

are leaving seniors to starve, underfunding the Meals on Wheels food assistance program by \$600 million, a move that is likely to cost 1.9 million needy people their access to food. This follows the big, ugly bill, which all but three Republicans voted for, making it the largest cut to food assistance in our Nation's history.

By flat-funding the vital Meals on Wheels program for seniors in the Health and Human Services appropriations bill, Republicans are ignoring the real increase in food costs that Americans are experiencing due to a lack of action by the administration to lower costs.

With all of this talk of Republicans making food access harder and harder for millions and millions of Americans, what did they do this weekend at the White House? They held an extravagant dinner in the newly paved area that once was the Rose Garden and had a three-course dinner and drinks, featuring Rose Garden salad—at least we know where the plants went that once were there—steak, and a fudge-filled, seven-layer cake, making their cuts to food assistance even more tone deaf than ever.

A fudge-filled, seven-layer cake? I guess the theme of the White House event was “let them eat cake.” How fitting.

CONGRATULATING AND HONORING ROSE MIMMS

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate and honor one of my constituents for her dedicated service to the pro-life movement across our State of Arkansas.

For decades, Rose Mimms has been a steadfast figure and advocate for the unborn and in support of their moms.

Earlier this year, Rose announced that she would be stepping down from her role as executive director of the Arkansas Right to Life, a position that she has held for over 30 years.

This, however, is not the end of Rose's service. She is refocusing her efforts on fostering and uplifting regional chapters of the Arkansas Right to Life across the State.

I thank Rose for her many years of dedication to the unborn and to the State of Arkansas. I wish her nothing but the best for the next chapter of her advocacy, and I look forward to continuing to watch her impact and perseverance in this important work.

RECOGNIZING DR. DAVID PETERSON

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. David Peterson for his outstanding service and dedication to keeping the Natural State natural.

Dr. Peterson was recently honored with the Neil Compton Award by the Ozark Society in recognition of his decades-long commitment to environmental stewardship.

Dr. Peterson's dedication to high standards for land, water, and wildlife habitat conservation in Arkansas reflects a commitment that I deeply value and commend.

Earlier this year, the Flatside Wilderness Act passed the House, enhancing this special corner of the Second Congressional District, creating new opportunities for Arkansans and visitors alike to enjoy the natural beauty of our State. Dr. Peterson's contributions are greatly appreciated throughout the effort to enhance Flatside Wilderness.

Dr. Peterson's service and dedication to conservation are a reminder of the lasting impact that one individual can have on protecting our shared natural heritage, and I thank Dr. Peterson for his service.

RECOGNIZING DR. ELIZABETH CLEVELAND

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Elizabeth Cleveland, cofounder of Fusion Center Network, a telehealth diagnostic clinic that will serve Arkansans and eventually all Americans.

Dr. Cleveland is a former professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Central Arkansas. Her focus is on fetal alcohol syndrome, which affects 1 in 20 babies, but less than 1 percent ever receive an accurate diagnosis.

By improving the diagnosis of fetal alcohol syndrome and other neurodevelopmental disorders, Dr. Cleveland and the Fusion Center Network will be able to help people have longer, healthier, and happier lives.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Cleveland and her colleagues on their new venture.

RECOGNIZING RPM GROUP

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, it is with immense pride that I rise to recognize and celebrate a remarkable business milestone: 70 years of success, growth, and innovation at Rector Phillips Morse, the RPM Group.

RPM is an Arkansas-based real estate company specializing in commercial and investment real estate, along with professional property management, creating hundreds of jobs in central Arkansas.

Known for its client-focused approach, RPM works with businesses large and small to find the space they need, and it helps Arkansans find homes and apartments.

Founded in 1955 by Arkansas Business Hall of Fame inductee Billy F. Rector and his partners, Byron Morse and Fe Phillips, they have gone from hard, humble beginnings in central Arkansas to the top in the real estate industry.

Madam Speaker, 17 years ago, RPM partnered with Coldwell Banker to expand its residential business, combining national brand power with their local expertise to better serve communities in Arkansas.

