

(1) The Secretary shall—

(A) perform a structured analysis to develop a comprehensive list of housing areas in which members of the Armed Forces and their families may face the most critical challenges in finding and affording private sector housing in the community;

(B) in conducting the analysis under subparagraph (A), consider the unique characteristics of a location, such as vacation rental areas; and

(C) regularly update the list required under subparagraph (A) not less frequently than once every two years.

(2) The Secretary shall obtain and use feedback on the financial and quality-of-life effects of limited supply or unaffordable housing on members of the Armed Forces, through the status of forces survey and other service or installation-specific feedback mechanisms.

(3) The Secretary shall, in coordination with the Secretary of each military department—

(A) develop a plan for how the Department of Defense can respond to and address the financial and quality-of-life effects in housing areas identified under paragraph (1); and

(B) in developing the plan under subparagraph (A), examine strategies for increasing housing supply or providing alternative compensation to offset the effects of limited supply or unaffordable housing in housing areas identified under paragraph (1).

(4) The Secretary shall clarify, through the issuance of guidance to the military departments, the role of the Office of the Secretary of Defense in oversight of the Housing Requirements and Market Analysis process of the military departments to ensure that—

(A) the military departments conduct such process in a timely manner; and

(B) the Secretary submits to Congress any plans or other matters relating to such process for each fiscal year as required by existing law.

(5) The Secretary shall ensure that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment provides updated guidance to the military departments on how installations of the Department of Defense should coordinate with local communities, including by clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of commanders and military housing offices of such installations in addressing housing needs.

(C) **NON-IMPLEMENTATION REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—If the Secretary of Defense elects not to implement a recommendation specified under subsection (a), as modified under subsection (b), the Secretary shall, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that includes a justification for such election.

AMENDMENT NO. 252 OFFERED BY MS. RANDALL OF WASHINGTON

At the appropriate place in subtitle F of title XXVIII, insert the following:

**SEC. 28. SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM.**

It is the sense of Congress that:

(1) Defense community infrastructure program (“DCIP”) funding should better align with the scale of community requests, which have consistently exceeded available resources.

(2) Increased investment in DCIP would support projects essential to readiness and resilience, including transportation, utilities, schools, medical facilities, and workforce housing in defense communities.

(3) Congress supports strengthening DCIP to meet infrastructure needs in defense communities and ensure continued mission readiness.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 682, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL).

Ms. RANDALL. Madam Chair, I rise today to urge support of three amendments to the NDAA that the House will be considering today.

The first amendment directs the Department of Defense to identify and address barriers to Tribal participation in the Defense Community Infrastructure Program, also known as DCIP.

In Washington’s Sixth, that means working with Tribes like the Jamestown S’Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Skokomish, and Suquamish, whose communities are near naval installations.

By including Tribal voices and needs in this critical program, we can ensure that Tribal infrastructure priorities, such as clean water, transportation, and broadband support both our installations and the quality of life of our servicemembers.

My second amendment directs the DOD to implement GAO’s October 2024 recommendations on military housing.

In Washington’s Sixth, we know housing shortages and rising costs force long commutes for sailors, their families, and the local Federal civilian workforce.

Safe, affordable housing is not a perk. It is a prerequisite for military readiness, retention, and strong communities across Kitsap and the Olympic Peninsulas.

Finally, my third amendment adds language supporting robust funding for DCIP. The program is oversubscribed every year, leaving worthy projects in Bremerton and across the Olympic Peninsula and the rest of the country unfunded.

Robust investment will allow us to deliver shovel-ready projects that improve quality of life, readiness, family stability, and resilience.

Together, these amendments strengthen fairness, housing, and infrastructure for servicemembers, their families, and defense communities in Washington’s Sixth Congressional District.

I urge my colleagues to support these amendments and to not include any poison pill amendments that would jeopardize these bipartisan priorities.

□ 1620

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Chair, this is a bipartisan en bloc package comprised of amendments worked in advance with the ranking member.

