

budget. The State and local tax deduction is the number one Federal tax issue for Long Islanders. It protects taxpayers from being taxed twice on the same income and ensures fairness in our tax system.

My Democrat colleagues claim SALT relief is a handout for the wealthy. Nothing could be further from the truth. My district has one of the highest costs of living in the Nation where what is considered a high income elsewhere barely covers expenses.

My Republican colleagues argue SALT relief subsidizes bloated State budgets, but the facts don't lie. States like New York, New Jersey, and California send billions more to Washington than we get back.

Meanwhile, States like Kentucky and South Carolina and dozens of other red States receive much more than what they contribute. We Long Islanders aren't asking for any special treatment, we just want our fair share.

A higher SALT cap means tax fairness. It means economic equity, and it means relief for hardworking families. Let's get it done.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DR. HAROLD BAILEY

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to honor and remember the life and the legacy of Dr. Harold Bailey. As president of the NAACP Albuquerque Chapter and a leader across New Mexico, he was a pillar in the community, mentor, a father, someone who mentored countless generations of individuals who have transformed the fabric of our life in New Mexico.

His work on civil rights and early education will be remembered for generations. As we remember Dr. Bailey, let us commit ourselves to upholding the values that he championed: equality, compassion, and an unwavering dedication to improving the lives of others.

May Dr. Bailey's spirit continue to guide us as we strive for a better future for all Americans and for all New Mexicans.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT LINDA FAYE JULIAN

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Linda Faye Julian. Sergeant Julian enlisted in the Tennessee Air National Guard in 1975 and attended dental specialist school at Kessler Air Force Base.

She deployed in support of many operations and exercises with the 134th Air Refueling Wing. Sergeant Julian served her country with distinction during Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

In 1987, she was selected as the Air National Guard Outstanding Medical Corps Airman of the Year. She was a great mentor to many young airmen who went on to have very distinguished careers in the medical clinic and the Air Guard, and she retired in 2002 after her distinguished career of 27 years.

She didn't stop giving when she retired. Sergeant Julian continued to serve her community through the Junior Service League in Blount County. She is passionately involved in charitable causes, including Toys for Tots and Meals on Wheels programs.

She touched countless lives with her kindness. She was proud of her three children and three grandchildren and was always happy to be surrounded by her loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Julian loved her country and her community. It is my honor to recognize Master Sergeant Linda Faye Julian as Tennessee's Second District January 2025 Veteran of the Year.

HONORING DR. E. LAVONIA ALLISON

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

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. E. Lavonia Allison, a fierce civil rights activist, accomplished educator, and esteemed political leader.

As a lifelong resident of Durham, North Carolina, Dr. Allison's impact was profound and multifaceted. From her time serving as first vice chair of the Durham County Democratic Party to her leadership as chair of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, she worked tirelessly to uplift the African-American community and ensure that their voices were heard and represented in local politics.

She was quite literally the personification of Ella Baker. Her steadfast focus on civic engagement in the City of Durham has been a catalyst for over 60 years, connecting our civil rights past to our hopeful present through the power of the ballot box.

Her lessons will echo across the campus of North Carolina Central University and the State for years to come, and her legacy will live through the life of young people that she trained and mentored throughout her dynamic life.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss her as a trusted adviser and supportive colleague and a dear friend. I offer my heartfelt condolences to her family, loved ones, and the entire community during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING JEFF BARKER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor

the retirement of Mr. Jeff Barker, marking the conclusion of a truly remarkable career.

For over 40 years, Mr. Barker dedicated his life to leadership, compassion, and service. He spent 20 years at Gilman Paper Company, which was once the largest privately-owned paper company in America and a cornerstone employer in Camden County. After the mill transitioned ownership, he continued his distinguished career as executive vice President.

Following the paper mill's closure in 2002, Mr. Barker was selected as the first president and CEO of the St. Mary's United Methodist Church Foundation. Under his leadership, the foundation expanded its mission to serve southeast Georgia, the Nation, and the world.

It has promoted global Methodism, supported evangelical ministries, and partnered in international relief efforts. For 24 years, Mr. Barker brought hope and opportunity to vulnerable populations in his community and across the globe. His life's works left a legacy, both locally and internationally.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Barker and offer our best wishes to him and his family as he embarks on a well-earned retirement.

WILDFIRES

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

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during my 8 years as Mayor of Houston, I faced seven federally declared disasters. I thank this House for your support.

Texas has experienced more billion-dollar disasters since 1980 than any other State in the Union. Hurricane Harvey in 2017 and Winter Storm Uri in February of 2021 cost us billions.

I am grateful to the White House under the leadership, at the time, of Presidents Trump and Biden and bipartisan Members of Congress for the billions of dollars sent to Houston and Texas without any preconditions.

Disasters affect Democrats and Republicans and every socioeconomic group. People lose their homes, their furniture, their cars, their pets, and many lose their lives. These disasters affect them physically and mentally.

For many families with limited means, and especially those with children, they do not know how they are going to move forward. The support of Congress gives them hope, resources, lightens their burden, and renews their faith their country will be there for them in their moment of need.

Mr. Speaker, I pray we will be there for the people of California as Congress was there for Texas without condition and for others that may face disasters in the future. Mr. Speaker, that is who we are.