The theme of RPM's 70-year anniversary is “Building Tomorrow,” which

demonstrates the leaders of central Arkansas' unwavering focus on future growth, innovation, and long-term community impact.

I thank RPM for their continuous contributions for the betterment of Arkansans.

□ 1220

HALT WORK ORDERS

(Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, on August 22, the Trump administration, with absolutely no warning, issued a halt work order to an offshore wind project off the coast of southern New England that has been in the works for 9 years.

The developers of this project have invested close to \$4 billion, employed thousands of workers, and installed 45 out of 65 wind turbines that the Federal Government permitted in 2023.

As of August 22, 80 percent of the project is complete, and 100 percent of the turbine foundations have been placed on the ocean floor.

When the turbines are turned on, 704 megawatts of power will be transmitted by cable to Rhode Island and Connecticut. That is enough electricity to power 350,000 homes—400 megawatts to Rhode Island and 304 megawatts to Connecticut.

The wind power contracts approved by both States at a guaranteed rate will over time save money for ratepayers, particularly during cold, winter months, and will add to the grid at a time we all know demand for electricity is going to increase.

Incredibly, the Department of Energy's halt order was one-page long and cited nonspecific, vague “national security concerns” as the reason to suddenly eliminate good jobs and a plentiful supply of affordable electricity.

Despite repeated requests from the operators, the two States, and the congressional delegations, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, BOEM, has provided absolutely no description or detail of what exactly are the national security concerns that at this late hour could possibly justify such a drastic action.

The closest thing to an explanation came in a CNN interview with the Secretary of the Interior a few days ago, who cited “radar interference” and possible swarm attacks from undersea drones at the wind farm as potential threats.

Madam Speaker, here is the thing: During the yearslong permitting process, BOEM meticulously investigated all national security concerns, and its 2023 Record of Decision approving the project specifically had a section on national security. It specifically addressed the issue of radars which was resolved to the satisfaction of the Department of Defense and NORAD.

Madam Speaker, I have a letter from the Department of Defense dated December 2024, which states that the Department "has found that construction of the Revolution Wind project . . . would not have adverse impacts to DOD missions in the area." I include this letter in the RECORD.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, DC, December 13, 2024.

Reference: Federal Aviation Administration
Aeronautical Study Number: 2021-WTE-
2881-OE and 23 associated structures.

MS. WHITNEY MARSH,
Ørsted, Providence, RI.

DEAR MS. MARSH: Thank you for your participation in the Mitigation Response Team to assess and overcome military impacts from your proposed Revolution Wind project off the coast of Squibnocket Beach in Chilmark, Massachusetts. In a letter dated October 27, 2021, the Department of Defense (DoD) described the potential impacts to military operations for the project.

As a result of discussions between Ørsted and the U.S. Air Force and a resulting mitigation agreement signed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment on November 4, 2024, the Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse (Clearinghouse) has found that construction of the Revolution Wind project, with no more than 65 wind turbines up to 873 feet above sea level and no more than two offshore substations up to 228 feet above sea level, would not have adverse impacts to DoD missions in the area. The Clearinghouse has entered a determination of "No Objection with Provision" for this project via the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis system.

Our response to the FAA included a notification that additional structure proposals or an increase to the current maximum structure height may present an adverse impact. We encourage you to engage DoD prior to any proposed expansion or height increase.

If you have any concerns, please contact Ms. Robbin Beard, Clearinghouse Deputy Director.

Sincerely,

STEVEN J. SAMPLE,
*Executive Director, Military Aviation and
Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse.*

Mr. COURTNEY. Regarding the swarming undersea drones, Revolution Wind has a contract with ThayerMahan, a maritime company that installs and operates undersea surveillance technology using sonar rays and pickets to keep watch and detect malign activity. They protect wind farms today. They protect oil rigs today. They protect U.S. maritime ports today with the finest technology.

