

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of North Carolina's Sixth Congressional District, I thank Glenn Hoffner for his service. It is an honor to represent a true hero.

RECOGNIZING TOM KIESLA

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate my good friend, Tom Kiesla, who is retiring from a long career in the City of Orange.

Tom started in 1986 as a reserve police officer with the Orange Police Department. He worked his way up to officer, sergeant, lieutenant, and then chief of police.

Tom retired from the Orange Police Department in 2021 and was then appointed to become the interim city manager for the City of Orange. Under his leadership, the city's economy boomed and community outreach grew.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Tom for always being there for the citizens, for the community of the City of Orange. I congratulate him on a well-deserved retirement, and I look forward to seeing the next chapter in his life.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Tom.

HOOSIER HEARTLAND TOUR

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

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer an epilogue on my just-completed Hoosier Heartland Tour across Indiana's Sixth District.

I participated in 45 events. I engaged meaningfully with 1,800 Hoosiers. I reported back on my work in Congress. I listened to their concerns and priorities.

I met with leaders in our communities, including our Governor, to discuss how our Federal policies affect their lives. Together, we explored opportunities to deliver more for all Hoosiers.

I visited hardworking families, farmers, local businessowners, and the employees who make them go. I discussed our passage of the working families tax cuts. This bill, now law, allows Hoosiers to avoid perhaps the largest tax hike in our history. It offers tax predictability that encourages investment in Indiana's economy and a pathway to quickened economic growth.

My tour fostered conversations that will guide my work throughout the fall here in Congress. I return more committed than ever to advocate for Indiana's priorities and ensuring that our voices are represented in this Chamber.

□ 0910

CONGRATULATING BURBANK AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to celebrate Burbank American Little League, a beloved youth organization in my district which started in 1954 and currently serves 350 kids, ages 4 through 16.

As a lifelong baseball fan, I love watching these young players take the field with determination and energy. Just this summer, the minor league division, the 10-year-olds, made it to the State tournament, while the senior team won the fourth consecutive Central Region Tournament, something no other team has done before, and went on to represent our State in the Little League Senior League Baseball World Series.

Through every hard day of practice under the Sun, these young athletes build character and grow into independent adults.

Congratulations to the Burbank American Little League for their hard work. I look forward to many more seasons of teamwork and, of course, playing ball.

HONORING GORHAM HEROES

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the courageous first responders in Gorham, New York, who battled the devastating warehouse fire that put the entire community at risk. These men and women, many of them volunteers, stepped forward without hesitation, placing themselves in danger so that others could be safe.

Some came from neighboring towns to lend support, demonstrating that in New York's 24th district, we are united by a deep sense of duty and sacrifice.

Our volunteer fire departments are a powerful reminder that service is not confined to one community or one moment. Time and again, these men and women show us what it means to rush toward danger when others turn away. Their actions during this fire reflect the very best of who we are.

To every firefighter, first responder, and volunteer who sustained these efforts by bringing food and water, I extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation. This Congress honors their courage and devotion.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT MAJOR TROY BLACK

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

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Major Troy Black as he retires from a distinguished 37-year career in defense of our Nation.

Sergeant Major Black was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, before

joining the Marine Corps in 1988, rising to become the 19th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, the highest-ranking enlisted Marine.

In 2010, he earned a Bronze Star with Combat V after running through dangerous territory to reach a fellow Marine who had been struck by an IED.

He most recently served as the senior enlisted adviser to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the highest ranking enlisted position in all of our Armed Forces.

On behalf of all Kentuckians, we thank Sergeant Major Black for his bravery, his patriotism, and his service. He has made Louisville and our entire country proud.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAKE LARSON

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

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jake Larson, a World War II veteran and a beloved social media star who recently passed away at the age of 102.

Jake was born and raised in Owatonna, Minnesota, and was truly a hero to our Nation. In 1938, at the age of 15, though he may have said he was 18, he enlisted in the National Guard. Mr. Speaker, 4 years later he was sent overseas to Northern Ireland where he served as an operations sergeant, eventually assisting in the planning of the D-day invasion.

On June 6, 1944, Jake was among the brave and selfless heroes who stormed the beaches of Normandy, surviving relentless enemy bombardment and machine gun fire before ultimately pushing the Nazi forces off of Omaha Beach. Months later, he would go on to take part in the Battle of the Bulge, earning two medals for his service.

Later in life, "Papa Jake" was introduced to social media by his granddaughter, McKaela, where he shared stories of his experiences overseas during the war. His humor, humility, and heroism captured the hearts of millions, inspiring younger generations of Americans.

I have no doubt that Jake's legacy will live on through all those he impacted, both in person and through his videos. He was a courageous veteran, an inspiring storyteller, and, most importantly, a friend to all. He will truly be missed.