I thank the Members for their contributions to the NDAA and their com-

mitment to national security. I urge Members to support the package, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Chair, I support the en bloc package. I urge passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Alabama) having assumed the chair, Ms. HAGEMAN, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3838) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

Accordingly, the Committee rises.

**PEOPLE ARE SICK AND TIRED**

(Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. ROY of Texas was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity, as always, to be here in the House Chamber and try to be a voice for the people across this country.

The people that I represent, of course, as does the Speaker and my colleagues, we each represent three-quarters of a million people, give or take, but we also try to be a voice for everybody. We try to be a voice for the people who don’t have a voice.

The people that I represent and the people across this country that I talk to are sick and tired. They are sick and tired of being put in danger because radical, progressive Democrats, radical progressive politicians, radical progressive judges, radical progressive district attorneys, radical progressive NGOs, George Soros, the people funding all of these entities are pushing criminals onto the streets of our country and causing harm to Americans, Americans who have been here for generations or Americans who came here seeking refuge from, for example, Ukraine.

How many of my colleagues come to the floor of the House wearing a blue and yellow ribbon or a blue and yellow pin? They wear it for show, and they wear it to pat themselves on the back. They wear it to seem like they are the ones with a heart when other people question whether we should fund endless war. They wear it to say that they care.

But where were they when Iryna Zartuska was being brutally stabbed in public transit in North Carolina? Where is the media who were outraged when Daniel Penny, a marine, stopped a violent offender on a New York subway and then was the one being charged and prosecuted for a crime?

What if Iryna Zartuska had Daniel Penny sitting next to her so that she wouldn't have lost her life? As a refugee from Ukraine, she was coming to supposedly the freest and strongest and greatest country on Earth. She was brutally murdered because feel-good radical liberals with their jailbreak, let-all-the-criminals-out, open borders, take money from George Soros, DAs, and judges put these criminals on the streets. You have a guy who was a 14-time offender, 14-time offender sitting behind this beautiful girl, and he just stabs her to death on a train car.

□ 1630

Where is all the wailing and the gnashing of teeth from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle? Where are their blue and yellow ribbons today?

All the sanctimonious preaching sure is silent because they can't bear to acknowledge that if you don't enforce the law, if you invite criminals from around the world into our country with open borders, if you let criminals on our streets with foolish policies by radical judges and district attorneys, then, as my friend from Louisiana knows as a former law enforcement officer, our streets are no longer safe and the American Dream is no longer able to be achieved. The freedom we are supposed to enjoy is not possible without the security you are supposed to have under the rule of law.

We used a lot of big words from the Declaration of Independence all the way through today. We talk about a lot of great words: "equal justice under the law," "liberty," "rights," "freedom," but if you don't have the rule of law, none of it matters.

The reason people come to the United States, the reason they flock to our country from around the world, is because of the rule of law. Enforcing our constitutional rights, given to us by God, recognized by our Founders, defended with the blood of patriots, but enforced under the law.

They come here knowing they can invest their capital, build a business, and not have it taken away by the State. They know that they can walk the streets freely, or they think that they can walk the streets freely, and not be assaulted. They believe that they can raise a family, grow and develop a community, and live the American Dream that they have seen play out.

They want to come here, but then when people with their fake ribbons and their feel-good propaganda let criminals on the streets, ignore the rule of law, and walk away from the men and women in blue as they did in the summer of 2020 when our cities

were burning and our law enforcement were being attacked, when they defunded the police in Austin, Texas, as the radical city council did there, then real people suffer. Americans get hurt, and the American Dream dies.

The suspect that I talked about with the brutal stabbing in North Carolina was 34 years old with a history of mental illness and a long rap sheet: multiple convictions for armed robbery, felony larceny, breaking and entering; more than 5 years in prison; and 14 criminal cases.

His own family had warned of his history of schizophrenia. His own sister said that "he didn't seem like himself," when he was released from prison. He assaulted his sister, and now that guy is roaming the public.

His release from this incident was conditioned on a written promise that he would appear for his next hearing, only for him to be charged with murdering this young woman.

