



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

No. 85

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 20, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARIANETTE MILLER-MEEKS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

REMEMBERING MIKE LYCZAK

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mike Lyczak.

Mike grew up in the Little Village community in Chicago. Like many of us, his politics were shaped by firsthand experience—fighting discrimination, Chicago machine politics and rule, and standing up for working people.

Mike wasn't just a political strategist. He was a founding architect of

multiethnic, multiracial coalitions and solidarity in Chicago. He helped build the 22nd Ward Independent Political Organization, pouring his energy into electing Rudy Lozano and Harold Washington and into building a movement that could outlast any one campaign.

Mike's love for history and model-making reflected his meticulous mind. His wit brightened every room. He was a beloved husband to the late Caroline Downs and a devoted father to Benjamin Lyczak.

Mike will be deeply missed, but his legacy of courage and solidarity will live on in all of us.

Rest in power, Mike "Lizard" Lyczak.

REPUBLICAN TAX SCAM

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak against the Republican budget, a cynical plan that gives tax breaks to billionaires while ripping away healthcare and food from working families like those I represent.

This Republican tax scam would kick nearly 14 million Americans off their healthcare, leaving them without coverage.

□ 1015

Mr. Speaker, in my district, a mother working nights and caring for her family by day told us that she doesn't know how they will survive if Medicaid is cut.

Her child relies on it for epilepsy medication. Without it, there is no safety net. It is just fear and uncertainty. This budget slashes Medicaid and SNAP, taking food from children, from seniors, from veterans, and people with disabilities. Even Republican Senators called it morally wrong.

In my district alone, 278,000 people rely on these programs. Republicans want to take that away. We can't allow them to continue to loot this country dry. America was not built for billion-

aires to hoard wealth while kids go hungry. Tax them fairly and fully now.

OPPOSING DOUBLE TAX ON REMITTANCES

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the Trump administration's double tax on remittances. This is part of a broader war on working-class immigrants that punishes those who contribute the most to our national economy.

When immigrants send money home, they are not just helping loved ones. They are keeping entire communities afloat in countries like Mexico, Nigeria, and the Philippines.

By cutting off vital support to families abroad, this tax deepens poverty. It weakens stability. It drives more people to migrate out of desperation. Instead of asking the ultrawealthy to pay what they owe, they are shifting the burden to the people who can least afford it.

Undocumented immigrants alone pay \$580 billion in Federal, State, and local taxes to our country, more than some of the ultrarich who claim patriotism but hide under their wealth and abuse the system.

It is a double standard that undermines our economy and our values. This isn't just bad policy. It is an unjust double tax on the very people who power our economy and our communities.

HONORING DANNY RYAN

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, this morning I take the floor of the people's House in memory of the late Danny Ryan, or "Budzo" to those who were lucky enough to have known him.

Danny Ryan passed away earlier this month. His absence, like his presence, has left a profound impact on all the people and communities he touched throughout his nearly 82 years of life.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H2149

Danny Ryan was born in the Savin Hill section of Dorchester in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, and remained devoted to the community throughout his life.

He was involved in Dorchester youth sports. Danny volunteered in youth soccer before it was popular, and coached Little League. He was a huge supporter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester. He coached girls' basketball.

Danny performed a thousand other acts of kindness, often with his special needs family members Michael or Rocco in tow, the kinds of things that would turn a cluster of three-deckers with people speaking seven different languages into a single community.

Danny's official title was court officer for the Boston Municipal Court. For over 30 years, Budzo's job was to stand in court at the judge's elbow, ostensibly as security. In reality, he was a witness as every sad, sorry, or sinister episode on the court's calendar that day proceeded to judgment.

That experience put Danny in a position to see humanity at its worst moments day after day and arraignment after arraignment: Abject poverty, broken families, homelessness, domestic violence, gang violence, much of it was fueled by a desperate lack of opportunity and a numbing level of substance abuse. It was enough to make anyone lose hope.

While the court may have rendered judgment, Danny Ryan did not. It appeared to have the opposite effect on Danny. It seemed to open his heart. Many believed that it was through that experience that Danny found his true purpose in life. He figured it out. He often recited the fact that 90 percent of the cases that came before the court and 90 percent of the sentenced individuals had underlying substance abuse issues that were really at the root of their offensive behavior.

He had this idea that if he could just get at the source of that substance abuse disorder and fix that problem, the other stuff either went away or became more manageable.

Danny didn't just preach sobriety. He lived by example. Danny was sober for over 51 years, and he was extremely proud and grateful to be part of the wider recovery community.

For over 15 years, Danny was on the board of directors for the Gavin Foundation, a hugely successful substance abuse treatment program. He played a big role in helping the Gavin Foundation expand and diversify their services into different populations across the city and to the city of Quincy.

During AA meetings, Danny was always the first to welcome new members and offer them help and guidance on their journey. There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Danny Ryan helped keep families together and saved hundreds of lives. He became transformed into someone whose purpose and passion in life was for helping others.

No matter what their situation, he treated everyone with dignity and re-

spect. If someone needed help, meeting them or going halfway was never enough. He made it his business to go out of his way to assist those in need.

Danny was a proud graduate of Boston College High School and a recipient of their Paul J. Hunter Man for Others Award. It is given to people who demonstrate high moral character and a strong sense of service to others. That was Danny. In fact, one of his favorite mottoes to live by was: Try to help three people a day.

Danny and his wife, Dorothy, have four beautiful daughters: Melissa, Shannon, Danielle, and Kasey. He was a proud husband, father, grandfather, and was blessed with eight grandchildren.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I pray that Danny Ryan's life and his work might serve as an example to us all.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET BILL

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in complete outrage, not just in opposition, to this Republican budget bill. Behind the talking points, behind the smug press conferences, very deep in the fine print, it is all there.

Mr. Speaker, 13.7 million Americans will lose their healthcare, and millions of families will see their food assistance taken away. That is not my opinion. Those are the numbers from the Congressional Budget Office.

Republicans tell you: Don't worry. No one is losing coverage. We are not cutting SNAP.

Understand they are lying to you, and they know it. This bill is so shameful that they are moving forward at 1 a.m. in the morning, tonight, in the dead of night.

Why? They are doing that because they hope we are asleep. They don't want us paying attention. They don't want us to know what they are, in fact, truly doing. They hope we are not watching, and they hope no one notices until it is too late.

Texans are paying attention, and I am here to sound the alarm on this outrageous bill. In Texas, over 5 million people depend on Medicaid. They are children with disabilities, working moms, and aging parents in nursing homes. These cuts will lead to fewer doctors, longer wait times, and hospitals closing. Yes, people will die because they can't get the care that they need.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about Stephanie, a mom from Richardson, Texas. Her son was born with spina bifida. His entire life depends on the care they get through an emergency Medicaid waiver. This is his equipment, his treatment, and his survival. Republicans in this Chamber will take that care away from Stephanie's 11-year-old son.

For what? Why are we doing this? Why are we causing so much pain

across so many families in this country who depend on support for basic needs?

It is so that Trump and his friends can have a huge tax cut.

The other thing that is deeply concerning is we have an incredibly large deficit, and all the Republicans peacock around, parading about how atrocious the deficit is. This bill is going to add \$4 trillion to the deficit. It is not conservative. It is not principally, financially prudent, responsible legislation. It is outrageous and borderline criminal against the people of this country.

Let's talk about food assistance. Mr. Speaker, one in seven Texans rely on SNAP at a time when Trump's tariffs have made groceries more expensive than ever. Republicans want to take food off the tables of families who are just trying to get by.

This isn't about fiscal responsibility. It is about cruelty. It is about choosing hedge fund managers and people like Elon Musk over hungry kids.

Budgets are moral documents, and this one being put up by House Republicans is morally bankrupt. I will not vote for a bill that abandons families like Stephanie's and lets kids go hungry or that sells out our most vulnerable neighbors just to pay for another tax break for those who definitely do not need one.

Mr. Speaker, if you are a Member of this body who claims to care about life, liberty, or your own constituents, you should not vote for it either. If you show me your budget, I will show you your values.

Republicans have made their values crystal clear. They value a handful of wealthy people in this country over the millions of hardworking families who depend on the United States Government.

HONORING STACY DAVIS GATES

(Mrs. RAMIREZ of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an educator, a force for justice, an unapologetic champion of our Chicago communities, and my friend, Stacy Davis Gates.

Stacy is a high school social studies teacher, a South Sider, a wife, and a mother. For many, she is best known as president of the Chicago Teachers Union and executive vice president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers.

Stacy's leadership has called us to bargain for our collective good and to think about how organized labor can win bold campaigns that build the schools, the communities, and the city that our children deserve.

In 2019, she helped lead a 15-day strike and negotiated a historic contract that ensured a nurse and a social worker in every Chicago public school. She secured sanctuary protections for immigrant families and supported students and families experiencing homelessness.