

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining? The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 27 minutes remaining.

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story" is a song from one of my favorite plays, "Hamilton." It is very appropriate because there are a lot of stories in American history that have never been told.

Black history is American history. Our fates were inextricably linked as the founding of American democracy and the founding of American slavery happened at the same time in the same place.

I am proud to say, though, that Virginia also was the birthplace of the ideals upon which this country was founded, and there is contradiction there too. When Thomas Jefferson wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," Mr. Speaker, he didn't mean me when he wrote those words. He didn't even mean the mother of his children when he wrote those words. He didn't mean the hundreds of people who lived in forced labor considered as property on his beloved Monticello.

For years their stories weren't told.

James Madison who came up with the Virginia Plan, which was the foundation for our Constitution, the idea of a government by, of, and for the people didn't mean me in "We the People." He didn't mean the hundreds of people that lived at Montpelier that his wife considered her property.

As a matter of fact, when the Constitution was ratified, our ancestors—as members of the Congressional Black Caucus—were only considered three-fifths of a person for purposes of figuring out how many people would serve in this body. We weren't even given three-fourths or three-fifths of the rights of a person though.

The struggle of our country has been how do we reconcile that? How do we overcome the facts upon which we are founded with the ideals upon which we are founded. Again, I will acknowledge and be proud to say we have made progress. Most of that fight happened in Virginia culminating in the Civil War.

As somebody born in Petersburg, home of the longest siege during the war, I lived in and now represent Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, for most of my life, and I am 52 years old, the trauma of slavery and Jim Crow was never discussed. Like any family, if you don't acknowledge the trauma and begin to address the lingering impact of it, the family will never heal. That is exactly what has happened in this country.

□ 2010

Every time we begin to have an honest conversation and dialogue about

what happened, it is uncomfortable and painful, but we have to have that conversation. We have to teach this history in our schools. We have to talk about it in public history spaces and museums and on public grounds because the people who lived it are passing on.

My parents lived under Jim Crow, but they are now gone. Again, I was not taught these stories in school or anywhere else. It was going mainly to my family and original sources where I learned it.

I am very concerned, Mr. Speaker, that now that we have gotten closer than ever before to actually beginning to heal as a nation, this backlash that we constantly see, which we are in again, is going to threaten any progress toward healing because people won't learn this history and deal with it.

Yet, it happened. Yes, it is uncomfortable. Yes, standing on a site where someone was lynched solely because of the color of their skin and because they had the temerity, allegedly, to whistle at a White woman is uncomfortable, but it happened.

Just like that community can't heal until they reckon with it and acknowledge that it happened and that it was wrong and move on, we as a nation can't heal if we put our heads in the sand and decide that if it is uncomfortable, it can't be taught, that if it is uncomfortable or puts the United States in a bad light, it can't be put in a museum, acknowledged on our military bases, or acknowledged in public spaces.

This is not a perfect country, just like people aren't perfect. We cannot heal if we don't come together and talk about our history.

Unfortunately, the President of the United States decided that Juneteenth wasn't worthy of celebrating. That makes me incredibly sad because I think the President has a lot to learn from Juneteenth. Juneteenth teaches us that we can't take anything for granted. We can't take freedom for granted because too many people had to fight and die to get it.

Juneteenth is a reminder of the resilience of all the American people, particularly Black Americans. When we acknowledge our past, how far we have come, and how still further we have to go, we will be that more perfect Union that we are striving toward in a government by, of, and for the people.

I will close with this. When I was first elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, I learned very quickly that everyone's political views are shaped by their life experiences and what they know. I learned very quickly that public policy can either exacerbate or overcome inequity that happened in the past.

What I learned as a 32-year-old Black woman from the most Democratic district in the State in a body that was mostly White Republican men over 50 was that I needed to reach out to them

and meet them where they were. I needed to understand why they believed what they believed. I needed to understand their history and culture. More importantly, I had to share mine and my parents', grandparents', and great-grandparents'.

More often than not, when we did that, we found that we had more in common than not. Yet, they didn't know much about the life experiences that my ancestors faced, so they would put forward public policy that exacerbated inequity.

"Inequity" is not a dirty word. Inequity recognizes that the legacy of over 300 years of slavery and Jim Crow did not go away with the wave of a magic wand when laws were passed and that Black neighborhoods that were destroyed to build a highway, purposely chosen because of who lived there, has an impact still today.

We have to acknowledge this history, but the first step is to talk about it and to teach it, whether it is comfortable or not, because when we do, we will heal. If we don't heal, then someone who wishes us harm will exploit the tension.

I don't think it is an accident that whenever anyone from outside the United States wants to stoke tension in the United States, the first thing they go to is race. There is a reason for that. If we come to terms with our past, no one will be able to use it to divide us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your attention. I thank you for giving the Congressional Black Caucus the opportunity to remain the conscience of the Congress. I thank you for giving us an opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Juneteenth.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Juneteenth.