Why would North Carolina officeholders, politicians, and judges not confine or institutionalize this young man? Because a radical ideology has taken root, particularly in my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, but my colleagues on this side of the aisle are not immune to the belief that you can put criminals on the street and not undermine the American Dream.

The so-called progressive prosecutor movement advocates for less incarceration and less policing; decarceration, procriminal policies that undermine public safety.

On January 22, 2025, San Antonio Police Department officers responded to calls at a San Antonio apartment complex reporting a suicidal individual who was armed and firing his weapon. When officers arrived, the suspect, Brandon Scott Poulos, fired upon the officers, striking one of them in the leg. Poulos wound up barricading himself in an hours-long standoff and shot an additional six officers before San Antonio PD neutralized the situation. Thankfully, all seven officers survived.

He was a 46-year-old with a history of erratic behavior. He was charged with DWI and assault. A few days before the shooting, he had been arrested for two charges of injury to an elderly person; one charge of assault, family violence causing bodily injury; and one charge of driving while intoxicated.

The Bexar County Magistrate's Office—Bexar County is where San Antonio is—issued a protective order against Poulos with instructions not to contact the family members. Three days later and less than 24 hours before the January 22 shooting of seven San Antonio cops, Poulos violated his protective order by visiting a prohibited residence and threatening to kill himself and to shoot at any officer.

The Bexar County D.A. in San Antonio, led by a progressive prosecutor, has imposed criminal leniency initiatives that have not only put law-abiding Americans in danger but also police officers, too.

The fact is, we are letting the inmates not just run the asylum, but letting the inmates run our communities. Then, under the Biden administration, we are inviting other countries to dump their prisons out into our communities. The radical progressives who allowed that to happen, supported it, and encouraged it are now attacking President Trump for daring to undo the damage, reverse the open borders and secure them, and then try to remove the dangerous criminals who are walking the streets of the United States because of the radical progressives and their open-border policies.

I know my friend from Louisiana has a lifetime of service, not just as a Congressman, but also in law enforcement. I wonder if my brother from Louisiana would like to expand upon my thesis that the rule of law is the central element of a strong and prosperous United States and that when our radical progressive friends undermine it by releasing criminals, leaving our borders open, refusing to enforce the law, and handing down light sentences, it endangers our people and undermines the very American Dream that people seek to achieve when they come to our land.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), my friend.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my colleague and friend, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would prefer not to have to expound upon this topic. What I would prefer is that my colleagues in this body, on both sides of the aisle, embrace the very somber responsibility of encouraging and supporting the laws of our land.

□ 1640

Yet, we find ourselves in a position as conservatives where our warnings of the past echo upon a nearly empty Chamber as we discuss the horrors of the day and the crimes that have been committed upon the citizens we are sworn to serve that need not have been committed. This is because of the culture that we have allowed to spread across our country, as my friend has spoken on, that we have allowed elected officials to embrace, that culture that has woven its way into the fabric of our country that pushes back against the prevention of crime and the enforcement of law, and sells this idea that we are somehow a less compassionate nation if we do not continually release career criminals upon the streets. There is this notion that we can somehow enforce criminal law with social vagaries; this idea that somehow if we will just be very, very nice to the criminal element, they will just stop committing crimes upon the law-abiding of our country.

We have to stand against the existence of that concept, certainly in this body that is responsible for being the voice of we the people. In cases where horrors are forced upon our innocent

citizens by career criminals that should have well been institutionalized or imprisoned for many, many years, we have a responsibility to speak out.

I would say that it is far from compassionate, as a citizenry, to continue to release career criminals. I would offer to yourself and the country, Mr. Speaker, for your consideration, maybe my fellow citizens have to realize that the best shot that some of these guys that are in the game on the criminal side of this thing, the best shot they have at rehabilitation is jail, the very best shot.

I have seen it again and again and again in my career. I have had criminals that I have taken off the street, that have lived a life just immersed in drugs and crime and alcohol and violence. And maybe for the first time in their life they were truly treated with the respect of man to man is when I arrested them and took them off the street and walked them through the booking process. I told them then that they have a potential for a better life and a better day, but their path to a brighter future comes through my jail. I advised them to take that time in that jail to reflect upon their life and the potential that they have to turn themselves around.

Years later, Mr. Speaker, I have had these same guys come to me, who are now free, and say thank you. Thank you for talking to me the way you did and handling me the way you did and making me realize that my path to a better life began through jail.

The fact that this horrible man should brutally stab this innocent woman, that is part of the national narrative right now. The fact that we are dealing with that horror brings us to hold accountable every judge that let him go and every prosecutor that refused to force charges upon that man, every elected official and politician that stood for cashless bail. Every member of our society that stood on the wrong side of this thing should take a deep look in the mirror.

I say to my friend, Mr. ROY, who is a gentleman who supports the enforcement of law, he is a good and compassionate man, a father and husband, he is determined to serve his country, and asking our fellow man, Mr. Speaker, to hear this message: enforce existing laws, prosecute violent criminals, incarcerate those who are convicted, and maintain that incarceration until they are reformed or their sentence is complete.

We say this not just for ourselves, but for the murdered, for the lost, for the forgotten, for the unseen victims of crime across our country.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to see if my friend from Louisiana can stick around a little bit longer.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Yes, sir.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend from Louisiana because of his long history of distinguished service, and he knows what he is talking about.

I know that the gentleman from Louisiana came to my home State of Texas when the people that I represent were ravaged by the floods that affected our community in Kerrville, Texas, the gentleman dropped what he was doing to come up and help when we were in the search and in the rescue.

I just want to say to the gentleman, as a representative of the thousands of people who came to our State to try to help at a time when our people were hurting, but also people around the Nation were affected because of what happened to the camps—that I am proud to represent and that we will rebuild and that we will have going forward to have these wonderful children be able to learn the gospel and spread the gospel and become lights into the world.

I know that my friend from Louisiana would allow us to indulge a favor to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) to have a 1-minute remark about something that is important to him, but I wanted to take a moment to share my prayerful solidarity with my brother from Georgia because he had a family member, a young girl who was unfortunately lost in that terrible flood, and I bring that up because we were all affected by it. We had so many loved ones who were impacted, but the faith of that community and the faith of the people in this Nation and the faith of the people in Texas who have come together under the cross that stands up on that hill in Kerrville and the people who have generously contributed now \$150 million and counting that are going in to help those people, and the first responders who showed up on the scene and the people like my friend and the former sheriff, my buddy from Louisiana, who dropped everything to come up represents all that is good and great about this great Nation, who show up to help each other when we need to.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for a different topic, but I wanted to tell him how much my family has been praying for him and all the families affected.

HONORING JUDITH JURGENSEN MELROY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his kind comments.

I did have two granddaughters in Texas, and they are okay, but they did lose their cousin, Janie Hunt, 9 years old. What a tragedy. I thank both of these gentlemen for their work during that time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Judy Jurgensen Melroy.

A native of Savannah, Georgia, Mrs. Melroy lived a life defined by faith, service, and love for others. Her passion for learning led her to become a teacher, where she inspired countless young people and passed on her joy for education to future generations.

At home, she poured her heart into raising her sons, who remember her not

only for her guidance but also for her playful spirit, often joining them in the yard. Through her devotion, each pursued the highest levels of education, a reflection of the values she instilled.

Beyond her family and classroom, Mrs. Melroy was known throughout her community as a nurturer, always ready to offer comfort, encouragement, and care. Her faith was central to her life, and her talents as a painter and singer brought joy to all who knew her.

To her husband, Donald, to her sons, Michael, Chris, and Joel, today we celebrate her extraordinary legacy of love, service, and light.

□ 1650

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, since we are talking about the rule of law, I will not regale you with stories of my misspent youth on St. Patrick's Day in his fair city of Savannah.

I will say that earlier my friend from Louisiana was talking about the importance of the rule of law. We were talking about the context of criminals being let out prematurely, not giving them the ability to actually come to a place where they can again interact with society. We can talk about the mix with mind-altering drugs. We can talk about the misdiagnoses. We can talk about all of the things that we can and should do better. I know that my friend from Louisiana, a devout Catholic, a devout believer in the healing power and the grace of our Saviour, I know that he, like I, believe in the power of forgiveness and being able to work to rehabilitate and that we are called to do that. However, that is not an excuse for irresponsibly, programmatically, and politically putting individuals on the street who have no business being there.

In that same vein, I know that my friend from Louisiana is a staunch believer in a secure border, as most Americans are. I want to make a couple of points and see what the gentleman thinks. So when you look at the damage that was being done by the previous administration, not as most people think, by just ignoring the border and letting people get in, but rather encouraging and purposefully pulling people into the United States by virtue of the misapplication, misinterpretation, and straight-out disregard of the law to abuse our compassionate parole and asylum policies meant and reserved for those in dire need of protection from political persecution and other areas defined in the law for special purposes. For instance, you might be granted parole to care for a sick loved one legally in the United States. You might be granted some specific purpose for that one individual because we are a compassionate Nation.

Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, led by the previous President, led by the previous Secretary, led by the previous Vice President, purposely bastardized the law for political purposes, endangering children who were

raped on the journey, using this human chattel callously for political purposes, flooding our communities with criminals from other countries.

Now, the President of the United States who ran on reversing that is doing so, and President Trump, Steve Miller, Tom Homan, Secretary Noem, the brave men and women of ICE, the brave men and women of Border Patrol, all of our law enforcement should be roundly commended for doing their job. I can tell you the relief of those great men and women to have a President and a Secretary that has their back and that believes in them and has allowed them to carry out their mission under the law, rather than accusing them of whipping someone they fully knew did not happen.

It is a new day in America where the flow across the border is statistically zero, as it should be, compared to the millions that flowed in for 4 years under Joe Biden. The Trump administration has, to the best of my understanding, arrested some 359,000 individuals for removal in the first 7 months of this administration, 70 percent of whom had pending criminal charges or convictions contrary to the allegations of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Why are our colleagues on the other side of the aisle protesting the removal of murderers, sex offenders, drug traffickers, child abusers, gun criminals, gang members threatening our communities, killing our citizens like Jocelyn Nungaray or Rachel Moran, Laken Riley?

For the other 30 percent, they are illegal aliens who broke our immigration laws. They literally broke our laws.

I know that the gentleman from Louisiana feels so strongly that we should back up our law enforcement community that he raised a privileged matter on the floor of the House involving one of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle who has been indicted for interfering with law enforcement, and not just interfering with law enforcement, interfering with ICE, the law enforcement personnel which she is charged with overseeing in her service on the Committee on Homeland Security.

I know the gentleman rightfully brought that matter before the House. My colleagues will continue to address that matter in the future.

I wonder if the gentleman could speak to the importance—to this body and our leaders of this country, the 435 people in this Chamber, the 100 on the other side of the building, the President, and the people who report to him, the judges in the Supreme Court and throughout our courts in the country—the importance of enforcing the law, of standing alongside, not blindly, but standing alongside our law enforcement community to protect the rule of law that he so artfully described with respect to our jails and the enforcement of laws in our communities, but

also to enforce our border in concert with local law enforcement and how important it is that we stand alongside them, that we stand up and hold ourselves accountable for doing that work and the proper oversight and the proper leadership to secure our Nation.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), my good friend.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me additional time to address these issues.

Our sovereign border, Mr. Speaker, our southern border is 1,954 miles long. I have scouted every mile by airplane, helicopter, four-wheel drive vehicle, on horseback, and on foot. I have scouted every mile.

That 1,954 miles of southern border on the American side of our border, the northern side of that border, is patrolled by some of the finest law enforcement professionals that the world has ever known. It is absolutely within the reach of those law enforcement professionals to effectively enforce our laws on American territory and American soil to the north of that 1,954-mile sovereign border.

□ 1700

Mr. Speaker, the southern side of that sovereign border is 100 percent controlled by criminal cartels.

Mr. Speaker, if we have an American Government executive authority that determines by its policy it is not going to enforce the law with a certain vigor that is required, when on the other side of the sovereign border, there very well-funded, well-armed, and organized criminal cartels, we are effectively partnering with those cartels.

There is a partnership in whatever criminal activity they are engaged in. At our southern border, the criminal cartel traffic human beings and drugs into our country. In 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, the executive branch of our government—the prior President and Secretary of Homeland Security—effectively partnered with the criminal cartels to traffic human beings and drugs into the heart of our country.

The impact that we had to bear was immeasurable. It delivered generational trauma into our country. That was a policy decision and a series of expansion of that policy over the course of 4 years that led to millions upon millions upon millions of illegals coming into our country.

In many cases, they themselves were victims of the lies that the former executive branch put forth into the entire cartel pipeline, deep into South American and through Central American. Rather than a law enforcement professional body, they drew these illegals into our country where they were waived in by a Federal law enforcement body transformed into a reception and processing force. The negative impact was 100 percent the result of policy.

Our colleagues across the aisle told us for years, Mr. Speaker: We need

more money. Why don't Republicans give more money to the Biden administration? Well, Congress should pass more laws.

We said for those years: More laws are not required. Enforcement of existing law and the will to do so is what is required. More money is not required.

It is the same 1,954 miles of border, the same personnel, the same roads, the same physical barriers, the same communications systems, and the same surveillance systems. In 2 weeks under the new administration, we went from 8,000 to 10,000 illegal crossings a day to almost zero because of a change in policy.

The guilt and the deep accountability of every injury and every dead American, every injured family, that responsibility lies with those who develop the policy that encouraged the illegal trafficking of human beings and drugs into our country.

Over 200,000 Americans are now dead. They can't vote for either party. They are dead from drugs trafficked into our country in those 4 years. They are dead from fentanyl poisoning.

There are 435 of us here and 100 Members of our colleagues across campus in the Senate. There are 535 children of God, Democrat or Republican, by God, who are absolutely responsible for the decisions and laws that come out of the American Congress.

Article I gives us the authority and, therefore, the responsibility to be the voice of we the people. For 4 years, that voice cried out to be heard. Enforce the law. Protect the citizens. Restore the sovereignty of our border. Now, thank God, we have.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) for allowing me to address these concerns.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from (Louisiana) Mr. HIGGINS.

Mr. Speaker, I want to put a name and a face on the environment that was created by our colleagues and by the previous administration in endangering people.

We talk about: Say his name. Say the name of Jimmy Friesenhahn. In San Antonio, a father of a young daughter, a veteran of the Marine Corps, Jimmy fell victim to the pro-criminal policies and the open border that my friend from Louisiana just described.

On May 4, 2025, a mere 4 months ago, he was working as a security guard at a restaurant on the west side of San Antonio. The perpetrator, Wilmer Vladimir Ruiz-Ortega, attempted to enter the bar. He was stopped by Jimmy to be searched for contraband.

Jimmy identified a handgun. It led to a struggle, which resulted in the suspect gaining control of it, firing it, and striking Jimmy at least once. Jimmy medically died on the scene but was revived. It struck him in the neck, leaving him with a spinal injury, along with a ruptured esophagus and vocal cords.

He was in the ICU at San Antonio Military Medical Center with life-

threatening injuries for months. Doctors say he will never fully recover.

The suspect is a 29-year-old illegal alien who entered the United States as a got-away. He was arrested in San Antonio and charged with a DWI in 2020. He was let go on a personal reconnaissance bond but failed to show up.

The Bexar County DA downgraded the DWI. He pled guilty to obstructing a passageway, but he violated the probation. He got arrested again. He was let go after posting a bond of \$1,500. He failed to show up.

He was arrested a fourth time in November of 2024. He was sentenced to time served. He assaulted a girlfriend and fled the scene. After shooting Jimmy, then the Bexar County DA only pursued aggravated assault charges and set his bond at \$200,000. He is not in jail. He was granted house arrest.

