

States Air Force, truly the greatest, as we have seen over and over and over again.

To ensure our status as the strongest and most effective Air Force in the world, it is imperative that we invest in a highly mission-capable fleet of frontline fighter jets.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 4027, the Frontline Fighter Force First Act. The legislation mandates that we prioritize combat-coded fighters, evaluating both the immediate and future needs of vital fighters like the F-15E Strike Eagle at places such as Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and Next Generation Air Dominance.

Air power and superiority are must-have assets in modern warfare, which is why I call upon my colleagues in Congress to pass the Frontline Fighter Force First Act without delay.

#### CONGRATULATING JANE HEDENGREN

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the time you have granted me to acknowledge a stunning accomplishment by one of our high school athletes in Utah's Third District, Jane Hedengren.

Jane runs track for Timpview High School in Provo, Utah. In an invitational meet in St. Louis, Missouri, on June 5, she swept the field by more than 12 seconds, setting a national high school women's and national women's 1-mile record for those under 20 years old of 4 minutes 23.5 seconds, only 0.04 seconds over the women's collegiate mile record. Just 3 days later, she broke her own national high school 2-mile record by 17 seconds. She has also set national records for high school women in the 2K, 3K, and 5K.

Forbes magazine recently said of her: "Is this Utah teenager the best girls track athlete in history? She certainly looks the part."

Jane's post-graduation plans include running for the BYU Cougars women's track and field and cross-country teams during the upcoming school year.

I congratulate Jane and wish her good luck and much success. I am excited to see what the future will hold for her.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3944, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 275, SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN REPORTING ACT OF 2025; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 875, JEREMY AND ANGEL SEAY AND SERGEANT BRANDON MENDOZA PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES FROM DUIS ACT OF 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 516, CONDEMNING THE VIOLENT JUNE 2025 RIOTS IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 530 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

#### H. RES. 530

*Resolved*, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union 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. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119-5 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. Points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to H.R. 3944, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of this resolution.

(b) Each further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against further amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee to offer amendments en

bloc consisting of further amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 4. During consideration of H.R. 3944 for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 5. At the conclusion of consideration of H.R. 3944 for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 6. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House 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. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 7. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House 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. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 8. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 516) condemning the violent June 2025 riots in Los Angeles, California. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question

except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

□ 1230

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, last night, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 530, providing for consideration of four measures, including H.R. 3944, the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026, under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, provides for one motion to recommit, and makes 32 amendments in order.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 275, the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

Further, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 875, the Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

Lastly, the rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 516, Condemning the Violent June 2025 Riots in Los Angeles, California, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to debate the rule on four pieces of legislation, beginning with H.R. 3944, the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2026.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3944 supports those who have sacrificed for our country and maintains our commitment to the well-being of both servicemembers and veterans.

It provides a total of \$453 billion in overall funding, including a discretionary allocation of more than \$152 billion, which is nearly \$5 billion above the previous year's enacted level.

It fully funds veterans' healthcare programs, including medical care for toxic exposure. It fully funds veterans' benefits and VA programs and supports President Trump's effort to combat veteran homelessness by investing in the new bridging rental assistance for the veteran empowerment program.

It protects the Second Amendment rights of veterans by preventing the VA from sending information on veterans to the FBI without a judge's consent.

Further, it syncs with President Trump's executive order on no funds for DEI or gender-affirming care and protects the Hyde-like language at the VA.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3944 continues support for the Guard and Reserve, providing more than \$1.2 billion for Guard and Reserve facility construction.

It includes \$2 billion for military family housing, with a focus on child development centers to improve the quality of life of our military families.

It provides robust funding for military construction, which enables continued investment in the Indo-Pacific region and the infrastructure necessary to support U.S. advanced weapon systems.

Furthermore, it prohibits the VA from purchasing resources directly or indirectly from the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides significant investments and support for our veterans, servicemembers, and their families, and it should pass in a bipartisan manner.

Moving on, Mr. Speaker, the rule also provides for the consideration of H.R. 275, the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025.

