

In the last decade, more than half of the 120 public health emergency declarations issued by the Department of Health and Human Services were a result of climate-related events: extreme heat, wildfire smoke, hurricanes, floods, and the spread of disease.

Last week, I introduced the Climate Health Emergency Act to address this reality head-on. It directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to declare the climate crisis a public health emergency.

This declaration will unlock emergency powers and coordination to allow an effective response to the rapidly escalating public health threat posed by climate change. Enabling interagency coordination, this bill will break down silos, maximizing our ability to effectively and efficiently respond.

As a lung and critical care physician, I have seen the direct harm climate change has on our patients: organs shutting down from heat exposure and lungs failing from smoke inhalation. I will not stand by silently as our government continues to fail to meet this crisis with the urgency it so demands.

Madam Speaker, I urge your support. Our children deserve a healthy future. Our job is to fight for it.

CELEBRATING NORTH AMERICAN FILM ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate North American Film Association, NAFA, an organization dedicated to promoting Marathi cinema and culture in North America. By making Marathi cinema more accessible, NAFA aims to preserve Maharashtra's rich cultural heritage, bridge cultural boundaries, and create a more diverse arts and culture space.

NAFA is having a film festival of Marathi films in San Jose, California, on July 25 through 27, 2026, and I wish to convey my best wishes to NAFA.

I also want to recognize Mr. Abhi Gholap, an accomplished filmmaker and founder of NAFA. Abhi Gholap is also deeply committed to service, supporting children with leukemia in rural India through the Jiji-Bhau Cancer Foundation.

"Best wishes to NAFA from this Marathi-speaking Congressman";

"Tumchya Marathi bolnarya Congresssadaashyakadun uttam shubhechha."

SAFE KITS

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

Ms. ELFRETH. Madam Speaker, on March 13, the Department of Defense issued new guidance: Military health clinics overseas would no longer pro-

vide rape test kits to American civilian workers and contractors serving alongside our servicemembers abroad. These are our intelligence analysts, our teachers, our doctors, and our support staff performing critical roles all in support of our national security. We broke a fundamental promise with them, that when you serve your country in the most dangerous of places, your country will have your back.

I have spent my time on this House floor urging for the reversal of harmful cuts just like these, and I spend my time in committee questioning Secretary Hegseth as to why this policy was ever changed in the first place. Today, I am glad to report that 8 days after the hearing with Secretary Hegseth, that policy has been reversed.

It is proof that when the general public leans in and engages their government, and when Members of Congress amplify their voices, we can make meaningful change.

I will continue to call out the cuts of this Trump administration because the cost to all of us is far too great. There is too much at risk when this administration blindly takes a sledgehammer to the Federal Government and the services Americans deserve.

I urge my colleagues to follow this example.

□ 1730

VISION BENEFIT MANAGERS

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge support for a crackdown on vision benefit managers, or VBMs, and their exploitative industry that exists only to profit from the eyeglass frames and lenses they make, the labs they own and operate, and the patient data gathering and mass retail operations built around them.

VBMs not only undermine healthcare access and quality, but threaten the existence of independent eye care practices nationwide.

VBM contracting abuses are already rampant, and their control over the independent eye care practice is only growing.

We cannot turn a blind eye, pun intended, to the serious conflict of interest concerns when a plan becomes both a healthcare provider and payer.

We cannot ignore the consequences of this unacceptable status quo, which has arbitrarily limited treatment options to those which are profitable for the VBM instead of effective for the patient.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the girls and women in my district who just lost access to their healthcare because of this budget bill.

Just weeks after this bill passed, two Planned Parenthood clinics in southwest Ohio are closing. These are clinics thousands of girls and women rely on for things like cancer screenings and contraceptive care, their basic healthcare.

It is a direct attack on women, and it is just the start. Millions and millions of Americans will lose their healthcare. In the end, more than 15 million people could be left without care, all to pay for tax cuts for millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations.

All it takes is a Congress that it is willing to make the wealthiest in America pay their taxes like the rest of us and give those 15 million Americans their healthcare back. It is that simple.

BUDGET BETRAYAL

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, Republicans rammed through Trumps' big budget betrayal with the largest cut to healthcare in American history. It will cut Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act by over \$1.1 trillion.

In Michigan, in my State alone, over 450,000 people are now at risk of losing their healthcare coverage, including children, seniors, and people with disabilities in our district.

These cuts will also impact EMS and ambulance services across our Nation. This budget will shrink the funds available to these departments and make it impossible for them to keep operating.

The impact will also be felt in rural areas where hospitals and community health centers will close because they rely heavily on Medicaid reimbursements.

We all know we have sick care in our country, and Medicaid is the only Band-aid right now to keep it all together. This bill is a death sentence, and over 50,000 people will die as a result of it.

