

they are the now. Many teachers across our school districts, in my district and throughout the country, are going in their own pockets to buy support services for students and their own supplies. Kamau's philanthropic spirit will reduce that reality for our teachers.

I am so proud to call him not only my constituent but a leading voice in the United States. I thank Kamau so much.

#### NATIONAL AMERICAN BIRDING WEEK

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight a bipartisan resolution introduced alongside my northwest Ohio colleague, BOB LATTA. It proclaims May 9 to May 18, 2025, as National American Birding Week.

Each spring, 3.5 billion birds from over 350 species migrate through the United States to their breeding grounds. They stop along the shores of our Great Lakes flyway before continuing their journey to Canada and beyond. They don't have to pay any tariffs.

Birding in our abundant freshwater kingdom draws environmental stewards from around the globe. Nationwide, 95 million birders generate over \$90 billion annually for our economy.

The biggest week in American birding is sponsored by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory in Oak Harbor, Ohio. This event leverages public-private partnerships to promote conservation of migratory bird populations and promote millions of dollars of economic development through nature tourism, research, education, and outreach.

Ohio is proud to host our guests from near and far. We welcome everyone during America's Birding Week. Let this continue for generations to come.

#### A FREE PRESS IS VITAL TO DEMOCRACY

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, in Donald Trump's America, not even Elmo is safe because over the last 100 days, we have seen an unprecedented attack on the media, and especially our public media.

Let me say this: The freedom of the press and freedom of speech are not a privilege. They are enshrined in the United States Constitution, vital to our democracy and to accountability.

However, we have seen attack after attack, threats on the media and communications companies, outlets replaced in the Pentagon, an order attacking PBS and NPR just this very week, and an attempt to throw the AP out of the White House for daring to tell the truth.

These attacks are not just an outrage, they are an attack on our freedom, our democracy, and our rights as Americans, which is why I rise today to stand for and fight for a free and fair press, because it is vital to our democracy.

#### PROTECTIONS FOR FIREFIGHTERS

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

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Madam Speaker, 2 days ago I got a text from a firefighter in my district saying: Get a rare blood cancer and find out there is no firefighter cancer registry. The cancer registry is hosted by NIOSH, and on April 1 and last week, the agency was gutted.

In Gresham, Oregon, there was an investigation because we had a firefighter who spent months in the hospital after surviving a flash fire, and the investigators were fired in the middle of the investigation.

I come from a family of firefighters, one of whom just got diagnosed with Parkinson's after spending months at the World Trade Center.

The fact of the matter is, on 9/11 my Republican colleagues will fall all over themselves to thank firefighters and say how they will never forget. I will tell you something, we are going to never forget the deafening silence and the inaction as these investigators and protections for firefighters who put their lives on the line, they did nothing and let them die. We will never forget.

#### CONGRESS MUST PROVIDE CHECKS AND BALANCES

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

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, allow me to paint a picture of a country: threats to the media to control the flow of information to the citizenry; cutting funds to childhood education, higher education, and the arts to limit free and independent thought; telling families it is time to tighten their wallets for the greater good; a focus on investing in prisons; members of the judiciary jailed for following the law; military parades that celebrate the leader.

When Americans hear this, we associate them with the likes of Lukashenko of Belarus or Kim Jong-Un of North Korea, but these are all examples of our country, the United States of America, in the last 3 months and what is planned.

Fear is the ultimate goal of leaders like this. We need to stand up for freedom and democracy or we may lose them forever. This Congress must stop being a rubberstamp for this President and perform its constitutional duty as a check and a balance.

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#### SUPPORTING CASA

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Court-Appointed Special Advocates program, also known as the CASA program, through the Department of Justice.

As a prior township trustee in northwest Indiana, I was involved in a program that went into the schools to assist children who experienced abuse and sexual harm. For survivors, having someone with CASA in their corner became their lifeline through that painful experience.

A family friend became a survivor at just 4 years old. Today, as a college student, she volunteers for CASA, driven by the advocates who once stood by her. She is proof that hope creates change. She asked me to fight.

It is a painful truth that the administration has moved to eliminate funding for this critical program. As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Department of Justice, I believe that our Nation's values and policies are shown by how we direct funds. Turning our backs on children survivors in order to justify massive tax cuts for the wealthy is both shameful and bad policy.

Madam Speaker, I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues to ensure that children and survivors in northwest Indiana and across our Nation have access to resources and trusted advocates they need to lead their best lives.

#### SUPPORTING VETERANS AND CAREGIVERS

(Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY. Madam Speaker, 14.3 million Americans serve as caregivers for our Nation's injured servicemembers and veterans. Unfortunately, the Family and Medical Leave Act does not meet the challenges faced by today's servicemembers, vets, and their families.

The FMLA excludes military caregiver benefits for domestic partners and extended family members. The FMLA does not have a defined benefit for veterans who need to leave to address severe injuries related to their service. In fact, many of our Nation's heroes and their loved ones cannot access basic benefits without risking their job.

