

company offered discounts to their customers for flights in our region. They are clearly more interested in profit than public safety, making it abundantly clear that they should no longer be allowed to operate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this bill so that we can protect lives in our communities and ensure that tragedies like this one never happen again.

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF BUDDY BASEBALL IN BAYONNE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Buddy Baseball in Bayonne.

Every year, more than 100 children and young adults with special needs gather for a season of Buddy Baseball, giving everyone the opportunity to succeed, play, and enjoy this incredible game.

This year, I was proud to march in the parade to celebrate their opening day and commemorate the opening of their brand-new field. Hundreds of spectators lined the streets to cheer on this year's players, and it was heartwarming to see our community come together for such a great cause.

The city of Bayonne is leading the way in bringing communities together in an inclusive way, lifting up those around us, and showing what we can achieve when we work together.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone who made this dream a reality and for reminding us what we can do when we come together as one in a community.

RECOGNIZING ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY AND 77TH BIRTHDAY

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Israel's Independence Day and 77th birthday.

The United States and Israel have a binding, ironclad partnership that continues to grow stronger as the months and years go on.

As President Reagan once said: "For the people of Israel and America are historic partners in the global quest for human dignity and freedom. We will always remain at each other's side."

Our values are one and the same, and our joint commitment to advancing freedom and human dignity will never cease.

To the State of Israel and the Jewish people, I say this: We will always stand firmly alongside you. You can count on us today, tomorrow, and always.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

(Mr. MEUSER of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize National Small Business Week and, with it, the incred-

ible contributions of our many small business owners, workers, and entrepreneurs across Pennsylvania and the United States.

These individuals, Mr. Speaker, deserve more than recognition; they deserve our support and applause. Small businesses aren't just a line in an economic report; they are the lifeblood. They are the employers, the mentors, and the community leaders, and they are the ones giving to local charities and sponsoring youth sports, putting their names on the back of Little League jerseys in communities across our Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

We also recognize the critical role of our local chambers of commerce in assisting small businesses. Throughout Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, we are blessed with some of the best chambers in Pennsylvania, if not the country.

Throughout my district and Pennsylvania, from Schuylkill County to Wyoming County, to the Susquehanna Valley to Lebanon, from Luzerne to Lycoming, these chambers are working every day to support job creators and bring small businesses together. They serve as a bridge between the private sector and government, and they help ensure that entrepreneurs have a voice. Their efforts deserve our thanks.

As someone who worked in small business, I understand the challenges entrepreneurs face, and while I was fortunate to help grow a small business into a larger business, I never lost that small business mindset. That mentality, grounded in what we call the WIT principle, Whatever It Takes, is built on hard work, results, teamwork, and customer service. It continues to guide my work here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, that work, on behalf of small businesses, starts with regulatory relief. Small businesses don't have compliance departments or teams of lawyers. Every hour spent on paperwork is an hour not spent on growing their business.

That is why House Republicans and the Trump administration have taken important steps to roll back burdensome regulations that never should have applied to small employers in the first place. We fought to eliminate the Biden administration's imposed Beneficial Ownership Rule, which would have forced small businesses to submit sensitive ownership information to FinCEN, adding compliance burdens and creating legal risk with little benefit.

We pushed back against the CFPB's 1071 rule, which mandated that lenders collect and report demographic and financial data on small business loan applications, raising costs and potentially limiting access to capital.

To ensure we are hearing directly from those affected, the Small Business Administration has also now launched recently a red tape hotline, giving small business owners and manufacturers a direct channel to report excessive or unworkable Federal regu-

lation so we can act on them. As a matter of fact, their hotline phone number at the SBA is 1-800-827-5722.

Beyond regulatory relief, we are advancing smart legislation to support growth and innovation. I introduced the Investing in All of America Act, which expands access to capital for small manufacturers and startups in economically underserved and rural areas by raising the leverage cap on small business investment companies.

□ 1045

My 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act improves transparency and accountability in the SBA's most widely used lending program by requiring annual reports on loan agent activity. This bill ensures Congress has the data needed to provide proper oversight, protect taxpayer dollars, and keep the program strong for small businesses that rely on it.

The Regulatory Review Improvement Act, which I also introduced, ensures that Federal agencies take into account the real-world impact of their rules on small businesses. It requires agencies to regularly review existing regulations already on the books and evaluate whether they should remain in place based upon their effect on small businesses. That and ensuring access to capital are some of our major focuses here in Congress.

Finally, through reconciliation—also known as the one big, beautiful bill—we are committed to extending the provisions of President Trump's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which helped countless small businesses invest, expand, and hire.

Provisions like section 199A, bonus depreciation, and the R&D tax credit have had a direct, positive impact on small businesses. These provisions, and the broader income tax reductions, must be extended to maintain growth and protect jobs.