Madam Speaker, you will see. Republicans gave away trillions of dollars to the richest people on the planet and are letting our children and seniors die from the lack of healthcare coverage.

They should be ashamed.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION CHAOS

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today frustrated by the chaos and harm that is being caused by House Republicans under the direction of the Trump administration. This week, the

House is coming to a standstill because Republicans refuse to address the Epstein files despite Trump's repeated commitments to the American people to do so.

However, their inability to deliver on their promises runs much deeper. Trump promised to end inflation and make America affordable again, yet inflation rose 2.7 percent in June, and the majority of Americans rightfully blame the White House for driving up the prices of food and groceries.

Trump said his mass deportation agenda would only target violent criminals, but over 90 percent of detainees being held in New Jersey have no criminal conviction.

Trump said he would improve the Affordable Care Act, yet he just signed a bill into law that cuts over \$1 trillion from healthcare and will cause an average ACA premium increase of over \$1,200 for people in our district.

Amidst the chaos, the inaction, and the harm that is being caused in communities nationwide, Democrats will continue to do everything we can to protect and uplift those whom we represent. We will continue to present an alternative pathway forward, one that fulfills the promises of this country and delivers the results that all Americans deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT LEGRAND

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert "Bob" LeGrand, a pioneering figure in Texas basketball who passed away on July 19.

From 1976 to 1987, Coach LeGrand, also known as "Snake," led the UTA men's basketball team, guiding them to their first 20-win season and a historic NIT berth in 1981.

Snake was known for his energy, his drive, his showmanship, and his humor. His legacy goes far beyond the wins. He helped the University of Texas-Arlington Movin' Mavs wheelchair basketball program start, and he was also very active in the Fort Worth chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi. Coach LeGrand, or Snake, as everybody affectionately called him, was someone everyone loved.

Madam Speaker, you would see him in downtown Fort Worth, and you would see him in Arlington holding court with his sense of humor. Regardless of your background, Snake was someone whom you embraced. He is going to be missed. He was figuratively and literally speaking a towering figure in our community. He will be greatly missed.

I send my condolences to his wife, Gloria, his children, and his grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE 102ND BIRTHDAY OF PHILLIP RAMOS, SR.

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 102nd birthday of a World War II veteran, Phillip Ramos. He is part of the Greatest Generation.

He served in the U.S. Army Corps from 1942 to 1945. Then he returned home and served on local nonprofits. He served on the L.A. United Way and the Cal State University advisory board. He then served as a council member, planning commissioner, and treasurer for the city of Montebello.

Phillip shows what it is to be part of the Greatest Generation. He fought World War II with honor and then returned home to build this great Nation.

Madam Speaker, I wish Phil Ramos a happy birthday and many more.

THIS CONGRESS DESERVES AN "F"

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, we are going to adjourn and not do the people's business because we, thus far, have gotten an "F", an "F" for the work for the people of this Congress.

We have taken healthcare away from hundreds of thousands of people. We have taken SNAP payments and nutritional sustenance away from tens of hundreds of thousands of people. We have made injuries to the Earth, God's Earth, which we are here to preserve and we only use.

We have taken away women's rights to go to Planned Parenthood to have the healthcare that they need, important healthcare about their bodies.

We have taken away protections for clean energy, to change the rate of growth of global warming that affects our planet and affects our future with hotter and hotter summers and more and more problems: flash floods, fires, and disasters.

This Congress has earned an "F." We do not deserve any more.

I am ashamed to be a part of this Congress, but I will be because people need to stand up, speak the truth, and stand up for things that the American people have stood for for a long time like justice, due process, fairness, caring about the little guy, and caring about giving people something who have not enough but not something to people who have too much: millionaires and billionaires.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow,

Wednesday, July 23, 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-1490. A letter from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Bureau's "Major" interim final rule — Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B); Extension of Compliance Dates [Docket No.: CFPB-2025-0017] (RIN: 3170-AB40) received July 9, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1491. A letter from the Acting Director, Directorate of Construction, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Construction Standards—Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health [Docket No.: OSHA-2025-0040] (RIN: 1218-AD72) received July 7, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

EC-1492. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standard CIP-015-1--Cyber Security--Internal Network Security Monitoring [Docket No.: RM24-7-000; Order No.: 907] received July 17, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1493. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 7034(k)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024, pursuant to Public Law 118-83, div. A, Sec. 101(11); (138 Stat. 1524); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1494. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-066; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1495. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-095; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1496. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-030; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1497. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting five (5) notifications of a nomination, and action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1498. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting three (3) notifications of a vacancy, designation of acting officer, nomination, action on nomination, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1499. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Architect of the Capitol, transmitting the semiannual report of disbursements