one day be U.S. Senators. A U.S. citizen right here on our

homeland, was deported without giving her due process. Her lawyer was in the waiting room. They would not let her have access to the lawyer. Then they added insult to injury by saying she signed a waiver.

Who and what mother would not say, when asked: Do you want your children to go with you versus being with some strangers would not opt for that first option?

Ms. Brito simply said: What are you going to do with my children? They said: Well, they can go with you. As a father, I would have made the same decision, but her lawyer was in the other room begging for an opportunity to stand in, and they would not give him or her an opportunity to do so.

Arresting people who are in this country legally—people whose only crimes have been to exercise their right to free speech—is an assault on our civil liberties and our Constitution.

An attack on these individuals is an attack on all of us. Who is to say what this ruthless administration will do next or who they will do it to? Will it be your family member, your friend, or a coworker who is taken without cause?

I am reminded of a quote from Angela Davis: "If they come for me in the morning, they will come for you in the night."

We must all stick together and fight for the rights of our great country, this great Constitution, the First Amendment right of free speech, and the Fifth Amendment right of due process. We must continue speaking up and fighting back against these tyrants and preserve our Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if you found this funny or if you are laughing at a joke that is on your phone, but this is serious business, sir.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his principled remarks about the importance of the rule of law in our country and his enunciating that political dissent in our country is not a crime.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Ms. ANSARI).

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, last week, I traveled to El Salvador, along with three of my colleagues, to see firsthand the chaos unleashed by the Trump administration through its unconstitutional and illegal deportations of U.S. residents to third-party countries.

I represent a beautifully diverse district in which 64 languages are spoken and where families of immigrants like mine thrive. I have heard more about this issue from my constituents than any other during my time in Congress.

In El Salvador, we met with the U.S. Ambassador and demanded that the Trump administration facilitate the release of Kilmar Abrego Garcia in compliance with the 9-0, unanimous Supreme Court decision of the United States and the lower Federal court judges.

Mr. Abrego Garcia and many other wrongfully deported individuals were

sent to El Salvador with no due process and no legal recourse just for being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

It is outrageous and indefensible that the Trump administration continues to defy a Supreme Court ruling to return this man to his family. In fact, it is a full-blown constitutional crisis.

There are other people—including Andry Jose Hernandez Romero, a makeup artist and legal asylum seeker, and Merwil Gutierrez, a teenager who was mistakenly picked up by immigration enforcement—languishing in El Salvador.

Now, the Trump administration is admitting to deporting a 2-year-old U.S. citizen with cancer. It is cruel, it is despicable, and it is totally illegal, no matter what Stephen Miller or Tom Homan may say.

These cases are not just about these specific people or children sent on planes to foreign prisons by the U.S. Government. Our entire system of justice hinges on the rights afforded to us by the Constitution, the rights of due process, access to legal representation, and the ability to be heard in a court of law.

It is a dark day for our democracy when the Federal Government snatches people off of the streets, flies them out of the country secretly in the dead of night, and sends them to a foreign prison to be detained indefinitely with no legal recourse or chance to prove their case.

Who is to say that it couldn't be you or me next? I will continue to speak out for due process and our constitutional rights.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative ANSARI. I want to thank her for traveling with three other of our colleagues to El Salvador last week. I know that she traveled at her own expense. I am very proud that we have members of this caucus who care so deeply about people who have been treated so unjustly. Nobody should be disappeared out of our country without habeas corpus hearings.

I also thank Representative CARTER for his efforts, along with, I believe, other Members of Congress to visit the graduate students held in a New Orleans jail.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. OMAR).

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I am here today as a Representative of a community that is deeply alarmed by the actions of this administration.

Just weeks ago, the Trump administration defied a unanimous—we didn't think this was possible—but a unanimous Supreme Court order by refusing to facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father wrongfully deported to a notorious prison in El Salvador. Despite the Court's clear directive, the administration continues to ignore the rule of law, undermining the very foundation of our democracy.

In my own district, the situation is equally troubling. A graduate student

at the University of Minnesota was detained by ICE agents without warning. Despite having no involvement in political activism, he was taken from his home, held without immediate explanation, and had his visa retroactively revoked. This action not only disturbed his education but also instilled fear in our academic community.

These are not isolated incidents. Across the country, people are being detained and deported without due process, often based on tenuous and/or unverified allegations.

The administration's use of obscure laws, like the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, to justify these actions is a blatant abuse of power. We must ask ourselves: If the rights of noncitizens can be so easily disregarded, whose rights will be next?

