

across the board. As a result, even families who do not receive these subsidies will see their premiums increase by 18 percent.

This single policy shift would strip health coverage from more than 5 million Americans, adding to the 10 million projected to lose insurance due to President Trump's Medicaid cuts.

Those fortunate enough to retain their insurance will face a staggering cost increase. A family of four earning just \$90,000 annually could see their premiums escalate by as much as 69 percent. That is an increase of over \$3,000 per year, and that is crushing for a working family.

The expiration of these subsidies will also inflict substantial harm on entrepreneurs and small business owners. These are people who comprise roughly 30 percent of marketplace enrollees.

I am deeply concerned about the chilling effect this premium hike will have on business creation and job growth, both of which are already under significant strain in Trump's economy.

Democrats stand ready to work collaboratively with our Republican colleagues to fund the government in a bipartisan spirit. We are eager to negotiate in good faith on a responsible budget that delivers for all Americans.

Extending these vital tax subsidies is but one of many critical items on the table.

Let me be unequivocal on one other issue. No budget proposal that permits additional rescissions is worthy of any serious consideration. Any long-term budget should be shielded against further rescissions because we have already seen this administration's willingness to rescind funds approved in a bipartisan fashion by Congress, canceling support for foreign aid and public broadcasting programs that enjoy broad bipartisan backing.

The administration has also announced plans to exploit a little-known mechanism known as a pocket rescission to unilaterally cancel even more foreign aid.

Of deep concern to myself and Marylanders, President Trump has threatened to rescind funding that is vital to the reconstruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, a project critical not only to our local economy but to the Nation as a whole.

I urge my colleagues to insist that any budget we pass categorically reject any further illegal impoundments.

The power of the purse rests solely with Congress. If the President seeks to cut funding, he must do so through proper channels: by coming to Congress and requesting a lawful change.

Let's be sure to remember that in the days ahead.

VACCINES PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES

(Mr. CISNEROS of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the dangerous actions of the Health and Human Services Secretary in regard to vaccines.

Vaccines play a critical role in protecting our entire population in the United States. They are the most powerful tool we have against serious infectious diseases. They help our immune system learn how to fight against viruses and prevent disease from spreading to our neighbors, communities, and loved ones.

A 2024 CDC study showed that routine vaccines have prevented over 508 million cases of illness in children. The impact is immeasurable. That is hundreds of millions of children who are saved from having to suffer through a miserable illness. On top of that, their family, friends, neighbors, classmates, and loved ones are all able to stay guarded from these viruses and diseases.

It is really all thanks to modern medicine, science, research, and the proven success of vaccines.

The United States military administers 17 vaccines to military personnel on the basis of occupation, location of their deployment, and mission requirements.

Once common diseases like polio, tetanus, and hepatitis B are now almost unheard of, thanks to routine vaccinations.

Vaccines have become so effective that people have forgotten the serious threat that they guard against in our communities, and now, they are trying to politicize one of the most revolutionary developments of modern medicine.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kennedy has been on a mission to spread misinformation and fear-mongering to scare parents away from getting their kids lifesaving vaccines. Not only that, he is attacking the research and medical institutions that advance our health systems. He has canceled nearly \$500 million in contracts to develop vaccines.

This blatant disregard for the health of our communities is reckless and puts all of us in danger.

As Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness at the Pentagon, I oversaw public health efforts at the Pentagon during the COVID-19 pandemic, which included acquiring and distributing vaccines to military personnel.

In order to maintain the strength of our military, we need people equipped for whatever the world throws at them, and that includes diseases.

Operation Warp Speed was a success. Over 95 percent of Active-Duty personnel were vaccinated. While no vaccine is perfect, only three individuals who took the vaccine while on Active Duty died from COVID-19 complications.

Operation Warp Speed was so much of a success that Secretary Esper included a binder labeled "Operation Warp Speed" in his official portrait. It

is just too bad that no one can any longer see it hanging in the Pentagon.

I find it ironic that the President who spoke out against the distribution of the vaccines for so long is now trying to embrace its success.

Our society has become healthier and more productive because of vaccines. Vaccines have become a global investment in a strong public system.

In our modern times, we no longer need to worry about sending our kids to school, going to large sporting events or concerts, or even traveling, all because of the major reduction in the spread of disease. Vaccines are to thank for that.

There are several consequences to rejecting vaccines and the science behind them. Mr. Kennedy's recent comments attacking vaccines are destroying decades of work and community trust that has fostered safer and healthier communities, trust that is based on good science. It is careless and dangerous, but he continues to follow in the footsteps of the President and create false narratives to spread fear and distrust.

This anti-vaccine mission he is on is going to prevent families and children from getting the proper healthcare that they need. It is going to significantly limit the resources that families have to keep themselves healthy and protect themselves against infectious disease.

It should not be a political issue. This is about the health of our people, the health of our Nation.

Every American should be alarmed about the detrimental impact that this will have on our communities across the Nation and globe, which is why I am fully committed to keeping our country safe and healthy, lowering the cost of healthcare, and making medical resources more accessible.

All Americans deserve access to quality healthcare, including critical preventive care like vaccines.

Secretary Kennedy should be lauded for his campaign to remove dyes from food, and I think that is admirable, but removing dyes from drinks and foods won't protect kids from the threat of measles, chicken pox, polio, or other diseases.

Vaccines are safe, effective, and our best defense against life-threatening diseases.

I urge all Americans to trust our scientists, our doctors, and decades of research. Get vaccinated to protect yourself, your families, and our communities. We have the power to maintain a healthy society and prevent deadly infectious disease.

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 10 o'clock and 58 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. GUEST) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Father of lights, from whom comes every perfect gift and in whom there is no shadow, open our hearts this day to receive Your wisdom. As we commemorate the founding of our Nation's Constitution, illumine our understanding of Your divine will and rekindle within us gratitude for the guidance You offered our Nation's Founders in the establishment of American democracy more than two centuries ago.

For even in the early and precarious years of our country's beginnings, when social anxiety and political turmoil threatened the future of this fledgling Nation, Lord, in Your mercy, You built the house that is our United States so that the framers of our Constitution would not have fought for or built this government in vain.

As You granted our Founders a vision of a more perfect Union, grant to our leaders and all American citizens today the will to preserve national unity to defend freedom and to uphold the common good.

As You revealed the principles of liberty and justice to the first lawmakers, reveal to us anew how, when we ground our faith and live our lives in You, the enjoyment of those rights naturally follows.

Eternal God, we thank You for our noble past. We pray for integrity in the pursuit of peace in our present, and we look with hope toward a future worthy of Your blessing.

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 gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SUBRAMANYAM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM 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.

PETITIONING TO CHECK PARTISAN MAP

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

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Reserving the right to object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Reserving the right to object, the gentleman is recognized.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I am reserving the right to object. Does the Speaker know when the Speaker of the House will be addressing Member security in an adequate fashion?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not asking a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, does the Speaker know what the plan is to keep Members secure due to all the security threats and the assassination attempts and assassinations we have seen around the country?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is still not a proper parliamentary inquiry and is not a question that can be answered by the Chair.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation is withdrawn.

The gentleman from Missouri is recognized.

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, the State legislature may have forced through their partisan map, but in Missouri, the final word belongs to the people. Our constitution gives Missourians the right to check the politicians through the petition process.

No one asked for this map. Communities didn't demand it. Voters didn't vote for it. It was written to serve the administration, not Missouri. When politicians get it wrong, citizens have the chance to make it right.

That is why the petition process is so important. It is a chance for Missourians across the State—urban, rural, north, south, Black, White, Hispanic, Asian—to come together and say our voices matter, our votes matter, and we will decide what representation looks like.

This is bigger than party politics. It is about who holds the power in our democracy. I believe the power is in the people of Missouri—more specifically, in the pen and signatures of the people of Missouri as we petition to save our democracy.

WARNING ABOUT SUPPRESSING RIGHTS ON CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized on his reservation.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I am reserving the right to object because Members of the House are open to all sorts of threats, Mr. Speaker. I am just curious, do you know when the Speaker of the House will be putting forward a plan to keep Members safe?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has already responded that this is not a proper parliamentary inquiry, and the Chair cannot advise further.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation is withdrawn.

The gentleman from New York is recognized.

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, today, we celebrate the 238th birthday of the U.S. Constitution, and we reflect on the document that enshrines the freedoms that we hold dear.

At the heart of those freedoms is the First Amendment, the right to free speech. It protects popular speech and speech that challenges, provokes, and offends. That is the point.

This week, the Attorney General said that the Department of Justice would "absolutely target you, go after you" for so-called hate speech, a dangerous misreading of the Constitution. Though she has since walked it back, the message was clear: This administration would rather silence dissent than defend liberty.

I hear defense of the Second Amendment, the right to bear arms, but I want to make sure that we defend all amendments, including the Fifth Amendment for due process, and the 10th Amendment, rights that are reserved for the States and the people from the Federal Government.

Our rights don't come with an asterisk. We don't surrender the First Amendment or any others to political convenience.

On this Constitution Day, let us remember the greatest threat to democracy is not exercising our rights. It is the effort to suppress those rights.

MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS SAVE LIVES AND LOWER HEALTHCARE COSTS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, food is medicine, and medically tailored meals provide people living with chronic illness essential nutrition to improve their health and keep them out of the hospital.

Incredible providers like Community Servings in my home State of Massachusetts, God's Love We Deliver in New York City, and dozens of agencies across the country have proven these meals work.

Among individuals with complex health conditions, MTMs have led to a