

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an extraordinary milestone: The 100th birthday of Alan Kinder, a man whose life embodies resilience, courage, and a passion for service.

Alan's story is one of bravery, from storming Omaha Beach during the second wave of D-Day to surviving the Battle of the Bulge. After his heroic service in defense of our Nation, he returned home to build a life filled with family, purpose, and more adventure.

Alan has been both a witness to history and a keeper of it, reminding us all of the sacrifices made for our precious freedom. Yet, it is his warmth and compassion that shines the brightest.

Both Alan's kindness and the stories of his remarkable service have left an indelible mark on every person lucky enough to know him. On behalf of the Ninth District, I wish Alan a happy 100th birthday and entire 100th birthday year. I thank him for his service, his stories, and his example.

HOLD THE LINE

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak directly to the American people and to our Federal workers, not only across the country but especially in New Mexico.

I know that many are feeling frightened, uncertain, and under attack. I want them to know that Democrats have their back and are fighting back using every tool that we have. We are fighting back in the courts, the Congress, and in our communities. We are fighting back against an unqualified, unvetted billionaire who is stealing their data, taking their jobs, dismantling our Federal agencies, and freezing the funds that make our communities run.

Mr. Speaker, they have dedicated their careers to ensuring that this great Nation can serve our people. We say to them: Hold the line, because we have their backs.

REINSTATING OUR SERVICEMEMBERS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, it seems like every day there has been such good news coming out of the White House. It is easy to lose track of some of the executive orders coming from President Trump, but I would like to bring attention to one today.

Once this executive order is in effect, there is nothing Democrats will be able to do to stop it. That is the executive order reinstating servicemembers discharged under the military's COVID-19 vaccination mandate.

It is hard to believe that only 4 years ago we had a President who was de-

manding that all our brave servicemembers had to take an experimental vaccine, and if they didn't take it, they would be removed from the service.

President Trump has reinstated these folks. President Trump is a great man of compassion. He is a man who respects independent thought; unlike a lot of people who feel: One guy who went to college told me this, so I better do it.

I know a lot of other people who didn't get the vaccine. They did a very good job of researching the vaccine and had solid reasons for not getting it. I thank President Trump for reinstating all of our brave servicemen who were unfairly forced from the military.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I know that Black History Month is a time to celebrate and recommit to the fight for justice and Black liberation in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and beyond.

I am proud that I was born and raised in the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country, the city of Detroit, where movements are born and where history is made every single day. Time and time again, we see efforts to erase our history.

Systemic racism continues to be codified into our laws and into our budgets. I know the current administration is now attempting to dismantle foundational civil rights protections, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and roll back our hard-won progress here in our country.

No matter how much they want to whitewash it, they cannot erase Black history. Black history is American history. There would be no United States of America without the contributions of our Black neighbors. Black lives matter, and Black history matters.

SUPPORT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand in unwavering support of our Nation's Federal employees, many of whom live and work across the Texas 18th Congressional District.

As a proud member of the Congressional Labor Caucus, I am here to say loud and clear: America needs its Federal workforce, and we will not sit by while their jobs, their rights, and their livelihoods are under attack.

Federal employees ensure the safety and well-being of every American, and these efforts to reduce Federal workers will only bring them harm. Thousands of Federal workers in Texas' 18th Congressional District serve vital roles, in-

cluding healthcare, transportation and safety, Social Security, and much more.

To every dedicated Federal employee, our message is clear. We have their back. We will fight in Congress to protect their rights, their jobs, and their ability to serve the American people. Their work does not go unrecognized.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand against this calculated attack on Federal workers and the values of public service.

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PROTECTING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, these are unprecedented and extraordinarily difficult times for our Federal employees. The Trump administration seems intent on dismantling much of the Federal Government in violation of the Constitution, Federal statutes, and Federal regulations.

The administration has relentlessly attacked Federal employees, subjecting them to chaos and fear. The administration has imposed a hiring freeze, offered deferred resignations, fired employees, put employees on leave, effectively reestablished schedule F, and ended telework and remote work.

The administration is not alone in attacking Federal employees. The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on which I serve, has held two hearings this Congress, and both were designed to demoralize Federal employees.

As I said at the first hearing, Federal employees deserve praise for their expertise, dedication, and service, not derision.

Let's be clear. What is motivating these actions? They are designed to get experts to quit the workforce.

U.S. GOVERNMENT SERVES AMERICAN PEOPLE, NOT WEALTHY SHAREHOLDERS

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, Elon Musk invested \$277 million into Donald Trump's election. I guess that is the price to take over our Federal Government. Elon Musk is worth over \$400 billion, meaning his contribution to Trump is the same as about \$130 for an average American.

Mr. Musk, the government is not a private enterprise. It serves the American people, not the wealthy shareholders.

Thousands will die around the world because USAID won't deliver lifesaving

food and medicine. Millions will lose control of their personal information, such as Social Security numbers, banking information, Social Security checks, and Medicare benefits.