Our Constitution guarantees due process and equal protection under the law to everyone in this country, not just citizens. If the government can silence you, detain you, or deport you while defying court orders, then none of our rights are safe. If we let this slide, we are saying the Constitution is optional. It is not.

What we are seeing is authoritarianism creeping in through the backdoor, one ignored ruling at a time.

My colleagues and I are ready to fight back with everything we have got.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, the sign behind me says "9-0." "9-0" is the order of the Supreme Court. They ruled 9-0 that Kilmar Abrego Garcia must be brought back or must be facilitated back into the country. This 9-0 Supreme Court order is being defied by the President. No one in our country, no person, no man, is above the law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL).

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Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for leading us in this Special Order hour today.

Mr. Speaker, fear, anger, terror, sadness, these are the emotions that just scratch the surface of what my community and our immigrant neighbors are feeling. Why should we expect anything less? This is exactly what this administration wants: to force immigrants into the shadows, to break their spirit, and to disrupt our communities.

When you come for immigrants, you come for small businesses. When you come for immigrants, you come for our farmworkers and for our fish processors. When you come for immigrants, you come for nurses, doctors, and caregivers. When you come for immigrants, you come for the very identity of what makes this country America.

Last week, I met with immigrants' rights advocates and toured the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. The detainee population has doubled in the last few months. The average time detained has extended. Discretionary re-

leases are now uncommon, even for detainees without violent criminal records. Folks are being detained and disappeared for nothing more than political speech.

Mr. Speaker, what this visit reaffirmed for me is that any immigration policy rooted in hate and fueled by chaos doesn't make our immigration system more efficient or safe; it overwhelms the system. We don't fix a broken system by breaking people.

Most of our origin stories, even as Members of the House in this body, begin as immigration stories. It is past time that all of us remember that.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RIVAS).

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman TAKANO for recognizing me and for hosting this important discussion in front of the American people.

Our country was founded on the values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but who are we as a country if we backtrack on those founding values? We would not be the country that inspired our parents, our neighbors, and our grandparents to make a dangerous and brave journey in the hopes that their children will have a better life than they did.

Everyone has a story that they can relate. Mine is about my mother, who emigrated from Mexico in the 1960s. She raised me and my sister on her own, taking multiple jobs to make ends meet. It was not until the late 1980s when she finally got her green card. She was so happy, and I remember feeling relieved because she was safe and could live in this country without fear.

Today, that fear has returned. Donald Trump is blatantly pushing aside the Constitution and the rule of law to deport anybody at will. I am here because I am fighting for my mother and many like her who came to this country in search of a better life. I am fighting so our immigrant communities can, once and for all, live without fear that their livelihoods would be taken away at a moment's notice.

I am fighting with my Congressional Progressive Caucus and Congressional Hispanic Caucus colleagues against this administration's attempts to strip away a person's right to due process.

Donald Trump is criminalizing people like Abrego Garcia and denying him his due process. Yet, it is not just Abrego Garcia. This administration is also deporting children.

Last week, this administration deported a 2-year-old child and a 4-year-old child who are battling stage IV cancer, both of whom are U.S. citizens. What is happening to Garcia and these children is a travesty, and they need to come home.

Sending them without due process to countries like El Salvador and Honduras is a shameful assault on our human rights and a betrayal of the ideals that our country was founded on.

His policies are also unpopular across the country, and the polling proves it. After 100 days, Donald Trump has the lowest approval rating of any President in at least the past 80 years. The American people see through his cruelty, and they are with us.

We need to confront the cruelty from this administration head on and seek justice for all of those who have been unfairly targeted.

I stand united with my colleagues in stopping this administration and holding this President accountable for his actions.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RIVAS for her comments and bringing to light the tragic stories of children who are citizens with cancer being deported from our country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman TAKANO for bringing us together this evening for a very important discussion.

Kilmar, Andry, Jefferson, Kevin: a devoted father married to an American citizen, a makeup artist who faced persecution in his home country because he is gay, a man with a valid work authorization and pending asylum hearing, and a son of a government worker attacked for his opposition to a corrupt regime.

These are just a few of the hundreds of men who have been sent to a foreign prison with conditions so inhumane that El Salvador's Justice Minister has said that the only way out is in a coffin.

These men came to our country, in many cases through approved legal pathways, seeking a better life for themselves and their families. In response, we sent them to another country without any due process to be abused and tortured, and we are paying that government \$6 million to do so.

These are not deportations, but they are government-enforced disappearances. They are illegal. They are horrific. They are the tactics of a dictatorship, not a democracy.