STANDING UP FOR LIFE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, today marks 52 years since that fateful Roe v. Wade decision, a decision that has tragically ended countless unborn lives. The Supreme Court, not too long ago, did find that it was unconstitutionally put in place, not legislated, but done by the stroke of a pen at a court.

This week, thousands of people across the country are coming together in Washington for the March for Life, showing their unwavering commitment to standing up for the unborn and pushing for a culture that values and protects life.

Every life is precious. It is our duty to defend those who can't speak for themselves, even though there are those that would say it is just a clump of cells. Well, those clumps of cells always, always, every time develop into a human, not a puppy, not a waffle, always a human. For people to try and deny that science is ridiculous.

That is why I am honored to receive the A+ rating by the Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life Scorecard for the 118th Congress, a recognition of my own dedication, but that of so many of my colleagues, as well, that we all back each other up on.

Protecting life doesn't stop there. We need to make sure that mothers have the information they need and the support they need so they can make informed decisions, rather than glossed over by abortionists.

JEEP STELLANTIS' REINVESTMENT IN AMERICA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I can hear the cheers rising in Toledo, Ohio, the 100-year legacy home of Jeep, of Jeep Wrangler, Jeep Gladiator. And I can hear the cheers coming from Shawn Fain, the President of the United Autoworkers Nationwide; and regionally, Bruce Baumhower, the Local 12 president; Dave Green, the regional leader of Region 2B; and Tony Totty, the president of Local 14.

This afternoon, Chairman John Elkan from Jeep Stellantis announced plans by Jeep Stellantis to reinvest in industrial America. In Toledo, Ohio, they will invest in order to produce—and I am reading directly from his remarks—taking, “product actions for Jeep Wrangler and Jeep Gladiator in our Toledo assembly complex, and more components critical to our production in the Toledo machining plant.”

This means jobs, living-wage jobs, jobs with retirement benefits, jobs in the middle class. He also announced in

Belvidere, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; and Kokomo, Indiana similar investments.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the leaders of Jeep Stellantis and their union workers for keeping their word to America's workers. God bless them, and God bless America.

HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KENNEDY of Utah). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, with President Trump officially in the White House and the inauguration festivities behind us, House Republicans are hitting the ground running this week on critical bills to protect the most vulnerable among us and to respond to the devastating wildfires ravaging throughout southern California.

Just to capture what just happened maybe 30 minutes ago, in the House of Representatives, we just passed the final version of the Laken Riley Act, which is commonsense, immigration border security protocols that put the lives of Americans first.

It is so commonsense, I am going to highlight: There are two people, and primarily probably just one, that made this so we couldn't do this a year and a half ago when it should have been done in the 118th Congress.

We just had over a dozen Democrats in the Senate vote for this bill. We had numerous Democrats in the House also support this bill. What is the difference today versus 6, 8 months ago when we tried to pass this? It is Senator SCHUMER.

Senator SCHUMER, as the leader of the Senate, would not allow for this bill to come up. He told those 12 Democrats in the Senate, I am not going to give you a chance to actually vote for sensible border security about the life lost of a Georgian because of absolutely insane border falter from President Biden.

CHUCK SCHUMER basically said to a big portion of his Democratic Senators: I am not going to give you a chance to vote on something sensible. The House sent it over to us. We are not going to vote on it.

One change was made. Senator JOHN THUNE was put in the leadership position where he, with Republican Senators, decided to bring this to the floor, and a dozen or so Senators came on board from the Democrat side and voted for something sensible.

I wish the American people would truly understand that that is why elections are so important. That is why you put conservative leadership over in the Senate coupled with what we are doing in the House to provide sensible legislation, not extreme legislation like when it gets highlighted.

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Mr. Speaker, it is literally going to make a positive impact, and that is just the second day. President Trump now has something to sign and show the American people that he hears us and he is ready to go and move about this.

I commend the bipartisan group of individuals from the Democratic Party in the House and the Senate that were willing to sort of buck the trend and say let's do this. I am very excited about that. I make that point. Obviously, I am a little frustrated it took so much time. It should have been brought up under Senator CHUCK SCHUMER when he was the majority leader. That is clearly not the way he is going to govern.

Who knows if President Trump would have signed it. If the Senate leaders are going to push, you can sometimes get something across the finish line in the White House, even in an opposing White House.

We got that done today. This week we are focusing on Congresswoman WAGNER's Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, another very commonsense piece of legislation that protects the fundamental right to life by ensuring that babies who survive an attempted abortion receive the same medical care health providers would have administered to a fetus born at the same age.

If a baby survives an abortion, this bill says to that physician they have to administer the same healthcare treatments that they would in any other labor situation. This legislation also requires that healthcare providers transport the child to the hospital and report abortion violations to law enforcement.

As southern California continues to struggle with devastating wildfires, House Republicans are also supporting Chairman WESTERMAN's Fix Our Forests Act which enhances resiliency after wildfires and reduces regulatory burdens that hinder active forest management.

I am grateful to my colleagues for joining me this evening to discuss these necessary pieces of legislation. I gladly yield to my colleague from Wisconsin (Mr. VAN ORDEN).

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I look at this issue from a different perspective. I was a combat medic in the United States Navy SEALs teams for over two decades. If I had encountered an enemy combatant that was injured on the battlefield, and I have, if I did not render medical aid