During Military Caregiver Month, I am proud to introduce the MIL-FMLA act with Congressman MOYLAN. This bipartisan legislation removes arbitrary restrictions on who can be a military caregiver. It covers domestic deployments when National Guard members respond to natural disasters.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the MIL-FMLA act.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-50)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared with respect to Yemen in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2025.

The actions and policies of Ansar Allah, also known as the Houthis, continue to threaten Yemen's peace, security, and stability. These actions include obstructing the political process in Yemen and blocking the implementation of the agreement of November 23, 2011, between the Government of Yemen and those in opposition to it, which provided for a peaceful transition of power that meets the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Yemeni people.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 7, 2025.

PROTECTING AMERICANS FROM HARMFUL CRYPTO PRACTICES

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to further discuss with our Members and this country the situation that we find ourselves in, the chaotic situation that has so many people confused. It is a chaotic situation that is causing trauma and harm to the people of this country.

I know much of what I am going to say today perhaps has been said by others before, but we need to talk about this situation over and over again and daily so that people can understand what is going on and how our democracy is being challenged.

Madam Speaker, last year, Trump denied knowing anything about Project 2025, the radical rightwing plan to re-

shape the Federal Government. Of Project 2025, Trump said: "I don't know anything about it. I don't want to know anything about it."

Trump, Elon Musk, and his appointees are now following the Project 2025 playbook. They are recklessly gutting Federal agencies and government's capacity. Elon Musk has said that the government "should privatize everything that we possibly can." They are laying off or pushing into retirement tens of thousands of Federal employees. The cruelty is the point.

Russell Vought, Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Project 2025 architect, has said of Federal employees: "We want to put them in trauma."

It has been over 100 days since President Trump was inaugurated. Since then, the President of the United States has questioned his role to uphold the Constitution, an oath he made when he was sworn into office. He has also questioned whether Americans are entitled to due process, a foundational civil protection. He has endlessly flouted the rule of law.

As a matter of fact, the American Civil Liberties Union has called the Trump administration's action: "One of the most abusive and aggressive assaults on human rights in United States Presidential history."

In carrying out their pro-billionaire agenda, Republicans have also gutted programs and agencies that serve as critical lifelines to American families, many of which include their very own constituents.

The international leadership which Americans benefit greatly and built for decades is now destabilized by Trump's trade war against our allies.

In just a few months, Trump has introduced chaos in the stock market and undermined confidence for consumers, investors, and small businesses, many of which have cautioned that they will have to close due to Trump's untenable tariffs which act as a tax on Americans and their businesses.

At the same time, as families struggle, Trump has increased his wealth by billions since taking office, which is a slap in the face to American families struggling to put food on the table.

Just last week, alarming new information came to light regarding foreign governments making business deals using Trump's crypto. A \$2 billion business deal using the Trump firm's stablecoins with a fund backed by Abu Dhabi was announced at a conference in Dubai.

This arrangement represents a significant contribution by a foreign government to President Trump's private crypto business that will abundantly grow the Trump family's wealth.

While Trump and his billionaire insiders' wealth catapults, Americans are bracing themselves for layoffs, shortages, and higher prices in a recession engineered by Trump.

While Trump and his family continue to land billions of dollars in deals and

investments with American companies and foreign entities, Trump has asked Americans to just withstand the "pain." This is from his economic policies.

While Republicans work hard to make room for \$7 trillion in tax cuts for American oligarchs like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, Republicans are cutting \$880 billion in funding from Medicaid food stamps for Americans who rely on this help.

Is this how Donald Trump has improved the lives of American families—by damaging their retirement plans, jobs, and social safety nets?

It is clear there is no such thing as business as usual anymore. This is why this week I took a stand against Trump's actions. For several years, I have led the effort in Congress to advance commonsense crypto legislation to protect American investors and consumers from fraud and from scams, while supporting crypto capital formation.

After years of good faith, bipartisan negotiation and collaboration with regulators and stakeholders, former Chair McHENRY and I even drafted payment stablecoin legislation that would create a strong Federal framework and put consumer protection front and center.

My bill would foster innovation, while properly addressing the concerns I have long held about safeguarding our Nation's consumers from scams that inundated the crypto industry. Our bill also addressed national security concerns that adversaries and criminal organizations could use stablecoins for their very harmful purposes.

While we are talking about crypto, I think it is important for me to let the people know that crypto is a digital form of private cash. It is very important that people understand that. We are trying to share the information so people understand about this digital form of private cash.

However, we live in a different world now. Many of these risks have only increased since the inauguration of President Trump. President Trump's actions have drastically altered the crypto landscape in ways that are far more dangerous than what we could ever imagine. He has gutted the financial regulators tasked with protecting Americans.

Ahead of the scheduled joint hearing between the Financial Services Committee and the Agriculture Committee on crypto market structure legislation, I presented a straightforward, acceptable, and basic request to the Republicans.

I told the Chair of the Financial Services Committee that I would only give my consent to this hearing if Republicans would include provisions to block Trump—or any sitting President—and his family, as well as Members of Congress, from further profiting off crypto at the expense of American families in his crypto legislation. That is all I asked for.