By voting for this plan, we are simply continuing the tax plan that stimulated the strongest economy in the past 50 to 100 years. A "no" vote on this plan is a "no" vote for small business. Anyone who says this reconciliation package doesn't help small businesses either doesn't understand it or is choosing to ignore what is in it. This legislation is pro-growth, pro-investment and pro-small business.

Separate from the small business provisions, if the individual tax cuts are allowed to expire, the average Pennsylvania family, Mr. Speaker, will face a tax hike of over \$2,500. If my Democratic colleagues oppose this bill, they are voting in favor of the largest tax increase on working families in American history, plain and simple.

Frankly, we need Pennsylvania's executive office and State agencies to get on board with this pro-growth initiative, as well. Mr. Speaker, let's thank every entrepreneur, employer, team member, and small business for all they do to deliver for America.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 46 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOUDERMILK) at noon.

PRAYER

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

We take this moment, O Lord, to bless You. With all that we are and with everything that is in us, we praise Your holy name. As the Heavens are high above the Earth, so great is Your steadfast love for those who honor You.

Like a parent who has compassion for his children, have compassion on us as we seek to live according to Your will and do the work You have called us to do. As our creator, show us Your grace in the fleeting moments we are given to serve You.

In our mortality, there are those in this House who are battling diseases like cancer that take over their bodies and threaten to shorten their lives. We pray Your healing hand over these Your servants who continue to labor faithfully under the burden of this infirmity.

In our fallibility, there are those who have made grave mistakes in their conduct, in their judgment, and in their life choices. We pray Your mercy in the rebuilding of their lives and the restoration of their right living.

Let us each claim anew today the promise that You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

In this certainty, we stand, and in Your 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 Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MAGAZINER 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.

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

HONORING THE NURSING PROFESSION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the men and women in the nursing profession.

This week is National Nurses Week. Every year, from May 6 through 12, we celebrate the work and the contributions that nurses make in the healthcare field.

National Nurses Week ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday, the founder of modern-day nursing.

Prior to serving in Congress, I spent nearly three decades in the healthcare profession. There, I worked closely with nurses and saw firsthand the care and compassion that they showed their patients.

Nursing is a science and an art reserved for those who are the most caring, giving, and passionate about helping others. Nurses provide their patients and families with comfort, compassion, guidance, and care.

Mr. Speaker, we should always thank our nurses for their hard work and dedication. Please join me in recognizing the nursing community this week. We should all be grateful for their commitment to caring for others, especially during these trying times.

A special shout-out to my Aunt Jessie, who is retired now as a nurse but cared for so many and made her way to the point where she was the executive director of the Pennsylvania Nurses Association. We are very proud of the difference that she has made.

BIOLOGY OF HUNGER

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the fifth time to bring attention to the Trump administration's failure to restore funding for food aid for malnourished children, despite their promise to do so.

I speak today about the biology of hunger. A 2-year-old child may weigh the same as a newborn. Their bodies stop growing. Their immune systems shut down. They lose the ability to walk and sometimes even the ability to cry. That is what severe malnutrition looks like, and it is the leading cause of death for children under 5.

There is treatment. Ready-to-use therapeutic food is a nutrient-rich peanut paste that delivers the fat, protein, and vitamins that starving children need to survive. It can save a child's life in just 8 weeks.

The Edesia factory in Rhode Island has helped save 25 million lives with

this food, but that work is now in jeopardy because the administration hasn't followed through on its own promises to continue funding the program.

We must restore funding for emergency food aid now. Lives are at stake. I will keep speaking on this floor until that funding is restored.

RECOGNIZING SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it is Small Business Week, and we are getting back to the basics: less red tape, lower taxes, and policies that actually help people who run a business and hire workers.

Small businesses are the building blocks of our economy. They do not need more interference from Washington or their home State. They need us to be out of the way of what they need to do to provide the things people actually want.

That is why I am working to stop the largest tax hike in American history and to make the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provisions permanent. These lower rates help businessowners grow and reinvest in their own workers.

Under President Trump, we saw how lower taxes and fewer regulations actually sparked real growth. We are building on that by passing bills that support small businesses and American manufacturing in America. When Main Street is strong, our country is strong.

We are going to keep doing what works and stop what doesn't, what actually hurts. That is how we get this economy moving in the right direction and actually being dedicated to the needs of the American people and the economy that drives it.

DEFUNDING SUICIDE HOTLINE FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, in 2005, the 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline was launched to provide 24/7 access to counseling and referrals for Americans in crisis.

In recognition of these challenges, the challenges these Americans face, the 988 lifeline provides specialty services targeted at LGBTQ youth, who are at a higher risk of suicide than the population at large.

According to a 2024 survey by the Trevor Project, 12 percent of LGBTQ youth attempted suicide in the past year—12 percent of American youth in this category.

Now, the Trump administration is reportedly considering eliminating these specialized support services, which would cut off the lifesaving resources they provide.