

more ounce of bloodshed or to the return home of a hostage 1 minute sooner or gets one more piece of bread into the hands of a starving Gazan or helps redeem the moral position of the State of Israel, our words are worth it.

Jewish tradition teaches in Mishnah Sanhedrin that saving one life is like saving the whole world. I hope that we can come together to heed the voices that are speaking out at this moment, and that together we can work to save as many worlds as we can.

**HONORING FORMER MEMBER
CHARLES B. RANGEL**

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the passing of our esteemed colleague and former chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Charles B. "Charlie" Rangel.

Mr. Rangel served in this House of Representatives for 46 years. He was talented, hilarious to talk to in private and public moments, and an individual who, time and again, offered broad influence on important legislation that passed through this House and eventually became law, including the Affordable Care Act while he was chairman of the Committee.

He was one of the longest serving Members of Congress, but he was also a legislative titan in the sense that 40 bills or resolutions that became law were part of his rich legacy.

He was a friend, ally, and acolyte of the late Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill. He was also a dedicated member of the American military and, in fact, was wounded at the Yalu River during the Korean conflict.

His story is that of millions of Americans who, against extraordinary odds, succeeded. Educated by a family from Springfield, Massachusetts, the Putnams, he made his way through NYU and St. John's Law School and became a former assistant district attorney as well as a Member of this House and an assemblyman. He defeated Adam Clayton Powell in a very big upset, and 46 years later, he retired from this institution.

Amongst the most pleasant memories I have of Mr. Rangel, who was a great friend and mentor to me, and I stayed in touch with him many years after he had decided to retire, was his strong sense of independence.

I think for a young man growing up in the thirties and forties in Harlem, there must have been many serious challenges, but he always finished his sentences after a legislative task had been accomplished by saying and referencing "this great country of ours."

After the Yalu River, he wrote a very important book, "And I Haven't Had a Bad Day Since." The humor was clear to all of us as it was delivered with that raspy voice time and again. I know in reference to me it was always "Richard" and we knew what he meant.

One of my last get-togethers with Chairman Rangel was in New York City. I was reminded of that sense of independence as we had a seminar that was conducted by the Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee, and I called to make sure that this former alum would attend.

I asked if we could do anything, like providing him with transportation. He said no. In his early nineties, he would make his way there to the restaurant on his own.

At the end of the night, knowing that he clearly had lost a step in terms of some of that independence as he tried to navigate the staircase going up, I said: Charlie, can I help you with the staircase? And he said: No, you can't.

That was the Charlie Rangel we knew. It wasn't insolence. It was that sense of independence that he always maintained and kept.

I can't tell you how many nights in the Ways and Means Committee when Mr. Rangel would hold forth about the stories of people he had met along the way. The stories were always rather colorful and ended with a laugh. Those very people are part of the strong personalities that make up the institution of the House of Representatives, and he certainly was one of them.

He came from a time very different than the one that we find ourselves in now. It had nothing to do with performative politics and certainly nothing to do with social media. He found a little bit of comfort in taking on his most severe critics on cable TV. He was one of those Members of Congress who would accept an invitation from people who had been harshly critical of him to define his positions.

Charlie Rangel was one of those guys that changed this institution for the better and forever. I still recall those discussions he had as we related conversations to the Chinese Government, to his own upward mobility, to the legislation that he paved the way for. Charlie Rangel always cared about the people in Harlem, and Charlie Rangel always cared about the American people and the United States of America, as well.

He redefined what was possible. He shepherded much of the great legislation that we continue to enjoy today in America, but I will call attention to those statements that he made, Mr. Speaker, by always finishing with what a great country we live in.

**DOGE HAS UNFETTERED ACCESS
TO PERSONAL DATA**

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I, first and foremost, will associate myself with the remarks of Mr. NEAL from Massachusetts about our dear friend and colleague, Charlie Rangel.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I will point out, as well, that I believe the Representative

from Indiana was on the floor talking about how we should go after PBS and NPR. "Sesame Street" and Big Bird are really culprits here, and every American ought to be really concerned about that.

We still have something we call free press and free opinions. If you think that they are the kind of organization that they are—I believe the other night on the floor they were called communistic, as well. How about we have an open public hearing and debate on that and put legislation forward not in the dark of night but when the public can actually view what you are saying.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today primarily, though, to talk about Social Security and also to enlighten, I hope, my colleagues on the other side. I am very concerned about the Supreme Court's most recent ruling that overturned two lower courts with no logic and said, no, there shouldn't be a pause, that DOGE ought to be able to look at everyone's personal data and records.

To all Social Security recipients and all Americans out there that are tuned in to this, understand what this is about. This is about DOGE having access to the more than 70 million Social Security recipients and everybody who, in fact, is on Social Security, which will include basically the whole Nation.

Why they need this data they don't make clear, but then again, they have never been vetted. They have never had to go through a Senate process. They are a special group status that has no responsibility or accountability and have been given unfettered access to everyone's personal data and information.

I would hope that one Republican—perhaps you, Mr. Speaker—will stand up and speak out against this outrage, because you know how important Social Security is to your district and how many recipients you have and how much money comes into your district on a monthly basis.

