

has boxes of food stuck in warehouses, factory workers laid off, with children suffering from severe malnutrition and famine.

This is food that has already been paid for by the American taxpayers that could be used to feed starving children who are victims of war and famine, but instead, it sits in a warehouse benefitting no one.

We need the funding that this Congress provided to go through now because starving children can't wait. To make matters worse, the administration's fiscal year 2026 so-called skinny budget completely eliminates funding for the Food for Peace program, a bipartisan program that is the main source of funding for food assistance to combat hunger and malnutrition while also supporting America's farmers and agriculture industry. We must reject that plan and continue to fund Food for Peace.

In the meantime, though, this is urgent. For fiscal year 2025, the funding has already been appropriated. It has been approved. It has been signed by the President. We need the administration to put in the new orders to continue this flow of lifesaving aid to children.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JACOBS), a person who has been a real champion on the issue of hunger around the world, to hear her thoughts on the subject.

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman MAGAZINER for championing this issue and fighting to address the malnutrition of millions of children around the world.

Every year, about 45 million young children worldwide suffer from severe malnutrition. That is about one in every three children under 5 years old. Tragically, about 1 to 2 million of those children will die.

Nutrition during that time is incredibly important for long-term development. It is what powers kids to grow taller, get stronger, develop their brains, and have a stronger immune system. If kids don't get the nutrition they need during this time, it literally has generational consequences.

Thankfully, as Congressman MAGAZINER has highlighted, we have a proven treatment to save the lives of malnourished children: ready-to-use therapeutic food, or RUTF. RUTF is the go-to treatment for malnutrition in hard-to-reach areas and emergencies because it doesn't require refrigeration, preparation, or any training to deliver. It is nutrient rich, delivering essential nutrients and calories so people can recover from malnutrition quickly.

Mr. Speaker, I worked at UNICEF. I have seen firsthand the power of these lifesaving treatments. I have seen that they work. I have seen how fast kids can bounce back and recover. I have seen that U.S. funding and U.S. assistance makes a difference.

Unfortunately, President Trump has eliminated countless assistance pro-

grams that have kept children alive. His administration hasn't placed new orders for RUTF at Edesia Nutrition in Rhode Island, causing production to almost stop.

We already knew that the promises of waivers for emergency food assistance were lies, and now we have further proof. Starving children shouldn't be political pawns, and their futures shouldn't be toyed with.

Here is my message to the Trump administration: Do the right thing. Restore funding for emergency food assistance and help save the lives of children around the world.

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. JACOBS for her long body of work championing children around the world, particularly on the issue of malnutrition. I will continue to stand in this Chamber every day we are in session and speak on this topic until funding for RUTF is restored.

ADVOCATING AGAINST MEDICAID CUTS

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate against the funding cuts to the Medicaid program that have been proposed for consideration during the budget reconciliation process.

Specifically, the Energy and Commerce Committee, of which I am a member, has been tasked with cutting \$880 billion of Federal spending across the healthcare programs it oversees, a vast majority of which supports Medicaid.

Cutting this program will be used in service of tax cuts for people who don't need tax cuts and will be devastating to children and families who do need the healthcare.

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Mr. Speaker, as we discuss cuts to this program, we must not forget the people behind these budgetary numbers. As such, I will highlight one Massachusetts family today. I will be reading a poem entitled, "The Mathematics of Mercy." It was written by Betsy Johnson. Betsy is an autism educator with the ARC of Massachusetts and a mother of two young adult children with autism and other intellectual disabilities. They rely on Medicaid.

She shared this poem with me to highlight the importance of Medicaid with her family and all families who care for their loved ones with disabilities. It speaks more powerfully than any amount of budgetary debate.

"The Mathematics of Mercy":

A direct care worker holds
Someone's universe for \$16 an hour,
Lifts world, bathes dignity back into being
Her hands trembling now
As she reads the letter
Saying her client's hours are cut,
Knowing some bodies can't survive
On spreadsheet logic.
They speak of cuts in marble rooms,

Voices that have never whispered,
"Your therapy is never medically necessary"
To a nonverbal child
Who just learned to make sounds
Like morning birds.
In living rooms turned sacred spaces,
Therapists pack up their tools of possibility—

Weighted vests, sensory brushes,
Piece of someone's future
Now deemed too expensive
By men who've never seen
How a body learns to trust itself
One careful touch at a time.
Listen to power chairs going still,
To screens falling dark in throats
That borrow them for voice,
To support workers saying goodbye
To people who stopped being clients
Somewhere between the first smile
And the last hug,
While offshore accounts grow fat
On the mathematics of suffering.
This is how a nation bleeds:
Not on battlefields but in group homes,
Not from enemy fire but from funding gaps,
Where independence becomes too expensive,
Where institution beds cost less
Than community care.
In the halls of power,
They call this fiscal responsibility
As if responsibility means
Telling a mother her daughter
Can no longer see the therapist
Who taught her how to speak,
As if America means
Pricing dignity like a luxury good.
Every denial letter bears
A signature of someone
Who has never watched a child
Take their first steps at 12,
Never seen the light in eyes
When words finally come,
Never felt the weight
Of a family's hopes
Balanced against
The coldness of cost.
Yet in these rooms where care persists,
Where love defies their calculations,
We piece together what they tear apart
Like a quilt of borrowed time,
With midnight shifts and morning prayers,
Hands that hold when budgets say let go.
Here, in this web of grace we weave,
Because what flows through us is stronger
Than their ledgers and our stubborn refusal
To let spreadsheets tell us what a life is worth.

Again, this comes from Betsy Johnson, an autism educator with the ARC of Massachusetts.

ENHANCING SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the Nation's number one antipoverty program for children.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I am talking about Social Security. More alarming, Mr. Speaker, is that it has been more than 50 years since Congress has enhanced Social Security for the citizens of this great country.

What does that mean? That means that more than 70 million Social Security recipients have not seen an enhancement to Social Security since Richard Nixon was President of the United States.

I applaud Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES for putting together a plan and for presenting something to the American people that stands in stark contrast to nothing being put forward.

It doesn't bother me so much that Republicans aren't putting any proposals forward, but they would deny a hearing on Social Security and a vote on a measure that Congress hasn't addressed in more than 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, there are more than 70-plus million Social Security recipients. Ten million baby boomers a day become eligible for Social Security and wonder why Congress hasn't acted.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 5 million of our fellow Americans who have paid into this system all their lives, they get below-poverty-level checks from their government because Congress hasn't acted.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 35 million people, this is the only pension they will receive, and Congress hasn't responded.

Again, I applaud Mr. JEFFRIES for saying, yes, what we need is an across-the-board increase for everyone on Social Security. As Mr. JEFFRIES has laid out, we need to repeal the provision to have people who continue to work after they retire and not have their Social Security taxed.

That is part of the Democratic plan, along with making sure that no one can retire into poverty and lifting the more than 5 million people who get below-poverty-level checks out of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I know you know this. In Illinois' 12th Congressional District, there are more than 179,000 Social Security recipients, and more than 131,000 of them are retirees. Mr. Speaker, 21,000-plus are disabled. There are 11,000-plus widows; 4,000-plus spouses; and 10,000-plus children who haven't seen an increase in more than 50 years. It is long overdue for Congress to take action.

I plead with you, Mr. Speaker, to join us and to encourage Republican leadership minimally to have a hearing on this. If you have a better plan, Mr. Speaker, by all means, put it forward. At least let the plan that HAKEEM JEFFRIES has put forward have a vote. If my colleagues disagree with it, that is fine. It is America. It is a democracy. Vote against it.

Why shouldn't Congress vote on making sure that Illinois' 12th Congressional District sees an increase they haven't seen in more than 50 years, as well as the First Congressional District in the State of Connecticut and all 535 congressional districts where individuals have not seen an increase, especially during these inflationary times.