We cannot let them get away with this. This is the red line that they cannot be allowed to cross.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TONKO for his comments. I agree with the gentleman. This is a red line that cannot be crossed. We cannot permit a President to defy a 9-0 order of the Supreme Court. No person and no man is above the law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN), my tremendous colleague.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TAKANO for holding this Special Order. This is very important.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Trump administration is carrying out a campaign of reckless cruelty with zero accountability.

Last week, the home of a woman from Oklahoma was mistakenly tar-

geted by ICE agents. They broke into her home, forced her and her children outside at gunpoint in their underwear, and proceeded to ransack their home.

The people who ICE were looking for didn't even live there, but that didn't stop them from traumatizing the current residents, confiscating their life savings, and fleeing the scene without leaving any contact information or instructions for how this innocent family could get their belongings back, including their money.

More recently, over the past weekend, we learned that Trump administration's police deported a 4-year-old American citizen who has stage IV cancer, and then they lied about it. On Monday, Trump's deportation czar claimed that the child's mother chose to bring her son with her when she was deported without any kind of due process.

Let me be clear. That is another boldface lie. The truth is that this woman did what any mom would do when faced with such a terrifying situation. She tried desperately to protect her child. She pled with the Trump's deportation police to let her contact her family to arrange care for her son and make sure that he keeps receiving the medical treatment that he desperately needs.

Yet, Trump's police said: No. They denied this basic right. They would not let her call her family, nor her lawyer. As a result, her son no longer has access to his lifesaving cancer treatment.

It is a confounding degree of evil that we are dealing with in the Trump administration and this Republican-controlled Congress that fails to find its spine and do the right thing for the people of this country.

I truly cannot comprehend the heartlessness that is required to do these things like this, and I am praying for all of the victims of this administration's campaign of terror in my country.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative WATSON COLEMAN for informing the Nation about what happened earlier today with that family in Oklahoma.

It strikes me that we are witnessing this evolution of this administration's policies that began with: We are just going to deport criminals.

It then evolved into disappearing people without hearings and claiming that the people they were disappearing were criminals, dangerous criminals, members of the Tren de Aragua gang.

They admitted that there were mistakes made, but now we are seeing actual children who are citizens being spirited out of the country. This ought to be concerning to all Americans. It is not about them anymore. It is about us. It is about every single person who is in danger of being treated in such a way that you have no way to say to a judge: I am a citizen.

How can you say to a judge that you are a citizen or not a criminal when you are not even allowed to have that hearing?

Mr. Speaker, I will now move on and yield to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE).

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, when we took office, we swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution. It was a promise to the American people that we would uphold the law, protect their rights, and defend our democracy.

Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was living legally in the United States, was wrongfully disappeared to a horrific prison in El Salvador because of an administrative error.

This week, U.S. citizens in Oklahoma were dragged out of their home while ICE agents, with no warrant for them, took their phones, laptops, and life savings, even though they weren't the suspects in question.

One of the most basic rights guaranteed in our Constitution is the right to due process. The Due Process Clause in the Fifth Amendment and 14th Amendment demands that you cannot be deprived of life, liberty, or property without the due process of law. That means a fair hearing, a chance to be heard, and a chance to defend yourself in court. That is the standard.

Mr. Speaker, our immigration system is broken, and I will work with anyone in a bipartisan way to fix it. Yet, that is not what is happening here.

Weaponizing fears and frustrations as a justification for interning innocent people in a foreign prison is unacceptable and unconstitutional. Everyone deserves due process in court with evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. If we don't defend these rights now, who is next: our neighbor, our family, or us?

Affording due process is not being soft on crime. It is the very foundation of American justice to ensure that the rights enshrined in our Constitution are guaranteed, as the Founders intended. Standing up for the Constitution is not partisan. It is patriotic. It is our duty, and we need to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for standing up for the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that, in this country, under our Constitution, no one is above the law, not even the President. Our President, at this very moment, is defying a 9-0 Supreme Court decision.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. TOKUDA), my colleague from the Aloha State.

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to President Trump's unlawful and unjust deportations to El Salvador.

Earlier this year, the administration invoked the Alien Enemies Act, an 18th century wartime statute, to deport 137 Venezuelan men to a notorious prison abroad. This archaic law is being exploited to bypass our immigration system and deny individuals their most basic legal protections.

□ 1930

These deportations were not based on convictions or due process. They are based on ancestry and suspicions—tattoos misidentified, affiliations assumed, rights ignored.