It goes without saying, Mr. Speaker, that the situation at our southern border has improved significantly under the Trump administration. However, under the previous administration, illegal aliens from over 170 different countries, including Iran, the People's Republic of China, and Russia, came across our borders.

H.R. 275 would require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish a monthly report on the number of special interest aliens—people who pose a significant threat to our national security based on analysis of travel patterns—who have been encountered while attempting to illegally enter the United States.

This bill is common sense, and the American people have a right to know.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 875,

the Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025.

This bill is simple and necessary. It closes a loophole in U.S. immigration law and ensures that aliens who endanger communities by driving while intoxicated are inadmissible to and deportable from the United States.

All three of the individuals included in the title lost their lives in automobile crashes caused by illegal aliens who were driving under the influence. We should honor their memory and work to keep the American people safe by passing this bill in a bipartisan manner.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 516, Condemning the Violent June 2025 Riots in Los Angeles, California.

The First Amendment to the Constitution protects the right to peacefully protest. However, it does not protect against riots and violence. This resolution recognizes the right to assemble and protest peacefully while condemning the riots and violence against law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to consideration of these pieces of legislation. I urge passage of this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, that was riveting. I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, contained in this rule are two immigration bills, one of which Congress has already passed, another of which directs the administration to do something they already have the power to do.

There is a nonbinding resolution here to condemn rioting. We had an interesting conversation in the Rules Committee last night, and I don't remember Republicans offering a nonbinding resolution to condemn the riots that occurred outside this building on January 6, 2021.

We can't even get the Speaker of the House to hang the plaque expressing gratitude to the law enforcement officers who protected us that day that a law says he has to hang, so please forgive me if I think this one rings a bit hollow.

Then, we have an appropriations bill that continues this trend toward privatizing VA services and blocks women who are veterans from being able to get abortion services at the VA in most cases. Republicans are trying to restrict the freedoms of the people who are willing to fight and die for our freedoms. Republicans are unbelievable.

I am glad that we are here on the floor debating, Mr. Speaker. I just don't think we are debating what 90 percent of Americans want us to be talking about right now, which is the chaos and confusion that this administration has created and the real fear

that Americans have about this country being dragged into another quagmire in the Middle East.

The bottom line is that this administration is acting insane. The President yesterday said there was going to be a cease-fire forever between Israel and Iran. They are back to bombing each other this morning. The cease-fire he bragged about didn't even last a day.

He has inserted us into this war with zero thought to the consequences. We are bombing Iran. Iran is bombing us. The risk of miscalculation is massive, and the entire Republican Party is just going along for the ride.

Stephen Miller, a top administration official, is on TV talking about Donald Trump like he is Kim Jong-un. It is creepy.

The majority says they are not in a cult. Now is their chance to prove it.

Trump is doing literally the exact opposite of what he promised to do in his campaign. Instead of having the courage to say something, 99 percent of these guys suddenly decided they are in favor of endless wars. The mental gymnastics that takes is nuts.

Mr. Speaker, if it looks like a cult, if it acts like a cult, maybe, just maybe, it is a cult.

I thought Republicans said they were going to lower food prices. Food is just as expensive as it was 6 months ago, and now, we are dragged into another war in the Middle East. This isn't America First. This is not even normal. It is nuts.

This is an administration in way over its head that thought ending a war was as easy as ranting on Truth Social. Now, American troops and taxpayers are paying the price for their stupidity and carelessness.

Let's be crystal clear. These strikes were illegal, unauthorized, and unconstitutional. No debate, no vote, no evidence of an imminent threat—that is not how this should work. If we are going to drop bombs and put American lives in danger, Republicans in Congress should be willing to come down here and have the courage to vote "yes" or "no" so that people know where they stand.

Meanwhile, while families are bracing for gas prices to go up and dealing with food prices that never came down, these guys want Congress to ignore all of that and rubberstamp their big, ugly tax scam, a scam that hands tax breaks to billionaires while ripping food off kids' tables and healthcare out of seniors' hands.

Mr. Speaker, these guys do not know what the hell they are doing, and America is paying the price. Trump said there would be a cease-fire forever, and it lasted 1 day. He said the big, ugly bill won't touch Medicaid and won't screw over middle-class families, but the bill cuts 16 million people off their healthcare and ransacks the food budgets of working people.

Guess what. You can't trust him. You can't trust a word this administration says. We should be debating a War

Powers Resolution. We should be talking about their awful, ugly bill that is working its way through the Senate. Instead, Republicans want business as usual, endless wars, and tax cuts for the rich.

Enough is enough. I urge a "no" vote. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump—I know it pains my colleagues to say that, "President of the United States Donald J. Trump"—for his decisive action. I thank him for calling both sides out on the cease-fire.

I point out to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that, as of right now, the cease-fire is holding, and most of the world wants that cease-fire to hold.

Mr. Speaker, when you talk about a cult, the cult would be the people who hate Donald Trump so bad that they want the cease-fire to fail.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me just remind my colleagues again about what is happening here. Trump said he would end the war in Ukraine on day one. He didn't. Last time I checked, it is still going on.

He said he wouldn't get us into another war. He just did. He said there was a cease-fire that would last forever. There wasn't.

He said his bill won't kick people off of Medicaid, and it will. Sixteen million people are about to lose their healthcare, and it is going to adversely impact rural areas even more so because of what he is doing.

Mr. Speaker, do you know what he has been doing since midnight? He has been on Truth Social. He has posted nearly 30 times since midnight on Truth Social, first of all declaring victory and that everything is beautiful and then retweeting posts calling for him to get the Nobel Peace Prize.

He is more interested in getting an award than he is in protecting people's healthcare and making sure that people in this country have enough to eat and that children don't go hungry.

I mean, these priorities, maybe they are the majority's priorities. They are not my priorities. I think they are all screwed up.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 2753, the Hands Off Medicaid and SNAP Act of 2025, which would block the Republicans from cutting Medicaid or SNAP benefits and kicking people off these lifesaving programs as part of their reconciliation bill.

Last month, House Republicans jammed through their multitrillion-dollar tax scam by a one-vote margin. As a reminder, this bill includes the largest ever cut to food assistance and will strip healthcare from 16 million

Americans, all while adding \$3.3 trillion to the debt.

□ 1245

Mr. Speaker, some Republicans didn't even know what was in the bill when they voted for it. Yet when they had the chance for a revote 2 weeks ago, because they screwed it up the first time, they voted to cut Medicaid and SNAP again.

As we stand here, debating unrelated immigration measures, Senate Republicans are moving forward with their version of the big, ugly bill. Because House Republicans broke so many rules when they passed their bill the second time, they are going to have to vote on it a third time when it comes back from the Senate.

Miraculously, due to their own ineptitude, Republicans have given themselves yet another opportunity to protect healthcare and SNAP for millions of Americans. Let's see if they vote this time to bring up the Hands Off Medicaid and SNAP Act.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the record, along with any extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our proposal, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. FIGURES).

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the critical importance of both SNAP and Medicaid, not just to Alabama's Second District but in every congressional district across this country.

When I took this position, like all of my colleagues, I took an oath not just for this position but I took an oath to the people that I represent. That is to not forget where I come from.

I took an oath to places like Mobile, Montgomery, Phenix City, Evergreen, and Greenville. I took an oath to the neighborhood I grew up in, in Toulminville, to not forget the type of district that I come from.

For me, what that district looks like is about one in four households rely on SNAP benefits. Over 200,000 people, almost a third of the population in the State of Alabama, are enrolled in Medicaid.

The individual median income in my district is just about \$31,000 a year. I come from a district that is not the wealthiest in this country. It is not even close to the wealthiest or well-off.

These aren't just statistics. These are real people I see when I go home to my district. These are children, seniors, working parents, and people with disabilities. These are neighbors. These are people who I grew up with in church. These are people I went to school with. These people depend on these programs to survive, not because they want to but because they have to.

Cutting these benefits would force impossible choices amongst some of these people between food, medicine, utilities, housing, and overall stability.

It wouldn't reduce the need because the need would still be there. The hunger would still be there. The poverty would still be there. It would shift the cost onto our hospitals, our schools, and emergency services.

Alabama SNAP does more than just provide food for people. It also supports, as it does across this country, our local grocers and grocery stores. All of the statistics show that SNAP is a net positive return on the local economy.

We have to recognize that Medicaid keeps working families healthy. Mr. Speaker, 61 percent of Medicaid recipients in the State of Alabama are working. The majority or remainder are either children or people with disabilities. These programs are not luxuries. They are lifelines that people need to get by.

Let's stop pretending that these are just numbers in a budget and these are not real people. Protecting SNAP and Medicaid is not about politics. It is not about priorities. We are not in a position where we can't afford it. We spend almost \$4 million every trip Donald Trump takes to Mar-a-Lago. It is not a question of resources. It is a question of priorities.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want the American citizens to know that anybody under the age of 18 is exempt from the changes. Anybody over the age of 64, meaning 65 or above, is exempt from the changes. Anybody who is disabled is exempt from the changes.

If there is an able-bodied adult of working age not taking care of a dependent, we believe that it is in their best interest to be at work. That is what our policies do.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the reality is that everybody is going to be adversely impacted by the big, ugly bill. Senior citizens, children, and everybody in between will be impacted.

In the gentleman's district in Georgia, it is estimated that a total of 41,718 people will lose their insurance. It is estimated that 33,400 will lose Affordable Care Act coverage. Mr. Speaker, 8,318 will lose Medicaid coverage.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how Republicans go back to their districts and meet with their constituents. I guess they don't meet with their constituents anymore. I know the Speaker of the House said Republicans shouldn't do townhalls.

At some point my Republican colleagues will have to face them. How do they tell their constituents they voted for a bill that will adversely impact them?

The cuts in SNAP alone will increase hunger in this country substantially.

We should talk about how we end hunger and, instead, Republicans are moving legislation to increase hunger.

We should have a country where everybody has healthcare coverage. Instead, they are pushing a bill that will throw people off of health insurance. I don't know how people do that. I don't know how they go home and talk to constituents about the fact that they are here fighting on their behalf.

I thought our job, no matter whether Democrat or Republican, was to fight for things to improve the quality of life for everybody in this country. That is not what this big, ugly bill is about.

Mr. Speaker, I have to say the Senate has actually made the Medicaid provisions worse, if that was possible. Even more people will lose it. That is not me saying it. It is the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, saying that. It is not JIM MCGOVERN or Democrats. The Congressional Budget Office is saying it.

It talks about not only how many people will lose their healthcare coverage and how many people will lose their SNAP benefits, but it talks about how much this is going to add to the debt. It will add trillions.

The people who are deficit hawks, they all talk a good game. They are going to be tough on the budget. They are going to make cuts to make sure we can balance the budget, except they don't. They add another \$3.3 trillion, basically to give tax breaks to billionaires.

Who does that? Who thinks that is a good idea? I don't think I know any billionaires. I am hard-pressed to find somebody out there who is a billionaire who says he really needs another tax cut.

We ought to reject this big, ugly bill that they pushed through the House and that is on its way back from the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am laughing because I honestly don't even know if a billionaire lives in my district.

The idea we would be up here, doing a bunch of tax cuts for billionaires, as they have continued to repeat, I guess they think if they say it enough times, then everybody will start to believe it.

Let me talk about Massachusetts-02. Massachusetts has 524,530 taxpayers. The average taxpayer in that district will see a 20 percent tax hike if this piece of legislation is not passed.

A family of four, making \$95,000 in the district, would see a \$2,100 tax increase if this piece of legislation doesn't pass.

Mr. Speaker, 89,000 Massachusetts-02 families would see their household's child tax credit cut in half and 89 percent of Massachusetts taxpayers would see their guaranteed deductions cut in half. There would be 64,380 small businesses in Massachusetts-02 that would

be hit with a 43.4 percent tax rate if the 199A small business deduction expires.

Mr. Speaker, 22,427 of those citizens would be impacted by the return of the alternative minimum tax, and 1,780 family-owned farms in Massachusetts-02 would have their death tax exemptions slashed in half next year.

Mr. Speaker, they keep using the word "billionaires." The bottom line is they are trying to raise taxes on everyday Americans that deserve better. They work hard for their money. Candidly, the government takes too much of it from them anyway. Let's give it back to them. They earned it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the gentleman is: If he doesn't represent any billionaires, why is he for tax cuts for billionaires?

Why are Republicans for tax cuts for billionaires? Maybe it is because they write out big campaign contributions. That is really a cynical thing. That is what is at the heart of all of this.

The gentleman said that taxes will go up for middle-class families in Massachusetts. We actually gave them a chance in the Rules Committee. We are for middle-class tax cuts. We are for extending them. In the Rules Committee, I offered a number of amendments to exempt billionaires from the tax cut. Every Republican, the gentleman included, voted "no." They wanted to make sure that the billionaires got the tax cuts.

Then we said: What about millionaires? Let's exempt millionaires. Let's keep the tax cuts for the middle class and exempt millionaires. Everyone on the Rules Committee, including the gentleman, voted "no."

By the way, if people want to know what is going on here, the cuts to SNAP alone are \$300 billion. The cuts to Medicaid in the Affordable Care Act are \$1 trillion. The tax cuts for people with incomes in the top 5 percent are \$1.6 trillion.

The numbers don't lie, but it kind of shows what this debate is all about. This is about a transfer of wealth from those in the middle to those at the top. It is about rewarding and enriching those who are well-off and well-connected. It is about punishing those in the middle and those fighting to be able to just get by, to put food on the table, and to make sure they go to the doctor if they or their kids get sick.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SIMON).

Ms. SIMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for yielding time.

As the Representative of California's 12th Congressional District, representing the East Bay, I rise today in opposition to H. Res. 516. This resolution is a partisan, disproportionate response to the ICE protest in Los Angeles. Republicans are intentionally misleading the public on the scale of the

violence in an attempt to justify the blatant overreach of Federal power.

I want to be clear. There was no doubt there was violence. I am from California. I was present at some of the protests. The scale was unworthy of Federal condemnation and certainly the scale was unworthy of Presidential overreach.

It was the President who overstepped his authority and escalated and instigated chaos, sending the National Guard and our Marines against the will of my Governor, the mayor of Los Angeles, and the people of California.

The Trump administration has made it clear that they do not believe in the right of Los Angeles to exist, as it has done since its founding, as a multicultural, vibrant, and working-class city. The violence was in less than three to five blocks.

Mr. Speaker, I think the resolution is an attempt to rewrite history in real time and to prescribe extreme violence onto the people of Los Angeles, California, who were exercising their First Amendment right to free speech. This resolution is in no way sufficient. It is a way to roll back free speech.

Let's be clear. We do not have a democracy if we erode the right to free speech. We will not have a democracy if the President of the United States continues to abuse his power and push authoritarian measures.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, a picture is worth a thousand words. Peaceful protests do not include assaults of law enforcement officers or burning vehicles.

I would also like to point out to the American citizens that when they hear the Democrats talk about the top 5 percent, the top 5 percent are not billionaires. According to the Tax Foundation, the top 5 percent are people that make above \$252,000.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1300

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I, and I think everybody on the Democratic side, oppose violence and criminality, and people who commit violence ought to be held to account.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield to the gentleman if he would join with me in publicly condemning the pardon of all those who committed such heinous crimes and so much violence here on the Capitol on January 6.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to gentleman if he wants to condemn the pardons. I can tell you one thing, Mr. Speaker, Governor Newsom is not going to pardon those who looted stores or committed violence or attacked law enforcement, but Donald Trump pardoned the people who attacked the men and women who were protecting all of us here, our staff, and all of the people who work here.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield to the gentleman if he wants to condemn the pardons that Trump gave to all those who committed these terrible crimes on that horrific day.

Silence.

We can't even get the Speaker of the House to hang a plaque honoring the men and women in law enforcement who defended us.

What is wrong with this place?

Violence is wrong no matter whom it is committed by. The difference here is that Governor Newsom will not pardon people who committed violent crimes.

Again, Mr. Speaker, as we are gathered here today, we have a President who all he seems to want to do is tweet. As I said before, he has posted nearly 30 times since midnight. He took credit for a cease-fire which, by this morning, was broken. He attacked Federal Reserve Chair Powell. He attacked Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ, and he attacked Representative THOMAS MASSIE. Again, I think attacking MASSIE may replace golf as the President's favorite pastime.

Of course, while talking about Representative MASSIE, Trump had to pat himself on the back for winning elections in Kentucky. He also posted multiple times about the Nobel Peace Prize. That is what he cares about, getting an award. It is all about him, not saving healthcare, not ending hunger, but getting an award.

We need serious people working to solve real problems, and what we have is a reality TV show White House with a stream of consciousness press operation, and it is supported by a Republican Congress that thinks it is a debate club rather than an equal branch of government.

This Congress doesn't even debate real things. The President sent our troops to bomb another country this week, and that is not what we are here debating this week. We are debating a meaningless resolution and bills to further demonize immigrants.

Enough, Mr. Speaker. Let's try work on something, anything, that will help real people. This is not the way government is supposed to operate. It is not working. People are being hurt.

While we are having this discussion here today, this big, ugly bill is winding its way through the Senate to come back here to the House.

I predict that my Republican friends, as always, will say: Oh, I am really concerned about the cuts in Medicaid. I am really worried about people who will lose their healthcare. Yeah, I know, I wish they weren't cutting SNAP so deeply. Oh, yeah, I really care about this and care about that.

Do you know what they will do, Mr. Speaker?

They will come here, and they will cave. They get in line because they are afraid of even asking a question about what this President is doing and what this administration is advocating. We need to do so much better around here.

I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, this is ridiculous that this is what we are

doing this week when there is so much happening in the world. By the way, again, let's make sure everybody understands this: This big, ugly bill that is coming here is about a tax break for billionaires. I just showed you the figures, Mr. Speaker. There is more money going to billionaires than anybody else in the tax bill, and they are cutting programs like SNAP and Medicaid. It really is shameful.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time each side has remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia has 21½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think that the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act is ridiculous. I think it is necessary. I think our veterans have earned it. I think it is a good piece of legislation. Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, I expect it will probably pass in a bipartisan manner.

I will say this: President Trump wants peace between Israel and Iran. He took decisive action, and without that decisive action, that peace would not have been possible. He wanted peace with India and Pakistan, and he wants peace with Ukraine and Russia. He wants peace.

Now, Mr. Speaker, you may disagree with the way he goes about it, but to attack him and say that he doesn't want a resolution that ends the killing, you just don't know the man if you think that about him. He wants peace.

Sometimes peace requires strength, and it requires a leader who has the mental capacity to make the decisions to carry out the actions necessary to bring about that peace. I am thankful that we have a President who has the ability to make those decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, a couple of things. The gentleman has had 30 minutes, and he couldn't spend 30 seconds to condemn the Trump pardons of those who viciously attacked our law enforcement on that terrible day on January 6. We have a Speaker of the House who won't hang a plaque that he is supposed to do under law honoring the law enforcement who were here protecting all of us and who were beaten right outside that door.

It is crickets on the other side. They can't brick themselves to condemn that. They can't say that the pardons were wrong. I don't get it.

I have spent my entire life fighting for peace, and when Trump says that he wants peace, where is the peace?

He said that he was going to bring peace to Ukraine on day one. Instead,

what he has done is he is constantly giving comfort to the Russian leader. He has lambasted Zelenskyy in the Oval Office and can't say enough nice things about Vladimir Putin.

That is not my idea of peace. That is capitulation. That is giving in to a vicious aggressor. I am sorry, if the gentleman thinks that that is peace, then we have a very different opinion of that.

Again, we all hope and pray that things de-escalate in the Middle East. Here is what we know: We don't know whether Iran still has nuclear material, and we also know that they have been lobbing bombs at each other still. We know there is tremendous unrest in the Middle East, and we don't really know what the endgame is. That is why we should have a debate, and that is why Congress has a role to play.

Again, Mr. Speaker, you may think that all that Donald Trump is doing is fabulous, and that is great, but do you know what, Mr. Speaker?

You should also, as a Member of Congress, want to defend the powers of the legislative branch and understand that we have a role in this too, and that sometimes through debate, if people decide they want to support the President's policies, well, that just strengthens his hand. If people have real questions, then maybe we have to take a different course.

I was around here when we rushed to war in Iraq. We did have a debate, but we were given faulty information by the administration at the time. We were lied to. There were no weapons of mass destruction, and look at what that cost us in terms of life, treasure, and credibility around the world.

Mr. Speaker, again, I think there are things that we should be focused on here right now that are much more pressing than the items that are before us here today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I certainly have thanked before, and I will thank again, all of the law enforcement and the men and women who keep us safe in this Capitol. I appreciate what they do for us.

Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close if the gentleman is prepared to close. I don't have any additional speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, let me just say to the gentleman: You say that you support and respect the men and women who protect us here, the law enforcement who protect us here, yet you can't bring yourself to condemn the action that pardoned those individuals who viciously attacked law enforcement. Also, nobody on the Republican side will demand of the Republican Speaker

of the House to hang the plaque that, by law, he is supposed to hang honoring the law enforcement who defended us on that day.

I think that is a lack of respect. That is a lack of respect to law enforcement. The Republicans can't even condemn the rioters who were here on January 6.

So what the hell is wrong with this place?

Mr. Speaker, I will close with this: Congress alone has the power to declare war, not Donald Trump, not his Truth Social account, and not his campaign donors. This administration cannot be trusted with that power. They have no plan, they have no strategy and no clue. Just follow him on Truth Social. Every day they stoke chaos abroad to distract from the misery that they are causing at home.

Mr. Speaker, does anyone remember the last time a Republican President misled the Nation about WMDs, using vague evidence to drag us into a war in the Middle East? He stood under a mission accomplished banner, and then we were at war for nearly a decade, and it cost trillions of dollars and thousands of lives.

I guess the 2025 version of a mission accomplished banner is a Truth Social post telling everyone that this was a spectacular military success.

Give me a break. Mr. Speaker, 2003 called. They want their foreign policy back.

Republicans want to keep everyone divided and distracted. They went to distract us from their big, ugly bill, a tax scam so cruel and corrupt that it actually makes working families poorer just to make billionaires richer.

They want to distract us from the fact that under Trump's watch, grocery bills are sky-high, farmers will suffocate under tariffs, and now families are bracing for a spike at the pump because this President started a war, and he has no clue how to end it.

Well, I won't be distracted. We see this chaos for what it is: reckless, stupid, and dangerous. We see this tax bill for what it is: greedy, immoral, and bad for working people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this House to stop rubber-stamping chaos and to stop rubber-stamping corruption. Let's do our constitutional duty: Stop this illegal war, end this rotten tax scam, and stand up for the people we work for.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this week, the House has the ability to advance four pieces of legislation under this rule.

H.R. 3944 is the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2026, which provides significant investments and support for our veterans, service-members, and their families, as well as military construction. I expect and hope that it will pass in a bipartisan manner.

H.R. 275 is the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025 which provides transparency by publishing a monthly report on the number of special interest aliens attempting to enter the U.S. and includes the encounter location and their country of origin. This is information that the public has a right to know.

H.R. 875 is the Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025, which works to keep the American people safe by closing a loophole in U.S. immigration law to ensure that aliens who drive intoxicated are inadmissible to, and deportable from, the United States.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I hope and expect it will pass in a bipartisan manner.

H. Res. 516 condemns the violent June 2025 riots in Los Angeles, California, which recognizes the right to assemble and protest peacefully while condemning the riots and violence against law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 530 OFFERED BY  
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 9. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2753) to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for a point of order against reconciliation measures that cut benefits for Medicaid or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 10. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2753.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair