

issues that demand answers, like the National Guard in our streets, the purges at the Pentagon, or the abuse of Trump's unilateral military force abroad.

Not surprisingly, not one of the ten amendments I submitted were made in order.

Let me tell you what Republicans apparently don't care about: Accountability for predators.

I offered an amendment to disinter Dr. Robert McCormick Browne, a man accused of sexually abusing dozens of students in Hawaii, from the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. A predator like that does not deserve to rest amongst heroes. The Republicans said no. By refusing to act, they are, once again, protecting a pedophile, allowing him to lie in a place of honor instead of standing amongst survivors and justice.

Taking care of veterans. I proposed suspending commissary debit card fees that unfairly tax veterans and their caregivers. I also proposed eliminating medical copays for Native Hawaiian veterans, the same healthcare benefits that Native American and Alaska Native veterans currently receive. Republicans said no. Apparently, they believe veterans should keep getting nicked-and-dimed for basic healthcare and food.

□ 1110

Madam Speaker, with regard to safe housing for servicemembers, I proposed an amendment to increase investment in barracks for unaccompanied servicemembers and establish clear timeliness standards for maintenance work orders.

No servicemembers should be forced to live with black mold, broken plumbing, and unsafe conditions. I have walked through those barracks myself.

Republicans said no, again. I guess they are fine sending troops off to war and combat and then sending them home to live in squalor.

With regard to standing up to China, I introduced an amendment requiring congressional approval before advanced AI chips, critical to our most sophisticated weapons and intelligence systems, could be exported to Beijing. It was blocked.

I also proposed raising the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative cap to \$8.5 billion, fully paid for with existing tariff revenue that is coming in, to strengthen Indo-Pacific deterrence. Republicans still said no. If this is their idea of strength, China will be the one that wins.

It wasn't just me that didn't get amendments included in the NDAA. Many of my colleagues put forward commonsense ideas like prohibiting the deportation of veterans without due process, as in the case of my constituent, Mr. Sae Joon Park, or clarifying that the National Guard can't be turned into an immigration police force. Yet both of these amendments were blocked.

Madam Speaker, here is the truth. It is an intentional choice that we make to take an oath to be of the people and for the people.

In a democracy, we debate. We vote. We let the American people see exactly where we stand. In an autocracy, that choice is stripped away. Dissent is silenced, and decisions are made behind closed doors.

That is the difference. That is the danger. That is a choice. Shutting down debate isn't just about dysfunction. It is a betrayal of our oath and our disservice to every single servicemember, veteran, and family who depends on us.

They fought for us. They have sacrificed for us. They have died for us. They deserve leaders who fight for them and not politicians who game the process.

I will always stand up for all of Hawaii's servicemembers, their families, and the communities that support them. Their sacrifices inspire me every single day.

Madam Speaker, there is another way. There is a better way. It is called democracy, and it begins with a choice.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Heavenly Father, we pray not our will, but Yours be done this day.

Don't answer our prayers with words we want to hear, but cause us to hear how You wish us to respond to the concerns for which we pray.

Don't listen to us when we ask for Your favor, lest we be inclined to demand more, but grant us the faith to trust in Your provision when what we have doesn't seem enough.

Don't shower us with blessings we desire, but bless us with more of You, that we would desire nothing else.

Don't lead us away from the challenges that lie before us, but challenge us to follow You as you lead us through them.

Don't quell our anxieties that hurt our hearts with worry, but transform our hearts that they would seek first Your righteousness.

Do not forsake us. Do not be far from us, O Lord our God, but come quickly

to help us this day, for You, O Lord, are our Savior.

It is in Your sovereign name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. DEXTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DEXTER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CELEBRATING ARLINGTON, TEXAS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a remarkable milestone for the city of Arlington, Texas. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

As the city's oldest and largest business organization, the Chamber has been a pillar of the community for eight decades, serving over 1,000 members and advocating for businesses of all sizes.

The hardworking families and entrepreneurs of Main Street are the backbone of our economy, and it is vital that they have the resources they need to succeed.

For 80 years, Arlington Chamber members have worked tirelessly to address key issues facing small businesses throughout the community.

Through securing and expanding resources, the Chamber has brought immeasurable growth to our city.

I commend the Arlington Chamber for 80 years of excellence, and I thank them for their continued commitment to serving Texas. In God we trust.

NATIONAL GUARD IN PORTLAND

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

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not just as a Member of Congress but as a proud Oregonian.

Donald Trump is once again threatening to deploy troops against American civilians. We have already seen him abuse Federal power in cities like D.C. and L.A., and now he is targeting Portland.

Let me be clear: Donald Trump is punishing cities like Portland simply for standing against his authoritative power. This isn't about safety. It is political retribution, plain and simple. Portland doesn't need his help. We are resilient, creative, and strong.

To my fellow Oregonians: I am standing with Governor Kotek, Attorney General Dan Rayfield, our delegation, and local leaders to defend our communities and our rights. I will use every tool available—legislation, litigation, and public pressure—to stop this dangerous overreach.

We will not be bullied. We will not be silenced, and we will not back down. In Oregon, we fly with our own wings. We rise, we resist, and we stand together, undaunted and unafraid.

HONORING THE WINNER OF THE CLASH OF HIGHWAY 29, THE LAGRANGE COLLEGE PANTHERS

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

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, last week I rose to recognize the dawn of the newest college football rivalry in the great State of Georgia, and today I rise to honor the winner of the inaugural Clash of Highway 29, the LaGrange College Panthers led by Coach Wes Dodson.

On Saturday night, the Panthers defeated the Point University Skyhawks 36-14. I attended the game with the president of LaGrange College, Dr. Susanna Baxter; the president of Point University, Dr. Stacy Bartlett; and administrators of both schools.

Mr. Speaker, this matchup was exciting from the beginning. On the first play of the opening drive, LaGrange converted a double pass for a touchdown. On the ensuing kickoff, Point responded with a 90-yard kick return for a touchdown. LaGrange's offense was led by three talented players: quarterback Henry Brodnax, who finished with 265 passing yards and three touchdowns; kicker Landon Eaker, who was perfect on the night with three field goals and two PATs; and wide receiver Dami'on Thompson, who, in his first-ever collegiate game, was honored as the USA South Athletic Conference's Rookie of the Week.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the Panthers' victory, we also remember their teammate, Marquis Rice, who tragically passed away during the off season. The LaGrange College Panthers honored Marquis with an incredible performance and an indisputable victory on Saturday evening.

HONORING MY PARENTS, CHRIS AND JACK MORRISON

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

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my parents, Chris and Jack Morrison.

I am a lifelong Democrat, but I was raised in a primarily Republican family. We debated politics and the issues of the day around the dinner table. We didn't always agree, but we respected and learned from each other.

My brother and I were encouraged to think independently and to stand up for what we believed in. We knew that we were loved and that they always had our backs.

We were raised to believe in the promise of America and with the expectation that it was our responsibility to serve our community and other people. My parents lived that ethic and led by example through serving in the military, running for office, working for nonprofits, through their many and deep friendships, through their care for our extended family, through their embrace of their son and daughter-in-law, and through their love and deep engagement with their grandchildren.

We learned that service was important and expected, and we have endeavored to live up to their example. My parents are my heroes, and encapsulating what they mean to me in 1 minute is impossible.

However, let me say directly to them, as they are in the gallery today: I am so proud and grateful that you are my parents, and I love you very much.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members that the rules do not permit references to individuals in the gallery.

TRUMP IS PROTECTING FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President Donald Trump is cracking down on murderers who threaten American families. Trump has signed an executive order to eliminate cashless bail. This will prevent Democratic district attorneys from putting criminals back on the streets, murdering random citizens. This could have prevented the merciless murder of Ukrainian refugee Iryna Zarutskya on August 22 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Her killer had 14 previous arrests. Her merciless murder was concealed for 10 days by Charlotte Mayor Lyles, as she faced a primary election yesterday. The mayor should resign, as proposed by Charlotte-area Congressman RALPH NORMAN.

Every other week, I am grateful to fly through Charlotte, with its professional staff, but as long as Lyles is mayor, I will avoid the Charlotte air-

port because every passenger in Charlotte is at risk of being stabbed to death.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin's lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump, while Putin is invading Poland with Iranian drones 100 miles into Poland yesterday from Belarus, as Putin tries to resurrect the failed Soviet Union.

□ 1210

RESTORE LIFESAVING FOOD AID FOR CHILDREN

(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 today, for the 38th time, to call on the Trump administration to restore lifesaving food aid for starving children around the world.

It has been 8 months since the Trump administration put a stop-work order in place. As a result, there are thousands of boxes of lifesaving aid meant to save the lives of starving children sitting in warehouses in Rhode Island and Georgia instead of getting to the kids who need them.

Mr. Speaker, this week, we are voting on the annual Defense bill. I just want to point out that this is a national security issue because when starvation and famine are permitted to progress unimpeded around the world, it yields terrorism, increased violence, and extremism that is a risk to our own Nation's defense.

When we step back, our adversaries, like China, step in to save the day in the developing world. That is bad for the United States and for democracies all across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I call on the Trump administration, once again: Restore lifesaving food aid for children.

RECOGNIZING MARY GRAY HARDY

(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, I have exciting news to share about a remarkable young woman, and her name is Mary Gray Hardy.

The election results are in, and Mary Gray was elected as Spring Creek High School's student body president. Her victory is not just any win here. Mary Gray may be one of the few, if not the only, students with Down syndrome in our State serving as her school's student body president.

Mary Gray's classmates elected her not because of her Down syndrome but because they believe in her. I have been around Mary Gray, and she is nothing but amazing.