The Supreme Court affirmed, by a 7–2 majority, these people deserve due process under our Constitution.

For me and for Representative TAKANO, this strikes painfully close to home.

During World War II, the same law was used to imprison over 120,000 Japanese Americans, including our families. My great-grandfather was taken from his home, incarcerated without cause, solely because of his ethnicity.

Now, we are seeing the same injustice unfold again. In communities like Kona, Hawaii, a child was taken from his elementary school classroom. Families are taken from their homes, and people live in fear. Children miss school. Parents avoid lifesaving care and their doctors. Faith communities grow quiet, not because of guilt but because of government overreach.

Let us be clear. These individuals are our neighbors, workers, students, and friends. They deserve dignity and due process, not detention and deportation.

Sending people to foreign prisons without a trial, without rights, and without hope is not only unconstitutional. It is un-American, and it must stop.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor the oath we all took in this very Chamber to uphold the Constitution, protect due process, and defend the values that define our Nation.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TOKUDA for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU), my fellow colleague from southern California and good friend.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, this administration has thrown out the Constitution and asserted that the President has king-like power to arrest anybody in this country and deport them, even to a foreign prison for life, with no due process.

Days ago, we learned they deported a 4-year-old child with stage IV cancer and a 2-year-old American citizen.

We know that they are now going after Southeast Asian refugees from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. They came here due to the U.S. depending on them as allies during the Vietnam war.

This was the case with Chanthon Bun, who fled to the U.S. with his family to escape the Cambodian genocide. Like many refugees, Bun found himself in an impoverished community and struggled to acclimate. He later fell in with the wrong crowd and made a mistake as a teenager. Bun has since served his time, and once granted parole, he has become a leader in his community.

In Trump's eyes, Bun's rehabilitation doesn't matter. Trump is now detaining and deporting Southeast Asian ref-

ugees who have had pauses on their deportation orders for decades and are deeply tied to their communities. Mr. Speaker, 15,000 of these refugees have deportation orders and are now being deported as they do the right thing and report for their ICE check-ins.

We will not stand for it. I will soon be reintroducing the Southeast Asian Deportation Relief Act, which would prevent the administration from deporting these refugees to countries where they have often never lived and ensure that those who have already been deported can return home to the U.S.

If the Trump administration can disappear immigrants to other countries without due process or deport refugees to places they have no memories of, we are all in danger.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative CHU for bringing to light the story of an individual who has contributed much to his community. I am very disappointed, alarmed, and, frankly, terrified by the actions of this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield time to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA), also a fellow Californian, a longtime friend of mine, and somebody who I admire for his courage and initiative in leading a recent delegation of four Members of Congress to the country of El Salvador.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAKANO for giving me this opportunity to speak about a topic that is really important right now in our country.

Mr. Speaker, there is no issue right now that should concern Americans more than the elimination and destruction of due process, not just now for U.S. citizens but for people who are here whether it is a legal status or because they have been invited to this country to apply for asylum.

I want to go ahead and speak a little bit more about Andry Romero, this young gentleman right here. He is a gay hairstylist and makeup artist who came to the United States with an asylum appointment. The United States Government gave Andry an appointment to show up to the border so that he could claim asylum using our process that we created.

He shows up with his appointment. What happens? He gets interrogated through the process. His initial screening is positive, and then he essentially gets taken at the border from that screening directly to a prison in El Salvador, a country he knows nothing about, in a process that eliminated his right through the court and due process asylum system that we have created in this country.

What kind of America is this where we are doing this to people who are seeking asylum? We are sending them to a foreign prison.

I note that Andry's family describes him as someone who is sweet, kind, and gentle, yet we are sending him to a notorious prison in a very vulnerable position.

I also want to note that an agent said that he has some tattoos. Yes, he has a crown tattoo reflective of a festival back in his home city and state in Venezuela. It has nothing to do with gangs. He has never been convicted of anything to do with gangs.

Because an ICE agent, who was, by the way, a disgraced former police officer, made these claims, Andry is now in a foreign prison, and his family and his lawyers have not heard anything about him in weeks.

I did go to El Salvador to advocate for the release of not just Kilmar, who has been mandated by the Supreme Court to come back, but also for Andry. We told Andry's story to the Ambassador in El Salvador. It was the first time he had heard his story. After the meeting, he made a request to the government in El Salvador to do a welfare check for the first time on Andry.

We have yet to hear anything about how he is doing, his condition, if he is alive, or where he is.