Madam Speaker, Secretary Burgum and his staff at BOEM should review its own prior investigation on national security and actually meet with the developers and undersea experts in Connecticut and Rhode Island to learn about the thorough, comprehensive investments and systems that were developed with the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy, the Department of Defense, and the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure the safe, reliable operation of the wind farms.

Madam Speaker, this halt work order needs to be overturned quickly. As we

heard on Friday, the U.S. labor market is weakening, and we know the cost of electricity is going up.

Leaving Revolution Wind in limbo with thousands of jobs on the line is completely unacceptable.

It is no secret that the President doesn't like wind power, but this project has been permanent, paid for, and is 80 percent finished. Leaving the halt work order in place is hurting working families and electric ratepayers.

Lawsuits have been filed, and the U.S. Government and taxpayers are going to pay dearly for this uncalled for about-face on a project that the government approved 2 years ago.

The better path is to quickly lift the order, meet face-to-face with the developer and the Governors of Rhode Island and Connecticut to end this chaos and get the operating engineers, the longshoremen, the laborers, and the electrical workers back on track to finish the job that today is 80 percent finished.

That is not a partisan statement. That is simple common sense.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF PAUL MCDONALD

(Mr. MOYLAN of Guam was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MOYLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness to honor the life and legacy of Mayor Paul McDonald, who has left us after decades of devoted service to our island of Guam.

Over the course of decades, Mayor McDonald faithfully served his village, making him not only a leader but a constant presence in the lives of the families he represented. His tenure as the longest serving mayor is not just a record of years. It is a record of trust built through commitment, humility, and care for our people.

From the earliest days of his service, Mayor McDonald understood that leadership in Guam's villages is personal. It means being present at every gathering, comforting families in times of loss, and rolling up your sleeves to fix problems no matter how small or large. He carried that responsibility with honor, embodying the true spirit of "inafa'maolek"; "to make good with one another."

Mayor McDonald's leadership was never about titles or recognition. It was about ensuring that children had safe places to grow, that our "manamko"; "elders" are respected and supported and that village life remained rooted in dignity, family, and tradition. Through typhoons, economic hardships, and moments of challenge, he stood as a steady hand and a reassuring voice for his constituents.

What made Mayor McDonald remarkable was not only his longevity in office but the way he never grew tired of serving. Even after decades, his door was open. His voice was steady, and his heart remained committed to the people.

He leaves behind a legacy that will be remembered not just in the record books but in the daily lives of those who called on him and knew they could count on him.

Guam has lost a true public servant. We will remember Mayor McDonald as a man whose life's work was defined by compassion, dedication, and an unwavering love for his people.

I extend my deepest condolences to the McDonald family and to all who mourn his passing. May his life of service inspire future generations to lead with the same humility and strength. "Si Yu'os Ma'ase"; "thank you," Mayor McDonald, for your many years of sacrifice and service. May you rest in eternal peace.

SCHOOL FUNDING SLASHED

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Madam Speaker, in the past few weeks, students returned to school across Virginia and across the country, including my two daughters.

Unfortunately, while students were enjoying their summer breaks, this administration moved to slash funding and resources for public education across the country. Those funds are funds that were needed to ensure that our kids get a great education.

This administration has now illegally withheld billions of dollars in congressionally approved education funding, forcing schools to delay or cancel programs.

In northern Virginia, our schools have been the target of even more funding cuts over culture wars and partisan politics. This has come at a time when Virginia is still dealing with learning loss.

As this administration has continued to make plans to cut even more education funding, including at the Department of Education itself, we need to make sure that we are pushing back and fighting back against these cuts because our kids are worth it.

The big, ugly bill slashed funding for Medicaid and SNAP, which families in our community rely on to keep their kids healthy and fed. If we really want to be profamily, prokids, and proparents, we would be investing in our students, not causing chaos and confusion by cutting resources and making our schools less safe and underfunded.

I will continue to work with my colleagues, and I hope this can be bipartisan, to push back on these cuts to education.

□ 1230

COMBATING THE RISE IN HATE

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Madam Speaker, hate has no place in our communities, and that is why I condemn the recent hateful attacks on Hindu temples and mandirs all across the country.