Jimmy was a father and a veteran. His brother said Jimmy always put himself before others. Why do the people entrusted with securing our communities and enforcing the law not put Jimmy before the illegal alien who shouldn't have been here, should have been removed, and shouldn't have been let out five times to carry out and perpetrate this kind of crime?

The American people are asking: What happened? What happened to our country?

□ 1710

As far as a refugee from Ukraine, do you remember when our colleagues waved all the Ukrainian flags on the House floor?

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Where are they now?

Mr. ROY. Where were they today, Mr. Speaker? Were they waving the Ukrainian flag to honor that young girl who was brutally murdered by a criminal released by a radical progressive funded by radical progressives?

They are nowhere to be found. They are MIA.

The legacy media, also run by radical progressives, can't even bring it up. They can't even put it on the television. They don't dare to talk about it because it doesn't fit the narrative.

The American people are sick of having their way of life that their forefathers fought, bled, and died for, and that their brothers, sisters, moms, and dads worked to build for them and to pass down to their kids, ripped to shreds by people who don't give a rip about the rule of law, the Constitution, or our way of life as God-fearing Americans who say that we put our trust in God right above the flag that those brave men and women wore into combat so that we could be here and live supposedly free.

We are unable to live free because we are not secure. We are not secure because radical politicians, judges, and NGOs are working furiously for political gain and political purposes to advance a radical Marxist ideology to undermine our security.

It is a war on our way of life. It is a war on Western civilization itself. It is a war on the Constitution and the rule of law.

Every day that goes by is another day in which the very things that built this country are under assault, including, I might add, and in no doubt controversially, our belief in the Almighty God and His Son punished for our transgressions on the cross and our collective belief in Him as a nation that built this country.

This country and too many of its citizens have turned their backs on that truth.

The fact is, and the last point I will make, is that those radical progressives with their remaking of America with wide-open borders—and open borders include unfettered visas from all corners of the world—is purposely driven for economic, political, and other purposes, but usually involving the buck and power.

There are people who are advancing sharia law and advancing an Islamist political worldview directly and purposely in conflict with our Western values and our Constitution. It is a declaration of war on our way of life.

In Houston, just this weekend, an imam affiliated with the Nation of Islam was going around claiming to be patrolling Muslim-owned shops, telling them to stop selling alcohol and lottery tickets because they violate Islamic law. As communities in Texas are built upon large pieces of land, hundreds of acres, they are building up Muslim-only cities. This is purposeful.

We had Nigel Farage and others testifying in the Judiciary Committee this past week.

I asked Mr. Farage if the advance of Islam and the importation of sharia law are consistent with Western civilization, the Western civilization responsible for providing more peace, more prosperity, better living conditions, and more freedom for more people than the world has ever seen. His answer was, of course, no, it is not.

Our friends across the pond can barely find themselves able to defend what little free speech remains on their island. A comic, a comedian, came to the United States and made a joke about transgenderism. I don't even know what the joke was. He flies home to the U.K. and is arrested for hate speech even as the Parliament is advancing an Islamophobia bill, to which I ask: Who is going to win that war? Who is going to win that fight? We either believe and uphold the values of Western civilization or we don't.

Mr. Speaker, you can believe what you want. You can believe in God or not. You can go to church or not. What you cannot do is advance a radical ideology deeply at odds, directly in conflict, and purely designed to undermine the very values that have built this Nation and the advance of freedom around the world because, at our core, our values are built on our faith.

This Nation is more likely to crumble under its own weight, its own er-

rors, than it is by invasion unless we meet the moment, unless we stand up, and unless we say never again.

Never again will we allow the power of government to be rained down upon the American people with mandates of masks and vaccines in the name of fear and in the name of healthcare.

Never again will we allow open borders to trample our community, endanger our citizens, and filter dangerous narcotics into our communities.

Never again will we allow the Chinese Communist Party to buy up our lands, our meatpacking facilities, and our critical medical production companies.

Never again will we allow our communities to get overrun with forced Marxist, DEI, and critical race theory ideology that undermines the very fabric of our community.

Never again will we allow the lawless and dangerous criminals to be on the streets because a faraway judge or bureaucrat getting paid off by an NGO says so.

Never again. Never again.

This moment of reprieve and this moment of common sense in which President Trump is restoring a modicum of what we need to restore the rule of law and secure borders and enforcement of the law and removal of criminals is meeting resistance at every turn. Even this moment of reprieve in which the President, President Trump, is restoring common sense by eliminating DEI, CRT, and all this stuff in our agencies and our Pentagon, even this moment of reprieve is just that, a moment of reprieve from the march of the Marxist, tyrannical ideology that is deeply at odds with our founding principles and who we are as a Judeo-Christian nation and as people who believe in something bigger and better for our kids and grandkids that is rooted in the sacrifice of the millions who came before us.

□ 1720

This reprieve must be met with the energy and the resolve of those who died before us: the men of the Alamo, the men who stormed the beaches of Normandy, the men on the fields of Lexington and Concord, the men and women who have answered the call to defeat terror, the men and women in blue who actually stand on that thin blue line even when they are abandoned.

All of those who have answered the call deserve Members of this body, Members of the Senate, elected leaders across the country to risk even an ounce of what those men and women are willing to risk. They must risk the election certificate upon which they hold like a death grip.

I say to my colleagues: Do something bigger and better. Take this moment of reprieve and say never again. Never again will we endanger our citizens; never again with open borders; never again with criminals on our streets; never again with drugs; never again

with tyrannical mandates, vaccines stuck in the arm; never again with radical ideology and transgender ideology politically motivated harming our young women, undermining their advancement; never again.

Never again do we yield to the corporatists who gobble up our small businesses and undermine our way of life. Never again will we yield to ideology in the name of political expediency, but rather, stand up and defend this the greatest country that the world has ever known without which people will be relegated to a world without the American Dream backed by the security and safety of the people willing to lay it all on the line to defend it.

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

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR TO THE HONORABLE NYDIA VELAZQUEZ, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Evelyn Cruz, District Director to the Honorable Nydia Velazquez, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, September 8, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Evelyn Cruz, District Director to the Honorable Nydia Velázquez, U.S. Representative for the 7th Congressional District of New York, have been served a third-party deposition subpoena in litigation before the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

EVELYN CRUZ

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 10, 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-1896. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-014 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1897. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-019 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to

Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1898. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-020 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1899. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-043 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1900. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-045 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1901. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-025 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 682. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3838) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3486) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase penalties for individuals who illegally enter and reenter the United States after being removed, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-255). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2034. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements of the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship, with an amendment (Rept. 119-256). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 3481. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for electronic communication relating to educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-257). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2701. A bill to direct the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a program to identify American-Jewish servicemembers buried in United States military cemeteries overseas under markers that incorrectly represent their religion and heritage, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-258). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 3951. A bill to amend the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 and the John-

Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 to improve the temporary licensure requirements for contract health care professionals who perform medical disability examinations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-259). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 3854. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit a plan to expand the use of certain automation tools in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-260). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2334. A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to preempt any squatter's rights established by State law regarding real property owned by a member of the uniformed services, with an amendment (Rept. 119-261). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 3579. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the Veterans Readiness and Employment program of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-262). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCGUIRE:

H.R. 5218. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security establish a publicly available web page on the website of the Department of Homeland Security to permit individuals to view active border wall construction and progress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 5219. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to assess the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Camden Battlefield area in the State of South Carolina as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BALINT, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. TONKO, Ms. CHU, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Mr. AMO):

H.R. 5220. A bill to strengthen and enhance the congressional power of the purse, and for other purposes; to the Committees on the Budget, Oversight and Government Reform, Transportation and Infrastructure, Rules, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BAIRD (for himself, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. MANN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 5221. A bill to prevent the theft of catalytic converters and other precious metal car parts, and for other purposes; to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. PIN-GREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-