Elon Musk does not care about us because he does not have to and does not want to. Rest assured, Democrats care, I care, and we will use every tool at our disposal to get rid of this unelected, power-hungry, egocentric billionaire.

IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL WORKERS

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise for every American whose life has been made better because of the work of Federal civil servants.

President Donald Trump and his power-crazed posse of billionaire bosses are firing our Federal workers. Our quality of life is degraded and diminished because of that.

They are moving to install their unqualified followers to do the dirty work of a hostile takeover of every facet of our lives, like Medicaid, the National Weather Service, and the Department of Education.

Their deferred resignation plan is a scam. Firefighters, nurses, TSA agents, park rangers, and foreign aid workers are refusing to go quietly in the face of an authoritarian. I commend them.

America is indeed at a fork in the road. Do we want a qualified, respected workforce serving us, or do we want an army of clueless yes-men working to serve the selfish?

I know what I want, what the American people want, and what the American people deserve. It is a government that works for them. I thank our Federal workforce and our civil servants.

SUPPORTING FEDERAL WORKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Labor Caucus comes today to oppose the Trump administration's unlawful and unconstitutional attacks on Federal workers.

Our Federal workforce has the experience and expertise that America needs. We must protect the public. The

air that we breathe, the water we drink, the medicine we take, and the food that we eat hangs in the balance.

This fight is too important. We cannot allow the Trump administration to replace a competitive merit system with a political spoils system. That is why we will keep fighting in Congress and the courts. I have my colleagues with me today who have come to express their concerns.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS).

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Labor Caucus, I am here today to speak on something I didn't think we would ever have to. We have to talk about the hard work of our Federal workforce, those workers who get up every day to go to work, the ones who keep our food safe, the water safe to drink, and the air safe to breathe.

Federal workers are nurses. They are doctors. They are in the VA, taking care of our vets each and every day. They are civilian DOD workers. That is right. They are working in the Pentagon and around the world to make sure that our military is ready to go. They are the ones who are processing Social Security checks for our seniors. They are the TSA agents, who we see every time we go to the airport.

Trump is making it hard, almost impossible, for them to do their jobs. He wants them to quit. They dedicated their lives for us. Who is the Federal workforce? They are you and me.

They say they have to come back to the office when it is more efficient for a person, agreed upon with management, to work from a different location.

I suggest, if we really want to know where Federal workers are, look at the offices where the Member is supposed to be showing up. Tell me how many times they go to the office. That is what we are dealing with.

Trump is revoking their union contracts, the contracts which they negotiated legally and tried to enforce. It is so important. Trump doesn't have the authority to change these agreements, but he is doing it. It is going to take our courts to turn this around.

America's civil service is a merit system. Trump signed another executive order to remove jobs from the non-partisan civil service. Here we are, back again.

These civil servants wake up every day to help us. I am not seeing any of those civil servants flying their private airplanes like Mr. Musk and Mr. Trump. They are just regular people like us, trying to get by.

As we have this discussion with all the Labor Caucus, I want to take a minute to thank GLENN IVEY, who represents so many Federal workers back in his district, and STEPHEN LYNCH, who has been leading our fight at the Postal Service.

At the end of the day, we have to stick together. Right there, carved into the wood, it says, "Union," and that is what we have to have.

God bless them. I thank every Federal worker for what they do.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman IVEY for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, this is so important, yet we should be ashamed of the way the Trump administration has been absolutely attacking our Federal workers, the people who go to work every single day to do important functions.

They don't have any ulterior motive. They are making sure our senior citizens get their medications and that we take care of our veterans who need help. These are the kinds of things they do. They are servants to all of our people. They are doing their best job, yet they are being criticized.

I thank them, and I pledge to all of our Federal workers that I will be here to praise them, to protect them, and to say that they have not only every right but every privilege of serving the American people as they have done day in and day out.

Mr. Speaker, I say hooray to the workers who do so much every single day. They don't ask for any special awards but do the work that the people of the United States need. We have to thank them every single day for their work and not denigrate them as the Trump administration has done.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to Representative SANCHEZ.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank GLENN IVEY for his wonderful work.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our Nation's Federal workers. As a member of the Labor Caucus, I stand with the essential workers who provide critical services to the American public.

Make no mistake, we are seeing a direct attack on our democracy right now. Efforts to shut down Federal agencies are designed to erode our Nation's foundation. No one, not the President, not an unelected billionaire, has the right to singlehandedly dismantle Federal agencies created and funded by the Congress, yet that is exactly what is happening.

President Trump has surrendered control over to Elon Musk, allowing him to dismantle our institutions without any oversight. This is a blatant abuse of power, and it is happening on this Congress' watch.

They have attacked Federal workers, replacing skilled civil servants with political loyalists. They have targeted and smeared public employees who have served this country honorably, many for decades. They are even rejecting union contracts that were lawfully negotiated between the government and workers. This is union-busting, plain and simple.

As a former union member, I won't stand for that. These contracts are protected by law and cannot be changed