

This July, households in Ohio saw their monthly energy bills increase a minimum of 10 percent. Some more than doubled with AI data centers competing for land. Congress must help local communities develop plans to prevent rising bills for energy and water.

Our constituents in Whitehouse told me that her family already saw their energy bill go from \$230 a month to \$494 in July.

How can any family afford that?

In my part of the country, the Great Lakes, our region's economy is intertwined with our neighbors to the north, Canada, our largest trading partner. If our Great Lakes nation were a country, we would be the third largest economy in the world.

Why is this administration and Congress hurting us?

Punitive tariffs have sent our regional economy spiraling. The cost of lumber is up. The cost of cars is up. The cost of steel is up, and the cost of potash is up. The cost of almost everything is up.

This hurts not only our consumers but also our workers who make Toledo Jeeps or parts for other American automakers like General Motors and Ford. Thousands of autoworkers have been laid off.

Tariffs also really hurt our farmers in the field. They have lost major share of markets in corn and soy abroad because of reckless trade wars. Higher input costs cripple the ability to farm the same fields their families have farmed for generations.

Cattlemen in our region are struggling to feed their herds and also get their beef to market affordably at the same time that President Trump gave \$40 billion—handed over \$40 billion—in American taxpayer money to Argentina whose farmers are trying to undercut the very cattlemen I represent.

One farmer called my office yesterday. He made \$100,000 less this year because of tariffs and rising input costs because of tariffs.

He said: Luckily, Marcy, we saved some money from the Biden years, but our income has been very, very difficult to meet rising costs. We make some money from ethanol and biodiesel. Keep up the work on that, Marcy, he said.

Mr. Speaker, tens of thousands of people across northwestern Ohio, 500,000 Ohioans in total, and 15 million more nationwide are at risk of losing their health insurance, being priced out of the market.

A constituent from Clyde, Ohio, said: Marcy, high insurance prices will allow people to die by making health insurance unaffordable. It was terrible for our family before the ACA. We will band together to try to help feed our neighbors, but we aren't doctors. We need affordable healthcare.

A Toledo resident told me their family cannot afford another crushing expense. He said: "Groceries cost more than twice what they did a few years

ago. Childcare and rent are up for us more than ever. Now, unless Congress acts, our health insurance premiums could double. For a family like mine, that means an extra \$100 per person, per month. It is money we simply don't have. Please, extend the ACA enhanced premium tax credits and protect working families. We need relief, not higher costs."

These pleas aren't aberrations. They come every day. They are the norm. Wherever I go, I hear someone suffering under rising costs.

Our neighbors are struggling to afford their groceries as States nationwide are trying to cut SNAP dollars for those who need them and limit what they can buy.

Meanwhile, food costs across the board are up 3.1 percent. Beef and veal are up 14.7 percent as of the end of September. A pound of beef costs \$6.23 or more. It is simply just unaffordable. That number continues to climb.

For the last year, there has been no action by the majority in this Chamber, by the White House, or anyone else in power to address the affordability crisis.

Hello? Hello?

Reckless and ill-considered tariffs have made it worse. Let me assure you, Mr. Speaker, people in northwest Ohio are paying attention and deciding how to live. We need this Congress and the President, the other end of this avenue, to work together.

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 27 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. SIMPSON) at noon.

PRAYER

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

O, bright morning star, break forth in the darkness of this weary world and shine Your light of hope. You, whose mercies are new every morning, reveal Your promises for today.

Let those who are thirsty come to the waters and drink, for You provide the water of life. And may we who have been sated with the blessings we have received share with those who are still in want.

Let those who have no money come and find sustenance, for You offer the bread of life. And may we who have filled ourselves with the food You provide share in our abundance with those who are in need.

We incline our ears to You. Speak into our lives, as busy as they are, as overwhelmed as we are. Though the noise around us is deafening, may we come to You for You are near. Though the sounds of the times are daunting, may we listen, for Your Word casts out all fear.

For You alone are the light of the world and Your Word a lamp for our feet. Pierce the darkness and guide us each into this day and to the hope of Your salvation.

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 Chamber 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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

COMMUNISTS HATE CHRISTMAS

(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, as we approach Christmas and families around the world gather to celebrate, it is important that we reflect on those not free to worship. Christmas is a time of joy, faith, and community. Under totalitarian dictatorships, it is a reminder that repression and fear exist.

Across the globe, dictators impose crushing communist and totalitarian systems that deny basic freedoms, including the freedom of religion. Christmas celebrations are banned or subverted by war criminal Putin and the Chinese Communist Party to worship the state.

America was founded that faith should be freely practiced, not state-subverted. We honor the spirit of Christmas and the values of America. Merry Christmas to all countries.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is instituting

peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting and mocking Trump.

As the New York Post editorialized, Putin sent Witkoff and Jared Kushner packing with yet more aerial assaults on Ukrainian civilians. American public support for Ukraine is growing.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL KENNETH A. MINIHAN

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant General Kenneth A. Minihan, United States Air Force, a transformative leader in American intelligence who passed away last month.

General Minihan spent 33 years in uniform, advancing the security of our Nation. Rising through the ranks, he ultimately led all U.S. Air Force intelligence efforts as Deputy Chief, Intelligence, and subsequently held key joint force positions, commanding both the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency.

He guided the intelligence community through its most consequential transition from the Cold War to the Information Age and pushed America to prepare for a world where data, networks, and information would define the next battlefield.

A visionary of what we now know is cyberspace, he recognized the power and risk associated with this warfighting domain. He warned the Nation about foreign intrusions into our military networks, championed real-time integrated military operations, and built foundations of the cyber and signals enterprise we depend on today.

His leadership created the structures, culture, and historical stewardship that still guide America's intelligence ideals. General Minihan was a man dedicated to his intelligence tradecraft, his Commander in Chief, his Nation, and his family.

His service to country was strengthened by the steadfast devotion of his wife, Barbara. She raised their family through every military deployment and every move, and supported military spouses and children across the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps with grace and compassion.

A son of Texas and a proud airman, General Minihan leaves a legacy of military and intelligence professionals to carry his guidon into the future of a strong and secure U.S. national security enterprise.

On behalf of the House Intelligence Committee and a grateful Nation, we thank and honor Lieutenant General Ken Minihan for a lifetime of extraordinary service.

CELEBRATING TARBORO HIGH SCHOOL VIKINGS

(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, the Tarboro High School Viking football team is North Carolina's 2A State champion.

The Vikings completed an amazing, undefeated 15-0 season. The victory marked the program's 10th State championship title and back-to-back title wins.

He may go all the way, indeed. Senior Kamerin McDowell-Moore went all the way. He was named the game's MVP, recording 15 tackles and 17 carries for 190 yards and 3 touchdowns.

Coach Jeff Craddock is the absolute GOAT. Many thanks to Principal Terry Hopkins, coaches, parents, the Tarboro community, and the entire Viking family for their incredible support.

Mr. Speaker, when our student-athletes succeed, the entire community wins. What a victory for the Vikings.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ferrari, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 550. An act to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes.

S. 748. An act to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and for other purposes.

S. 1510. An act to amend the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018 to strengthen the powers of the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board, and for other purposes.

□ 1210

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4776, STANDARDIZING PERMITTING AND EXPEDITING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1366, MINING REGULATORY CLARITY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 845, PET AND LIVESTOCK PROTECTION ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3616, RELIABLE POWER ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3632, POWER PLANT RELIABILITY ACT OF 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4371, KAYLA HAMILTON ACT

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 951 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 951

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4776) to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of

1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1366) to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 845) to require the Secretary of the Interior to reissue regulations removing the gray wolf from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally