

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep concern over the weaponization of ICE by the Trump administration.

Just this weekend, I had a chance to see Trump Border Czar Tom Homan talking about how the administration is conducting the sweeps on the streets and that they are doing it to prioritize public safety and national security. Yet, the facts tell a different story.

According to CBS, only 8 percent of those detained have been convicted of violent crimes. The conservative Cato Institute found that only 7 percent of detainees were violent criminals.

In fact, most detainees aren't even criminals at all. Of the people in detention, about half of them have criminal records. That is 300,000 people who are detained and who do not have criminal records at all.

□ 1110

This administration is not actually prioritizing the most dangerous people, even though President Trump promised on the campaign trail that that is exactly what he would do.

Mr. Homan also said that this administration always follows the law. However, last week, a Federal judge ordered ICE to stop conducting roving patrols, stop the sweeping arrests without reasonable suspicion, and stop denying access to lawyers.

Mr. Speaker, the findings in this case are shocking. This is some of the worst examples of racial profiling I have seen even during my 12 years as a prosecutor.

For example, some people were waiting at bus stops and having coffee when they were then surrounded by ICE agents in unmarked vehicles that sped up in their direction. They leapt out with masks on and their guns drawn and ran immediately toward these individuals. They then handcuffed these individuals and forced them into vehicles and drove them away. All of this was done before they had even asked them for identification.

The men thought they were being kidnapped. Some of them had their feet, hands, and wrists shackled, and another man even had a gun pointed at him.

The court who was reviewing these cases questioned what it was about the bus stop that caused these ICE agents to believe they had reasonable suspicion to detain these men. Reasonable suspicion means that there is evidence at the time that each of these men had committed a crime or were in the process of committing a crime.

What was the basis of the ICE agents' reasonable suspicion? The court reviewed it and found that the government said: It was based on their past experiences that have demonstrated that illegal aliens utilize and seek to work at certain places, like getting their car washed or waiting for the bus.

Nothing about these men suggested that they were in the country illegally or about to commit a crime at the time that they were stopped.

They didn't even ask for ID before they were gun-faced and then handcuffed and taken away. The bottom line is that these men were taken into custody simply because they were Latino.

Clearly, these tactics are unconstitutional. The use of race as the basis for grabbing people on the street the courts have long ago ruled are across the line and illegal.

These tactics threaten some of the most basic and important principles that serve as the backbone for our Nation: the rule of law. Like the unlawful deportation of Kilmar Abrego Garcia and the willful defiance of a unanimous Supreme Court decision to bring him back, the Trump administration is unapologetic in its efforts to target immigrants, the Constitution, and the law be damned.

Now, in addition to being unconstitutional, this wastes a great deal of tax dollars because they are detaining masses of people in these large sweeps, only to have to release them when proof of their legal status is shown. It also horrifies the citizens who have to go through this experience.

We now have Latino citizens who are afraid to leave their house to go to work or even to go to court. Remember the so-called Venezuelan violent gang members deported to the gulag in El Salvador. As it turns out, according to the Cato Institute, 50 of those men were not criminals. Their paperwork was in order. They were in the United States legally, and they hadn't committed any kind of crimes in El Salvador or Venezuela.

Instead of focusing on criminals, they are grabbing people like the 64-year-old mother who was gardening in New Orleans, the father of three marines who had been working in the United States for decades, or yesterday when ICE raided a baseball summer camp. This is not the best use of our Federal law enforcement agents.

I am a former Federal and State prosecutor. I deeply respect the rule of law and understand the responsibility elected officials have to protect it. We have got to do better than this. Let's focus on getting violent criminals off the street. There are more than 100,000 open warrants in the United States on any given day. Let's focus on those, and let's move forward in a way that respects the Constitution.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF MARIO AUGELLO

(Mr. HARIDOPOLOS of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize our Chief of Police in Palm Bay, Florida, Chief Mario Augello, who has been serving for 25 years in our community.

Throughout his career, the chief has exemplified amazing dedication, leadership, and deep commitment to public safety.

In addition to his service, he founded the Palm Bay Blue Foundation, a non-profit that supports well-being of the department's employees and their families.

On behalf of a grateful community, I thank Chief Augello for his outstanding service and the commitment to the people of Palm Bay.

CONGRATULATING BREVARD, INDIAN RIVER, AND ORANGE COUNTIES IN FLORIDA

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three amazing school districts in my community. Brevard, Indian River, and Orange County have each earned the distinguished A rating from the education standards in Florida.

It is a true honor to represent these school districts for their hard work, and, most importantly, the hard work of the students in the classroom, as well as the teachers that lead them.

As a former teacher myself at the college level, we all understand the commitment and importance of education. It is the ultimate civil right. It unlocks so much potential, and it makes sure that America stays number one in the world in intellectual capacity.

These A ratings are proof that Florida's educational system works. We are a State that believes in school choice where the parents, not the bureaucrats, have the final say in where their child goes to school each and every day.

I am immensely proud of the Brevard, Indian River, and Orange County School Districts for doing the right thing and making education a priority and leading the way so that Florida can truly be the future of not only space but of all intellectual abilities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank each of these counties, the teachers, the administrators, and the team that makes Brevard, Indian River, and Orange County schools true A school districts.

INTERNMENT CAMP IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES

(Mr. FROST of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine light on a moral atrocity going on in my home State of Florida, an immigrant internment camp that Donald Trump, Ron DeSantis, and his administration have propped up in the middle of an abandoned airfield deep in the Florida Everglades.

It is a place where nearly 1,000 humans are being forced to live in a tent city in the middle of the hot Florida summer, hot sun, where folks are not getting enough food. Detainees are exposed to the heat, and wildlife, and mosquitoes that can potentially carry disease. They are being stripped of their civil rights, and as of this past Saturday, they have been cut off from legal counsel.

While this humanitarian nightmare unfolds, soulless politicians like Ron DeSantis, Donald Trump, and Kristi

Noem grin and call this place—I am actually not even going to use the name that they are calling it and dignify it. Mr. Speaker, they sell merch. They make jokes. They print hats with cartoon alligators dressed up as ICE agents, and they laugh as people and families are suffering.

I can't tell you the amount of constituents I have heard from, for example, that their dad is in this facility and haven't heard from them for weeks. No one with eyes and a conscience can ignore what this really is. It is an internment camp. It is a place full of people who look like me, Latinos, Haitian men, subjugated to inhumane conditions under the guise of immigration enforcement. It is disgusting. It is un-American. It demands oversight.

Members of Congress have a legally protected right to conduct oversight of immigrant detention centers. That means that we have the power to show up unannounced, as I have on other occasions, and see what is going on with our own eyes.

That was my plan and the plan of my fellow Florida congressional Democrats last week. We were ready to do our jobs. Somehow word got out to the DeSantis administration that we were showing up, and so they decided to invite us at the same date and time we were going to show up anyway.

We took them up on that. We went in the facility. I am here to talk a little bit about my experiences there.

The State of Florida and DHS got wind of our visit. They got scared. They invited us. Of course, what we got was a sanitized version of the way things usually are. Even that sanitized version to me was abhorrent conditions.

I also heard reports that the night before we showed up, magically the detainees got their first shower they had in a while. Also magically, they got one of their first actually good meals. It just shows why the unannounced visits are so important. It is to see how things really are. Mr. Speaker, I have to tell you, a clean cage is still a cage.

At the end of the day, in this facility we have 32 men being crammed in each cage, about 4 to 6 cages in each tent. We brought a thermometer in there and each tent was about 84, 85 degrees, of course, in the hot Florida sun.

□ 1120

I will always remember walking in that front door and looking at these gentlemen in there, everyone screaming for help, one guy asking me to call his family. He was screaming out a phone number. I couldn't hear him. I couldn't get all the digits down.

Only three sources of water per cage, the spigots connected to the toilets, much like the jail units we have seen. Usually in those jails, it is one of those units for 2 to 4 people, not three for 32 people.

I have to tell you, one of the most emotional parts for me was when we

looked at the cages from afar. We weren't let in the tent but stood at the doorway, hearing those chants: "Freedom, freedom"; "libertad, libertad." People were yelling.

This isn't security. It is cruelty. It is not immigration policy. It is dehumanizing people.

Trump said this was about keeping people safe. He said it was about going after criminals, but we all know it was one big lie. Hundreds of the people being held in this internment camp have no criminal charges.

I won't stay silent while our government turns the Everglades land—protecting it used to be a bipartisan thing. The State is spending \$450 million from our Division of Emergency Management to run this internment camp, and we are in hurricane season.

I don't care if you are a Democrat or Republican. I don't care what you are. The Division of Emergency Management has the ability to spend up to \$500 million without going to the legislature for emergency money. They are going up to \$450 million.

We are about to go into hurricane season, which means that when a hurricane is barreling toward our State, they are not going to do what they need to do immediately to save lives. Every minute matters, and they will have to go back to the legislature and beg for more money because they spent \$450 million of our money on a damn internment camp in the middle of the Everglades.

Along with partners, we are going to do something about it. Of course, litigation has been filed.

I think what is important for people to know is that this is a Federal facility—we were told that ICE is calling the shots here—a Federal facility run and operated by the State.

CELEBRATING OAA PROGRAMS

(Ms. BONAMICI of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Older Americans Act, which President Johnson signed into law on July 14, 1965.

Older Americans Act programs serve about 11 million older adults across the country, including 212,000 people in my home State of Oregon.

The act provides vital services, including meal delivery, transportation, caregiver support, job training, and protection from elder abuse. These programs help older Americans maintain dignity, health, and independence as they age.

President Trump recently began dismantling the Administration for Community Living, which implements OAA programs and disburses funds. It is the only government entity that advocates for older adults. Almost half the staff in this office has already been laid off, jeopardizing the vital programs that support so many aging Americans and their families every single day.

The Older Americans Act is a long-time bipartisan commitment. We must fight every effort to strip these services from the 11 million Americans who benefit from these programs in every congressional district in every State in this country.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reverse those cuts and to strongly support the Older Americans Act.

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 24 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. BAUMGARTNER) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Sovereign Lord, our creator, in Your infinite wisdom and steadfast love, You have made us and given us the privilege and the freedom to choose to participate in Your grace plan.

In Your omniscience, however, You knew that we would time and again exercise that freedom and go on our own way, pursuing our own desires and not Your own.

The consequences of the decisions made since the beginning of time have only been compounded by our own choices and have brought trouble and challenges, sadness, and grief.

Nevertheless, despite our inclination toward sin, You speak into these moments Your powerful word of consolation. We need not fear, for You remain with us. We need not be dismayed, for You are our God. It is You who strengthens us. You provide the help we need. You uphold us with Your righteous right hand.

Sure of Your promises, we turn this day over to Your keeping. You are the God in whom we trust. We offer ourselves to Your guidance and to Your direction.

In Your eternal and merciful name we pray.

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 gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER)