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# House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Fong).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable VINCE Fong 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 leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

#### PROTECTING SNAP FROM BUDGET CUTS

(Ms. Barragán of California was recognized to address the House for 5 min-

Ms. BARRAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the cruel cuts Republicans want to make to SNAP, the food assistance program. These would be the largest cuts in our Nation's history.

No one in the United States should go hungry. Unfortunately, President Trump and Republicans don't agree. They want to make the largest cuts in our Nation's history to the food assistance program that we call SNAP.

House Republicans just voted to do this. When did they do it? They did it in the middle of the night so it wouldn't be covered and so nobody would see. House Republicans voted to take away food assistance from hungry Americans.

House Republicans' plan would slash and cut \$300 billion from SNAP. That means ripping away meals from children, seniors, veterans, and families just trying to get by. Why? It is all to pay for tax breaks for billionaires and big corporations.

SNAP is not a handout. It is a lifeline. Behind every SNAP benefit is a person. It is a mother, a veteran, and a neighbor doing everything they can to

We also know that food assistance helps keep people healthy, and it helps them survive. What do Republicans say when constituents have expressed concerns about cuts to things like healthcare and programs to keep them healthy like SNAP? This is what they say: "We are all going to die." This is an actual quote. This is what Republicans are telling the American people. We are going to die anyway. How outrageous is that? How cruel is that?

Mr. Speaker, that may be true someday. It is no excuse to let people starve today and not because of Republicans' cruel policies. We should not turn our backs on millions of Americans and their fight to survive poverty and live with dignity.

Republicans are doing nothing to bring down costs. Instead, their policies and their failure to act are making life more expensive for hardworking Americans during a time when inflation and a rise in grocery prices make it harder for people to get by.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about Tylynn. Tylynn is a single mother of four from Wilmington, California, in my district. She fell on hard times. Tylynn was homeless and lost custody of her children because she simply

could not afford to feed them. SNAP changed everything. With help, she got back on her feet. Today, she has a stable home and has regained full custody of her children.

Mr. Speaker, let me also tell you about Michael. Michael is a 66-year-old disabled veteran from San Pedro, California, in my district. He served in the Army for 7 years. He and his partner, Suzanne, now rely on SNAP to afford groceries. Without it, they go hungry.

For Tylynn, for Michael, and 42 million Americans, food assistance programs like SNAP are so critical. It is not a luxury. The Republican budget bill to cut SNAP is a direct threat to their well-being and to millions of Americans.

House Democrats stood strong and voted to oppose these cuts. The fight is not over. We will not stand by silently while Americans are pushed into hun-

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Senate to reject these cuts. I urge my House Republican colleagues to grow a spine to fight so Americans don't go hungry.

# HONORING MIKE LEACH

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

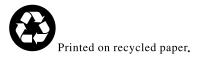
Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Leach, a dear friend, a brilliant coach, and one of the most original minds college football has ever known. His long overdue path to the College Football Hall of Fame was finally cleared with last week's decision to revise the hall's eligibility criteria. As such, Mike Leach will be eligible for the Hall of Fame in 2027.

Mike Leach wasn't just a coach. He was the most influential mind in college football in the last 30 years. No one is more deserving of being in the Hall of Fame.

Mike was a pioneer. He was the architect of the Air Raid offense, a systhat changed the game and

☐ 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.



launched the careers of countless players and coaches. It revolutionized football from the high school level to the heights of the NFL. More than that, Mike Leach was a thinker and a storyteller. In life, for me, he was a cherished friend.

Most Hall of Fame coaches inherit programs steeped in tradition. Mike didn't. In fact, he didn't even play football at the college level. He was a rugby player who earned a law degree. He took on the challenge of rebuilding, starting at the lowest levels of college football. He worked his way up in the true American Dream fashion.

He coached at Texas Tech, Mississippi State, and, most importantly for me, at Washington State University. He didn't just win games; he changed cultures. He made football fun. fearless, and innovative.

Off the field, Mike was just as remarkable. A few years back, together, we created and taught the insurgent warfare in football class at Washington State University, which we then taught on a special basis at Mississippi State University.

When I first met Mike, I had come off some time working with the State Department in Iraq where I had the privilege of working very closely with General Petraeus and came to know General Mattis.

When I thought about Mike and the connection to football and how he was an innovator and an insurgent warrior, I thought about the football analogy. General Petraeus and General Mattis would be a little more like Nick Saban. How do we win when we have all the heavy firepower, the four-star and five-star recruits?

Mike was more like Ho Chi Minh, sitting out in the jungle. How do we win with two-star recruits and three-star recruits?

We created this class to look at asymmetric strategy. It was a great success and great fun. Mike and I would speak two to three times per week, often about politics and culture.

Together, we traveled the world, visiting over 10 countries, from Israel to Dubai, Tanzania to Panama. He was a pirate with a playbook. He was intellectually curious, endlessly witty, and genuinely kind. His insights on leadership, war, and human nature are a fundamental reason of why I am here today.

Mike and I also talked about him running for office someday. Not many folks know that, but he looked seriously at coming to Congress. At the time he did so, I told him that he has a young team. He is making over \$5 million a year. He can always run again. Unfortunately, he was taken from us too soon when he passed.

His legacy lives on, and his greatest love was for people, for his players, his friends, and his family. Coach Leach finished with a career just .004 below the previous threshold-winning percentage for the Hall of Fame. With last week's decision by the National Foot-

ball Foundation to revise the rule, the door is now open, and rightfully so.

If the Hall of Fame is about more than just numbers, if it is about impact, innovation, and legacy, then Mike Leach belongs there without question. I urge the foundation to complete this long overdue recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my friend, who I have no doubt is watching Congress every day, that he always did things his own way. Now, even the Hall of Fame is catching up to him.

#### JOB CORPS CUTS

(Ms. TLAIB of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, we know that the Trump administration just cut a 60-year program called Job Corps that provided young people with stable housing and career training.

This is why I joined several of my Michigan colleagues in a letter to the Trump administration, demanding that they reverse this reckless decision to abruptly shut down Job Corps centers across the Nation.

This action is yet another example of the cruel actions taken to dismantle programs for our families. Many of them depend on this. They are lifelines for our families.

Mr. Speaker, in Michigan alone, Job Corps has three centers with more than 700 students in Flint and Grand Rapids, including 200 young people in the city of Detroit.

Everyone deserves the ability to shape their own future with access to career training and hands-on experience. The sense of stability and direction Job Corps provides for our youth is invaluable.

Now, the sudden closing of these centers has left students devastated. I wish my colleagues would see the images of the young people dragging their black trash bags through the parking lot with nowhere to go.

It is heartbreaking for these students, who have worked so hard to join the workforce, to have the rug pulled out right from underneath them with only hours of notice. It is disgraceful that our government would turn its back on them like this.

There is one young person in my district in the city of Detroit whose mother has cancer. She is trying to seek treatment and trying to live. Her son depends on Job Corps for housing and for future career opportunities.

Yet again, here we are, cutting these vital programs that many people across the country support, no matter political affiliation.

I want them to know that they deserve better and that not all of us in this Chamber will turn our backs on them. We are going to fight together to restore the funding. I will continue to call out these inhumane and lawless actions.

It is very important for the American people to know this Congress and this

Chamber authorized the funding for Job Corps. The President of the United States does not have the authority to snap his fingers and cut the funding.

The American people must continue to speak up about the impact of having Job Corps cut. Again, we are going to work together to try to restore it.

# HEAD START

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, last week was the 60th birthday of Head Start, which is a lifeline and a life-changing experience for many of our families and has anchors all across the country and communities. It has helped our young children for decades.

I do want to bring a story from my district. Alex, a public school speech therapist in Dearborn Heights, said that several of her students are directly impacted by threats to Head Start funding. Students attending Head Start are entitled to receive necessary special education services.

As a parent of a 2-year-old daughter, she also knows that there are opportunities for her to start her education in the welcoming community that Head Start provides.

This year alone, nearly 750,000 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers will receive Head Start services, supporting early childhood learning, development, and health. These centers rely on us to make sure we keep that Federal funding to provide the care for our children.

Again, I know earlier this year we were all thrown into a panic when the Trump administration recklessly decided to cut off the Federal funding. I led 23 of my colleagues with the Congressional Mamas Caucus in a letter to President Trump. We demanded he take immediate action to restore the Head Start funding, many of them, again, months and weeks without receiving funding.

Our fight isn't over, though. Head Start is essential to countless communities in every State and every corner of our Nation. The threat to Head Start is real. Colleagues must work together to try to protect it.

As the chair of Congressional Mamas Caucus, I will continue to lead efforts in Congress to defend these critical programs for generations to come.

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# DISCRIMINATORY AUTO INSURANCE RATES

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I don't know about you, but I have no idea that someone's income, occupation, education, ZIP Code, marital status, credit score, or homeownership status have anything to do with somebody's auto insurance rates or whether or not they are a good driver. It has absolutely nothing to do with it. Yet, we are allowing in this country for the auto insurance industry to use non-driving factors to discriminate and to allow predatory practices to determine auto insurance rates.

In my district alone, I have seen many families with auto insurance, which is required by law, see their rates go up almost 40 percent, keeping