For a party that used to pride itself on entrepreneurialism and capitalism, imagine this is the safety net for capitalism and entrepreneurialism. Where is the money spent in Illinois' 12th Congressional District? It is put right back in the local economy to the stores, the pharmacies, et cetera.

RENAMING THE GULF OF MEXICO TO THE GULF OF AMERICA

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, at a time when Americans are struggling to afford groceries, housing, and gas, Congress should be focused on lowering the cost of living that Americans care most about and not renaming bodies of water.

As Sergeant Friday used to say on the show "Dragnet": Just the facts, ma'am.

The facts during the first 100 days of Mr. Trump's administration are the following: The economy has shrunk; The stock market has taken a hit; 401(k)'s that are critical for a majority of Americans' retirement have declined; there has been a launch of a trade war that could cost the average family in America over \$4,900 a year this year alone with no trade agreements in sight, threatening a recession.

Rather than offering solutions, my Republican friends are at this time wasting this valuable effort on the floor by renaming the Gulf of Mexico. I think the Gulf of America Act is an absurd bill. It is political theater. The Gulf of Mexico has held that name for over 500 years. Spanish explorers from Spain chartered these waters hundreds of years before the United States ever existed. Let's call this bill for what it is. It is a vanity project.

My constituents in California's San Joaquin Valley aren't asking me about the Gulf of Mexico. They are asking me about their healthcare, reducing inflation, and investing in our communities. That is what they care most about.

Congress must focus on what really matters: passing a budget, getting a farm bill done, and delivering on the priorities the American people sent us here to do.

If this is the best my Republican friends and the majority can do, it is no wonder that the American people are fed up with Congress and our numbers are so low.

Mr. Speaker, enough with political stunts. The American people deserve better. We must work together in a bipartisan effort.

CELEBRATING ALL MOTHERS ON MOTHER'S DAY

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, we will celebrate Mother's Day. Throughout our country, families and friends will gather together to recognize and pay tribute to this important day. I think for all of us the reality is every day should be Mother's Day.

On Sunday, let us say thank you in the most meaningful way we know how, and that is with love and affection. We should do what is appropriate, and that is to thank those moms who throughout our lives have made a difference.

Mr. Speaker, every day, therefore, should be Mother's Day. Let us cele-

brate this day on Sunday and never forget those who brought us here today.

PROTECTING SENSITIVE DATA FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICANS

(Mr. MENENDEZ of New Jersey was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to sound the alarm that sensitive data for millions of Americans is at risk. Many of us have heard of the scams, data breaches, and hacks that have plagued businesses and individuals for years.

Unfortunately, the newest threat to our personal data comes from within the Federal Government. Over the past 3 months, Elon Musk's DOGE employees embedded themselves in dozens of Federal departments and agencies without any guardrails or protections put in place by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

We know this data is extremely valuable to bad actors and foreign adversaries. In fact, after DOGE infiltrated the National Labor Relations Board, suspicious attempts were made to access the data from an IP address in Russia.

Congress should be working to fulfill our obligations to the American people and safeguard their data. Instead, my colleagues across the aisle have seemingly left the door open for DOGE and anyone else to potentially access and misuse their constituents' personal information.

It is not just the recklessness that should concern everyone across the country. It is the fact that the data being held by the government is being weaponized by the Trump administration.

The IRS recently entered into an agreement with ICE to share information about immigrants. The same is true of data on affording housing recipients. If we allow them to use this data now, then what will stop them from using information from other agencies in the future against other groups of Americans?

Mr. Speaker, at a recent Energy and Commerce Committee hearing, we heard from experts in this field who were invited there by my Republican colleagues that as we seek to harness the growth of AI, we must put guardrails in place to protect all Americans' sensitive information, which we know is a target-rich environment for foreign adversaries.

My colleagues don't have to take my word for it. Just listen to the testimony of the people whom Republicans invited here to testify. Malicious actors do not care what someone's political party is or where they live before they steal our data. Our response to this threat should be bipartisan.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to stand alongside House Democrats in calling upon the Trump administration, the Office of Management and Budget, and DOGE to clarify