This is a disgrace by President Trump, Secretary Rubio, Secretary Noem, and everyone involved in this process. We demand to know if he is healthy, if he is okay, and where he is, and that he be given the right to come back to the United States so that he can go through the process that we asked him to go through before we kidnapped him and sent him to a prison in El Salvador. We must do better in this country.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Representative GARCIA, I had not heard the story about your request to the Ambassador to do a welfare check.

This is one picture of Andry Hernandez. I have seen other pictures of him, other photographs. It is hard for, I think, anyone who looks at these photographs to believe that Andry is a dangerous member of the Tren de Aragua criminal gang.

Here is the other fact that was just mentioned. He has never once been at large in the U.S. territory, any part of the U.S. Government, or the Continental United States. From the very beginning, when he crossed the border, he was in custody. He has never been out of custody. He has never once posed any danger. He arrived with papers that show, from his native Venezuela, that he has no criminal record.

My understanding not only was that he was seeking asylum from Venezuela because of his sexual orientation but also because he would not comply with the authoritarian regime there.

Is that your understanding, as well?

Mr. GARCIA of California. Absolutely. I think that it is a shame that someone fleeing persecution for who they are and then given an appointment by us, the United States, is then sent to a foreign prison.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GARCIA for traveling to El Salvador on his own resources and to our colleagues who spent their own resources

because this House of Representatives will not do oversight over the overreach of this administration, will not do oversight over the dereliction of constitutional responsibility of this administration, an administration that was defying a 9-0 Supreme Court order to facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia.

There is another compelling case we have before us. The 280 other individuals who are in CECOT prison, the government has kept those names secret. The press and others have had to do a lot of sleuthing to identify individuals who have been sent down there. For all we know, there could be citizens among those folks. We don't know because they have never been able to talk to a judge.

Mr. GARCIA of California. That is right.

Mr. TAKANO. They have never been able to defend themselves against charges that they are Tren de Aragua criminals or otherwise dangerous criminals.

This is a travesty. I think all Americans should be outraged. All Americans should be afraid for themselves. We have now seen, in just recent days, that we have moved from noncitizens to citizens being sent out of this country.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that, over the last hour, the American public has heard directly as Members of Congress came to this hallowed floor to talk plainly about the grave constitutional crisis unfolding in our country. We have heard the names Kilmar Abrego Garcia and Andry Hernandez Romero. We have spoken of students taken off streets, court orders cast aside, and a supermax prison that now holds victims of abuse.

These are not isolated incidents. They are evidence of a pattern, a government operating outside the law, outside the Constitution, outside the decision of a Supreme Court that has ruled 9-0 that this administration must facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a government that believes that it can disappear people without charges, ignore the judiciary, and turn the Constitution into a suggestion rather than a safeguard.

Mr. Speaker, this body must exert its collective conscience. This is not who we are, and it must not be who we become. The American people are beginning to wake up. They are hungry for accountability from our government and courage from Congress.

I promise this. This is not the end of our voices. It is only the beginning.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 45 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-842. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Report to Congress on U.S. Compliance with the Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq, according to Section 4 of the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 107-243, Sec. 4(a); (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-843. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Implementation of Executive Order 12938 Concerning the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction", pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627) and 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-844. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Cuban Compliance with the Migration Accords", pursuant to Public Law 105-277, Sec. 2245; (112 Stat. 2681-824); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-845. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-846. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report on Denial of Visas to Confiscators of American Property"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-847. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period of August 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-848. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Multinational Force Observers—Implement the Treaty of Peace"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-849. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on changes that occurred as of 2025-03-19 under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act and an additional report on departure of ambassadors, 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 Government Reform.

EC-850. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of the Prohibition Against Certain Flights in the Territory and Airspace of Libya [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0246; Amdt. No.: 91-321G] (RIN: 2120-AM03) received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-851. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Depart-

ment's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; New Bern, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1965; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ASO-26] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-852. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace; Cheyenne Regional/Jerry Olson Field, Cheyenne, WY [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2456; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-71] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-853. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Challis Airport, Challis, ID; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2491; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ANM-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-854. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Blanding Municipal Airport, Blanding, UT [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2499; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-116] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-855. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Marysville, OH [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2114; Airspace Docket No.: 24-AGL-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-856. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification & Establishment of Class E Airspace; Cortez Municipal Airport, Cortez, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2455; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-98] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-857. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D and E Airspace; Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, Bozeman, MT [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2423; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ANM-63] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-858. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31598; Amdt. No.: 4159] received April 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-859. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums