

Whether he is emceeding a fundraiser, advising local leaders, or volunteering his time to nonprofits, Decker consistently proves that his success in leadership is rooted in service to others.

Decker's contributions have truly shaped our community, and I am proud to represent him in Congress.

I congratulate Decker on this well-deserved recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I take this moment to wish my older sister, Marianne, a very happy birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JULIO FRENK

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate UCLA's next chancellor, Dr. Julio Frenk.

Having served as president of the University of Miami and dean of Harvard School of Public Health, Dr. Frenk is bringing decades of experience to UCLA.

Dr. Frenk was born in Mexico, where he discovered his passion for public health and service and spent 6 years as Mexico's secretary of health.

I am excited to see Dr. Frenk bring his leadership and experience as he serves the Bruin community and keeps UCLA as a top public university in the country.

We welcome Dr. Frenk to the Bruin family, and I look forward to working with him on behalf of our constituents, our students, our educators, and our community. I look forward to continuing to do more good things.

I thank Dr. Frenk for his service to the Bruin community.

IN RECOGNITION OF PENN STATE WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Penn State women's volleyball team's victory in the national championship.

Penn State made history with its 3-1 win over Louisville in the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship in front of a record crowd of over 21,860 fans. This was the Nittany Lions' eighth national title in the program's history.

This victory didn't happen by chance. It is the result of relentless hard work, discipline, and teamwork. These women showed us what it means to commit fully. At every practice, every set, and every match, they gave their all.

This success is possible because of the incredible leadership of the coaching staff, whose mentorship has shaped this team not only into champions, but also into outstanding young leaders.

Penn State Coach Katie Schumacher-Cawley became the first woman coach

to win the NCAA Division I volleyball title.

The road to the championship wasn't easy for Coach Schumacher-Cawley. In October, she announced she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

This championship win isn't just about a trophy. It is about a story of strength, resilience, and the values that define Penn State. These women make us all proud to wear blue and white.

I congratulate Penn State women's volleyball on their national championship. We are.

HONORING CARLSBAD MAYOR DALE JANWAY

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

Mr. VASQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and an honorable New Mexican, Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway, who passed away on December 30, 2024.

Mayor Janway served Carlsbad with integrity and distinction as mayor for 13 years. He was deeply involved in his community and made remarkable progress during his tenure. He worked with leaders of all political stripes to improve the city's infrastructure, including the Double Eagle water project, which we worked on together.

Although we came from different parties, Mayor Janway was a good friend and was always willing to work together for the good of his community. He had a passion for educating youth so that they would become thoughtful, engaged citizens. He helped to create jobs, improved the lives of Carlsbad families, and protected critical industries.

The mayor also proudly served his country in the Army National Guard. Mayor Janway exemplified leadership, leaving behind a legacy that reminds us all to serve with kindness and with purpose.

I thank Mayor Janway for his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR JAMIE MELCHERT

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

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor our December Veteran of the Month, Major Jamie Melchert, who was born in Sedalia, Missouri.

Major Melchert enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1998 and completed two combat tours, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. He also completed additional overseas missions in Guatemala and Germany.

Jamie says his most memorable service was in Afghanistan, where he led a group of 170 soldiers into a harsh combat zone for a year of duty, enduring frequent attacks during over-the-road convoys.

He is most proud of bringing every soldier there home to their families.

He received many honors for his service and retired in 2017. He now lives in Columbia, Missouri, with his beloved family, working full-time for the State of Missouri's Office of Administration, helping veterans find employment.

I thank Major Melchert for his dedication and service.

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Madam Speaker, a peacemaker, environmentalist, and humanitarian, President Jimmy Carter's work left an indelible mark on our country and the western New York community.

He was no stranger to my district, visiting for speeches at the University at Buffalo and Canisius University, campaign rallies in Cheektowaga and Tonawanda, and even making a stop at Niagara Falls State Park while celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary with his beloved wife, Rosalynn.

During his Presidency, he established the Superfund program, supporting the cleanup of toxic sites across western New York, including Love Canal.

Following his term in office, he set the standard for the post-Presidency and saved millions of lives by advancing global health, including through his efforts to end childhood malaria fatalities and destigmatize HIV.

He was a man of faith who loved his family and loved our country.

Let us mourn our Nation's loss, celebrate a life well lived, and learn from his legacy of always putting country before self.

May President Jimmy Carter rest in peace.

JEOPARDIZING NATIONAL SECURITY WITH MISGUIDED POLICIES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, in another one of the eleventh-hour, thumb-the-nose-at-the-American-people moves, the Biden administration has decided to transfer 11 Guantanamo detainees from the war on terror back to Oman, which is a reckless move that puts American lives at risk and is an insult and a slap in the face to those who have fought for freedom in that area and who have tried to stop the likes of al-Qaida. Our soldiers, our fighting people, and everybody who has cared at all about that has to be taking this as a slap in the face because justice never was done.

These detainees, many of whom have ties directly to terrorism, are being resettled without facing justice. This action weakens our national security and

signals a dangerous leniency to those who have plotted against our country.

Despite the administration's claims, releasing these individuals only increases the likelihood that they will return to their extremist roots and try to maybe pull off another 9/11 along with the cells that are already in this country. We have already seen a recycling through of some who were released during the Obama era.

This prioritizes political agendas, especially at the very end of this term, over the security of the American people and those who have fought so hard.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). The time of the gentleman has expired.

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THANKING MICHIGAN'S 12TH DISTRICT

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I thank the incredible families of Michigan's 12th Congressional District for sending me back to Congress. I am truly honored to be able to be your voice in the people's House.

As one of the only Members of the United States Congress who created neighborhood service centers, we have already returned over \$6.2 million directly back into the pockets of many of my neighbors, invested \$52 million in our communities, and assisted more than 10,000 of our families who needed help.

As we begin the 119th Congress, I am determined more than ever to continue to fight for clean air, clean water, ending utility shutoffs, holding corporate polluters accountable, lowering the cost of living for working families, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and growing the Congressional Mamas Caucus, as well as, of course, ensuring equality and justice for all.

To my residents, I thank them for believing in me. I will always have their backs, and I will never sell out.

CONGRATULATING GALVESTON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce on an incredible milestone—180 years of outstanding service to our community.

Since its founding in 1845, the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce has been an absolute cornerstone of economic development, business growth, education, and enhancing the quality of life in the Galveston area.

The chamber proudly represents over 750 members across diverse sectors, in-

cluding small businesses, education, research, healthcare, government, non-profit organizations, and religious groups—truly embodying the spirit of collaboration and progress.

As the oldest chamber of commerce in Texas, we are blessed to have this remarkable institution in our community and in my district. It is under the outstanding leadership of President Gina Spagnola and her exceptional team, and the chamber continues to make an enduring impact on Galveston and beyond with her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate President Gina Spagnola and the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce on 180 years of absolute excellence.

REMEMBERING DR. BOB NICHOLS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to grieve the loss of Dr. Bob Nichols, who passed away on December 20.

Dr. Nichols was a renowned professor at Young Harris College with an impressive 35-year teaching career at the school. He taught math and coached tennis at the Westminster Schools in Atlanta, Gainesville State College, and Young Harris College.

Dr. Nichols was an All-American tennis player during his time at Georgia Tech and earned a spot in the Georgia Tech Sports Hall of Fame.

Dr. Nichols impacted thousands of students during his 42-year teaching career. In September 2011, Young Harris College named their campus tennis complex in honor of Dr. Nichols.

Additionally, Dr. Nichols designed a strong advising program and was the chair of the mathematics and science division at Young Harris College.

The college's board of trustees awarded him professor emeritus status in 2010 for his decades of dedicated service, and he received several other remarkable awards.

Dr. Nichols will always be remembered as an outstanding coach, an outstanding mentor, and a friend to all.

LAKEN RILEY ACT

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 5, I call up the bill (H.R. 29) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RULLI). Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 29

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Laken Riley Act”.

SEC. 2. DETENTION OF CERTAIN ALIENS WHO COMMIT THEFT.

Section 236(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or”;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the comma at the end and inserting “, or”;

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E)(i) is inadmissible under paragraph (6)(A), (6)(C), or (7) of section 212(a), and

“(ii) is charged with, is arrested for, is convicted of, admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of any burglary, theft, larceny, or shoplifting offense.”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(E), the terms ‘burglary’, ‘theft’, ‘larceny’, and ‘shoplifting’ have the meaning given such terms in the jurisdiction where the acts occurred.

“(3) DETAINER.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall issue a detainer for an alien described in paragraph (1)(E) and, if the alien is not otherwise detained by Federal, State, or local officials, shall effectively and expeditiously take custody of the alien.”.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.

(a) INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.—Section 235(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the detention and removal requirements under paragraphs (1) or (2) that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this paragraph to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this paragraph, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100.”.

(b) APPREHENSION AND DETENTION OF ALIENS.—Section 236 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “or release”; and

(B) by striking “grant, revocation, or denial” and insert “revocation or denial”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging an action or decision by the Attorney General or Secretary of Homeland Security under this section to release any alien or grant bond or parole to any alien that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Attorney General or Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on