

roll the dice and see what happens. \$15,000 is a lot of money.

These are just a few of the stories of people who right now are struggling to figure out which bill they are going to pay. They are counting on us to help them.

Being a history maker who is also a history nerd, I have to tell a little history right now. My parents grew up during the Depression, and my father was born in 1925. He would have been 100 years old in September. He was just old enough to remember when the stock market crash happened. He didn't know what was going on. He was 4.

He remembered how his father one day owned an apartment complex, a newspaper, and a nightclub, and the next day lost everything due to circumstances outside of his control. He also remembered and told us the story about the stress that put on his parents.

A few years later, in 1934, his mother died from cancer when he was 10 years old. My dad went to Alabama to live with his grandparents, who founded a school. Because the State of Alabama didn't think it was important enough to educate Black children, his grandparents started a school.

My dad saw the best of government and the worst of government. He saw the worst of government through Jim Crow. He saw the best of government when Congress and the President, through the New Deal, responded to the Great Depression, responded to people who, through no fault of their own, were economically devastated.

My mother was born in the middle of the Depression, so she never knew anything other than poverty. She also experienced the best of government through the New Deal and the worst of government through Jim Crow.

Telling me these stories, I came to understand that, at its best, government is a force that helps people and solves problems, especially when those problems are due to factors beyond their control and the solutions are beyond their reach. That is the best of government. The worst of government is when a few benefit from the oppression of the many.

We just commemorated the D-day anniversary, a little bit later than the Depression, or as we were coming out of the Depression. There are only 12 people left who survived that. There are very few people alive today who remember the Great Depression. There are very few people today who remember when the United States Government lived up to its better nature and reached out, not to give a handout, but a hand up, to millions of Americans who, in the blink of an eye, lost everything and couldn't feed their families.

□ 2010

Mr. Speaker, my father was also a pastor. I can't help but think of him without thinking of Matthew 25:31-40. This is the story of the sheep and the goats, and this is what Jesus talks about.

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he

will sit on his glorious throne. All the Nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right: Come you, who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me in. I needed clothes, and you clothed me. I was sick, and you looked after me. I was in prison and you visited me.

And the righteous will say: Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or you needing clothes and we clothed you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?

The king will reply: Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me."

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of people in this country who are hungry, who are sick, who are unhoused, who are strangers, and who are imprisoned.

This year, Congress basically said folks are on their own. This year, Congress basically said that we will make it harder for folks to eat. We will make it harder for people to get the care that they need.

The President of the United States fought all the way to the Supreme Court to keep from feeding hungry children with money that Congress appropriated for that purpose in the event of a shutdown.

We passed legislation that will strip an estimated 17 million Americans of their health insurance at a time when Americans are looking to us to help them and solve problems.

The Affordable Care Act is not perfect. Do we really want to tell 22 million people that because Congress cannot stop playing political football with their lives, they have to gamble with whether or not they pay their health insurance bill when it is priced out of their reach?

They are expecting us to act. We have 22 days. Whether it is Leader Jeffries's discharge petition or whether it is one of the bills on the floor of the Senate, we have 22 days to act. We have 22 days to at least say we will make sure that for the next year or 2 years or however many we can, until this magical concept of a plan appears for us to vote on, we will help them a little bit to at least pay for their health insurance right now so they don't have to rely on bubble wrap or a wing and a prayer.

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

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MILLER of Ohio (at the request of Mr. SCALISE) for December 10 on ac-

count of his daughter undergoing surgery in the State of Ohio where she will be receiving general anesthesia.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint Resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision".

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 616.—An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

#### BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 3, 2025, the following bills and joint resolution were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.J. Res. 130. Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment."

H.R. 983. To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove courses of education offered by a public institution of higher learning that does not charge the in-State tuition rate to a veteran using certain educational assistance under title 10 of such Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1912. To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes.

H.R. 970. To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to periodically review the automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 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-2340. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Major General Richard L. Zellmann, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2341. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Rear Admiral Stephen R. Tedford, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of vice admiral, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4209); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2342. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Major General William D. Taylor, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4209); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2343. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Vice Admiral Richard A. Correll, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of admiral, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4209); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2344. A letter from the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain through the Equipment Authorization Program [ET Docket No.: 21-232] received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2345. A letter from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Incarcerated People's Communications Services; Implementation of the Martha Wright-Reed Act [WC Docket No.: 23-62] Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services [WC Docket No.: 12-375] received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2346. A letter from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Addressing the Homework Gap through the E-Rate Program [WC Docket No.: 21-31] received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2347. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2348. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2349. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2350. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2351. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; West of Cyril E. King Airport, St. Thomas, VI [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0839] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2352. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; Old Port Tampa, Sunshine Skyway Bridge, Manbirtee Key, Seaport Manatee, MacDill Air Force Base, Port of Tampa, Port Sutton, St. Petersburg Harbor, Crystal River, Big Bend, and Weedon Island, FL [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0223] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2353. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Bass River, Beverly, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2025-0924] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2354. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Temporary final rule — Security Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 96.8 to 97.5 Above Head of Passes, New Orleans, LA—Gretna Heritage Festival [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0842] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received November 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2355. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Recurring Events in Captain of the Port Duluth Zone [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0082] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2356. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Navigation and Navigable Waters, and Shipping; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments [Docket No.: USCG-2024-1103] received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2357. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance for Individual Taxpayers who received Qualified Tips or Qualified Overtime Compensation in 2025 [Notice 2025-69] received December 3, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## 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. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1098. A bill to reauthorize the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994, with an amendment (Rept. 119-396). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3620. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-398 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5131. A bill to extend military land withdrawals in Alaska, New Mexico, and California for a period of 25 years and to make technical corrections to descriptions for certain military land withdrawals, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-397 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 936. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3898) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make targeted reforms with respect to waters of the United States and other matters, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3383) to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 with respect to the authority of closed-end companies to invest in private funds; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3638) to direct the Secretary of Energy to prepare periodic assessments and submit reports on the supply chain for the generation and transmission of electricity, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3628) to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard related to State consideration of reliable generation, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3668) to promote interagency coordination for reviewing certain authorizations under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1071) to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disinter the remains of Fernando V. Cota from Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, Texas, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (Rept. 119-399). Referred to the House Calendar.

### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3620 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Armed Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5131 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. GUTHRIE (for himself, Mr. ONDER, and Mrs. TRAHAN):