Why celebrate Juneteenth? Some would argue it's not the exact historical point when slavery ended . . .

But I'll tell you why I do and will continue to—because it is past time we begin confronting the real history of this country.

Confronting it and addressing it all as it is—the good, bad and ugly.

Confronting it because despite that sometimes ugly and sordid history—it is a country that still we love. It is our country.

Black folks bled and died in every war this country has ever fought.

And speaking to freedom, there are black and white folks who sacrificed their lives so that we could occupy these spaces and have the opportunities they did not.

It is an honor for me and should be for all Americans to celebrate this holiday.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC GROWTH DAY

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. BERGMAN of Michigan was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BERGMAN. 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 subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in belated recognition of Post-Traumatic Growth Day—I repeat, post-traumatic growth.

Observed annually on June 13 as part of National PTSD Awareness Month, this effort was initiated by Boulder Crest Foundation, a nationally recognized nonprofit helping veterans, first responders, and their families turn their struggles into strength.

When we think about the numbers of veterans and first responders who have experienced an event, the numbers are small but not inconsequential and staggering but, I think, kept too well hidden. For example, over 50 percent of veterans have experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, let's just go back a little bit in history because "PTSD" was not always a term of reference and a term of the norm when it came to dealing with stress. In World War I, I believe the term was "shell shock." In World War II, the term was "battle fatigue." In Vietnam, when I was there, we used to call it the "thousand-yard stare," a certain emptiness we would see in others that indicated an increased level of stress.

That was then. How did we, especially in the military, deal with whether it would be battle fatigue, shell shock, or the thousand-yard stare? Back in World War I and World War II, there was this thing called the troopship. When, let's say, you were in the South Pacific and coming back to the States, you boarded a troopship somewhere and sailed, in some cases, for well over a month just to return to U.S. soil. It was the same thing with the European theater or the North African theater.

There was a long period of time where those combat veterans who had been under tremendous stress had a chance to decompress over a period of time with each other and share their experiences, cry, hug, laugh, but work through it in a way that used the element of time together to, again, work through the challenges of the horrific events that they had experienced.

□ 2020

In Vietnam, the timeline shortened a little bit, and please don't let me forget Korea, as well. Because when you look at the memorials here in Washington, D.C., you have got the World War II Memorial, which is a tremendous testament to our country coming together to overcome evil. You have got the Korean War Memorial. For those of you who have been there, the darkness of that memorial is evident in the expressions on the faces of those soldiers there at the Korean War Memorial.

You have got the Vietnam Memorial, which has all the 58,000-plus names of the men and women who gave their lives in Vietnam.

Some of my colleagues who served there, the only way that they can come to grips with some of their PTSD is to go to the memorial and visit their comrades whose names are on the wall. We have dealt with it differently, but we tended to think of it as relieving stress in a negative way.

After 9/11, after Desert Shield, and Desert Storm, the first war that we were involved in where members could be on the battlefield one day and back literally in their homes within 48 hours. During OIF and OEF where a person could come off the battlefield on a Wednesday and, again, be at home watching TV and watching their friends on the battlefield within 48 hours, there was no time to decompress. There was no time to work through the challenges that you have seen.

What do we do? Well, PTSD is real. Nobody disagrees with that at all. How do we turn a negative into a positive?

Well, how about in changing the term "post-traumatic stress disorder" into "post-traumatic growth." Take the experience, work through it in such a way that you grow from it. Think about all the men and women who currently serve, only about 10 percent have been diagnosed with PTSD. That is of all who served.

For those who served in combat zones, the rate of PTSD can reach up to 20 percent. Among first responders, police officers, firefighters, and EMTs, 80 percent have experienced at least one traumatic event while on the job.

Between 10 and 30 percent of first responders will develop post-traumatic stress disorder. Again, whether you are in the military, whether you are a first responder, whether you are a NICU nurse, a cardiac nurse, a physician, you give it all for those people you are serving. Whether you are a first responder in the healthcare field, or in the military, how do you deal with it? How do you deal with what you gave? Can you return to a positive attitude in your life?

That is why the belief among service-members and first responders who have gone through this, we have figured out that the best way to deal with what we deal with internally is to move forward with an attitude of what happened happened. How do we grow from it?

It is easier said than done because in the society in which we live today with instant communications, social media, and reliving things, it is tough, in many cases, to leave the negative behind us.

There are different therapies, group therapy, individual therapy, there could be potentially in some cases, as we advance therapies in new areas, and not taking a pill—here, take a pill for this. This will make you feel better. If that pill doesn't make you feel better, take two of these pills type of thing.

We have to get rid of that because it doesn't help.

We are human beings, and I would suggest to you that one of the options we have to promote the idea of post-traumatic stress is to get behind some good things. Both Democrats and Republicans here in Congress, who want to do better in this arena, there is a caucus here in the House of Representatives called the PATH Caucus. It was formed about 3 years ago.

I happen to be the Republican lead and my dear friend and colleague Lou Correa from Los Angeles is the Democrat lead. We call it the Noah's Ark Caucus, where one Democrat and one Republican come together and join it, but the whole goal as the PATH Caucus—the title is, Psychedelics Advancing Therapies, keyword advancing therapies. We have kind of casually renamed it the good path caucus, which means get off opioid dependency and advance new therapies to allow members of the military and first responders and everybody else to actually get inside of themselves and be able to release those demons through different kinds of therapies that don't involve taking a pill, taking another pill, taking another pill, changing the pills, whatever it happens to be, forever.

It is about new therapies that will enable those members going through it to open up their minds, clear out the demons, and move forward with life.

We have a responsibility as the House of Representatives and as the legislative branch of our government, to include the Senate, to do the best we can on the legislative side in enabling resources to be focused on research that enables that individual growth to occur.

We are a long way from getting to the point where we can say we are done with this. We will never be done with it. There will always be new advancements in therapy, new advancements in dealing with the human mind, the brain, the least explored and least understood part of the human body, but it is who we are as God's creatures that will enable us to move forward with continuing to grow.

I am honored tonight to just call this to the attention of the people watching and especially to my colleagues who—again, not Democrat or Republican—have chosen to make the world a better place by helping people be their best selves, to continue to grow after, in some cases, very horrific, stressful events.

I ask everyone who is listening, please consider—because we can all have a bad day—what a positive affect you can have on others when you present yourself to them, when they are under a time of extreme stress and potential disorientation, to lead them down a path that they can grow from what they have gone through. We can all make this world a better place by helping one another.

I thank the Speaker and the House for allowing me to talk today on celebration of post-traumatic growth normally. We will be celebrating it again next year on the 13th of June on that annual day.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 331.—An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1238. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notice that the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, and expanded in scope, is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2025, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1255) (H. Doc. No. 119—60); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-1239. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notice that the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, under which additional steps were taken, is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2025, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1255) (H. Doc. No. 119—61); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-1240. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a notification of an introduction of United States Armed Forces, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1543(a)(3); Public Law 93-148, Sec. 4(a); (87 Stat. 555) (H. Doc. No. 119—64); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-1241. A letter from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, transmitting notification of a projection that the asset reserves held in the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund will become inadequate under the meaning of Section 709 of the Social Security Act, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 910(a); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title VII, Sec. 709 (as added by Public Law 98-21, Sec. 143); (97 Stat. 102); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1242. A letter from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting notification of a projection that the asset reserves held in the

Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund will become inadequate under section 709 of the Social Security Act, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 910(a); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title VII, Sec. 709 (as added by Public Law 98-21, Sec. 143); (97 Stat. 102) and 42 U.S.C. 401(c)(3); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title II, Sec. 201 (as amended by Public Law 86-778, Sec. 701(a)); (74 Stat. 993); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1243. A letter from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting the 2025 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 401(c)(2); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title II, Sec. 201 (as amended by Public Law 100-647, Sec. 8005(a)); (102 Stat. 3781) (H. Doc. No. 119—62); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

EC-1244. A letter from the Boards of Trustees of The Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting the 2025 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395i(b)(2); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, Sec. 1817(b)(2) (as amended by Public Law 108-173, Sec. 801(d)(1)); (117 Stat. 2359) and 42 U.S.C. 1395t(b)(2); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, Sec. 1841(b)(2) (as amended by Public Law 108-173, Sec. 801(d)(2)); (117 (H. Doc. No. 119—63); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce, and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 530. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3944) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 275) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish on a monthly basis the number of special interest aliens encountered attempting to unlawfully enter the United States, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 875) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired are inadmissible and deportable; and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 516) condemning the violent June 2025 riots in Los Angeles, California (Rept. 119-167). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 3633. A bill to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-168, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3633. A bill to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept.

119-168, Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. COLLINS:

H.R. 4068. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to identify existing and potential categorical exclusions related to the production and export of coal; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas):

H.R. 4069. A bill to provide downpayment assistance to first-generation homebuyers to address multigenerational inequities in access to homeownership and to narrow and ultimately close the racial homeownership gap in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KNOTT (for himself, Mr. GUEST, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. OGLES, Mr. CRANE, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. STRONG, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, Mr. McDOWELL, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana):

H.R. 4070. A bill to require a homeland security border threat assessment on Tren de Aragua and associated strategic plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself and Ms. Pou):

H.R. 4071. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 4072. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to reaffirm the importance of, and include requirements for, works incorporated by reference into law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 4073. A bill to reauthorize the Tsunami Warning and Education Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BACON (for himself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 4074. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on coverage under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act of certain pelvic health services furnished during the postpartum period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CRANK (for himself, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. RIVAS, and Mr. HURD of Colorado):