May he rest in peace.

RESTORING LIFESAVING FOOD AID

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the 36th time to call on the Trump administration to restore lifesaving food aid for starving children around the world.

Mr. Speaker, when we pull back from doing the right thing and helping meet humanitarian catastrophes, who steps in to fill the void? It is our adversaries, particularly China.

Make no mistake that last week's summit in China where Putin and Modi and the North Koreans were celebrating the demise of America's leadership in the world and the rise of authoritarianism, this was one of the issues that drove that meeting.

It wasn't just those big powers who were there. It was dozens of smaller countries from the developing world who are alarmed at the retreat of U.S. leadership and looking for help elsewhere. This hurts our national security.

The Trump administration needs to do what they said they were going to do and restore lifesaving food aid around the world. I will keep speaking out every day until they do.

RECOGNIZING KASSIE BARBER

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Kassie Barber, a dedicated teacher at Jamesville Elementary School in Martin County, North Carolina, has worked up the ranks.

She has served as a substitute teacher, teacher assistant, and schoolbus driver. Now this school year opening marks her first full year as a third grade teacher. Pursuing her lifelong dream, she returned to college and now follows in her mother's footsteps.

Mrs. Barber's passion for her students and for education shines brightly, making her a remarkable example in eastern North Carolina as an emerging school leader. Her mother, Judy, and Memaw instilled in her a deep love for working with children.

As her mother now looks over her in Room 115 from above, I wish Mrs. Barber and JES a great school year. Much like her special graduation, may her life continue to grow brighter with each passing day with her students.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TENNEY). Pursuant to House Resolution 672 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4553.

Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) kindly take the chair.

□ 0917

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4553) making appropriations for energy

and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, with Mr. BEAN of Florida (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, amendment No. 30 printed in House Report 119-232 offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) had been disposed of.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. BUDZINSKI).

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation because it strips away critical resources from projects that directly benefit my district.

One example is the investment of \$32 million awarded to the Kraft Heinz facility in Champaign, Illinois. This was the single largest award among the 10 sites approved under Kraft Heinz's grant of \$170 million from the Department of Energy.

These funds were not wasteful. They would have been transformative, reducing emissions for this plant by 99 percent.

□ 0920

That isn't just about energy policies. It is about protecting community health, and it is about growing good-paying union jobs.

Yet this administration chose to cancel this project, along with countless others, simply because it did not fit their political agenda.

That raises a fundamental question: What are their priorities?

Instead of investing in cleaner facilities, healthier communities, and good-paying jobs, they are pulling resources away from businesses making real commitments to reinvest locally and, ultimately, from the American people.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an amendment to reverse the Department of Energy's canceled awards and prohibit the department from canceling future awards based on their so-called priorities.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Ms. Budzinski moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4553 to the Committee on Appropriations with the following amendment:

At the appropriate place in title V, insert the following:

SEC. ____ (a) No agency or entity funded in this Act may terminate a Federal award for no longer effectuating the program goals or agency priorities, including pursuant to section 200.340(a)(4) of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) Any Federal award that was terminated by any of the agencies or entities funded in this Act after September 30, 2024, for no

longer effectuating the program goals or agency priorities, including pursuant to section 200.340(a)(4) of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, shall be reinstated by such agency or entity under its previous terms and conditions.

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Chair, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY.

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 31 printed in House Report 119-232.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 63, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,063,381)".

Page 74, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,063,381)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 672, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chairman, I might sound like a little bit of a broken record here, but, unfortunately, the broken record of \$37 trillion in debt and climbing continues as well, so we have just got to keep at it.

First, the Great Lakes Authority has only been authorized since 2022. It still does not have a Federal co-chair, so nobody is in charge. It has no website, and it has no programs funded. They haven't done anything.

They haven't spent any money making any lives better, yet, strangely, it is still receiving Federal dollars to the tune of \$4 million for projects allegedly in the watershed of the regions of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

The commission's programs are duplicative of other Federal economic development programs and are better addressed at the State and local levels. That is even if they do any projects, which they don't. They just get money.

Mr. Chairman, we have seen how the other commissions have gone. President Trump urged the elimination of many of them, and President Obama also recommended the elimination. With that level of bipartisan criticism of existing commissions, I don't see why we need to dig ourselves even deeper with another one, more debt, more projects that are supposed to be done by others, and no Federal nexus, but here we go.

I know that people in the building will scoff at the difference of \$2 million and \$4 million, but for folks where I live, \$2 million and \$4 million is a lot of money.

Remember, Mr. Chairman, whether it is four or two, no projects are being completed at this time by this organization. That is a lot of money to be throwing around at a commission that