Imagine, that hasn't been altered in over 54 years because this body hasn't taken action, but now Elon Musk and Trump will get over the dispute they had because their focus is on privatizing Social Security and going after the \$2.7 trillion of the people's money that is in trust. Their goal is to privatize Social Security by both dismantling it from within by laying off people, cutting phone service, closing regional offices, and suspending more than 7,000 workers under the guise of "we are after fraud and abuse."

They are about to take and use something that could be a very constructive tool in AI, but, no, they are going to be using that tool to go after the people's data and information and the \$2.7 trillion in the trust fund.

Will anyone on the other side of the aisle join Representatives NEAL and JEFFRIES in putting forward a bill that stops DOGE from looking at and taking people's personal data and information?

□ 1100

They have no accountability. The only accountability over Social Security is the United States Congress. If the Republicans remain silent and let this happen, shame on them for letting this happen. There is no way that Americans should be subject to a person who hasn't been verified, people who are going in and looking at their personal data and information.

I think it is disgusting what is going on, and there ought to be hearings and, most importantly, there ought to be a vote. We have a plan. We have a plan not to privatize Social Security, but to enhance it for the first time in over 54 years, to lift the 5 million people that get below-poverty-level checks out of it.

VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS BY ICE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, it is outrageous and shameful that the President sent in the military to brutalize protesters in Los Angeles. The right to dissent in our country is an American value. This is just evidence, evidence that our country is falling into fascism. It is an abuse of power and a dangerous escalation that will only destabilize our communities and hurt protesters.

I stand with those defending our immigrant neighbors and our fundamental rights. Nothing justifies spending \$134 million of our tax dollars to send in troops to attack fellow Americans.

Mr. Speaker, immigrant communities have been telling us for years, warning us about ICE being rogue, violating their rights. It is outrageous. People are now seeing it for themselves and understanding why we say abolish ICE, which was created in 2003.

I agree with them. I agree that we must abolish ICE and protect our communities and neighbors. It has caused so much needless harm since its creation in 2003.

This month, Mr. Speaker, a high school senior in my district, Maykol Bogoya-Duarte, a high school student 3.5 credits shy of graduating from Western International High School, was on a field trip with his classmates. Local police profiled him—yes, they did—Oh, he can't speak English, let's call immigration. He spoke English just fine.

That set into motion him being separated from his mother, his school community, and ripping away his chance to be able to graduate with his classmates.

ICE cruelty is evident because they sent him to Louisiana. He had paperwork on file. He was trying to do the right thing. He was just a kid. The cruelty is disgusting, and the Trump administration is desperately trying to label kids like Maykol as a criminal.

We must reject this rhetoric and policies that pit our immigrant communities against each other, tear families apart, and put our neighbors in harm's way. Mr. Speaker, it is important to understand the cruelty and how we need to make sure that, again, we protect our community.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth marks the official end of slavery in the United States of America, and this day remains deeply meaningful to many of our families in the Michigan 12th Congressional District. The most beautiful, Blackest city is in the 12th District, the city of Detroit.

It is a celebration of freedom, Black resilience, and the ongoing fight for justice for all. In our community, we remember and honor generations of Black Americans who fought for liberation.

As we speak, right now, Republican extremists across our country are attempting to erase Black history right before our eyes. We stand with residents in Detroit and throughout the country who refuse to let Black history be erased. We are committed to uplifting their stories and carrying on the movement for true equity and dignity for all.

Detroit's legacy, its culture, leadership, and resistance are a living testament to Black brilliance and perseverance.

However, we also recognize that freedom was never fully granted. The abolition of slavery contained a clause in the 13th Amendment that still allows slavery to exist as a "punishment for crime." That loophole to this day has fueled mass incarceration, economic exploitation, and generational harm, especially for Black Americans.

That is why I support the abolition amendment, which would strike this shameful exception from our Constitution and end the legalized practice of slavery in the United States.

Detroiters understand that reparations are not just about the past. This is important. They are about addressing the present-day impacts of institutionalized racism, Mr. Speaker. They are about acknowledging the labor, land, and lives stolen, and beginning to repair what has been broken. That is what it is about. We must give our Black neighbors the reparations that they were promised.

This Juneteenth, I ask everyone in this Chamber to join me in honoring our Black neighbors by fighting for what is long overdue: reparations, Black maternal health equity, investments in HBCUs, and real protections for voting rights.

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 11 o'clock and 6 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. HARRIS of North Carolina) at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Paul Shaughnessy, S.J., St. Cecilia Church, Leominster, Massachusetts, offered the following prayer:

God, our Father in Heaven, hear our prayers for this House and each of its Members. Guide them in the work they do for us this day.

Dedicate them, Lord, in the words of our first American Pope, to the American virtues of peace, justice, and truth.

May they know peace as a gift from God, born only in the heart of those who forswear pride and vindictiveness, and of a desire to communicate rather than clash.

May they act with justice, respecting the dignity of every person, especially the most frail and vulnerable, as the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.

May each of their actions this day be built upon a love for the truth, the truth which seeks the well-being of each of our citizens.

Hear this prayer, O Lord, of we who are utterly dependent upon You, O Lord, God forever and ever.

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 gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND PAUL SHAUGHNESSY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts was recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an extraordinary man, a man of faith and courage, Father Paul Shaughnessy. He was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, and currently serves as a parish priest at St. Cecilia's Church in Leominster, Massachusetts, but his impact extends far beyond any district lines.