

serves on the boards of directors of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Methodist College, RADIUS, Health Center Association of Nebraska, Heartland Community Health Network, BRIDGE Family Resource Connector Network, and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Advisory Committee.

It is crystal clear that Kenny is not just a professional of the highest caliber but a great community leader who exemplifies public service, vision, and unwavering commitment to making a difference in our communities.

Kenny's accomplishments include the University of Nebraska Omaha Young Alumni Achievement Award; University of Nebraska Omaha College of Public Affairs and Community Service Alumni Award of Excellence; National Association of Community Health Centers' Betsey K. Cooke Grassroots MVP Award; Urban League of Nebraska African American Leadership Award; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Mid-Western Region Award for Excellence in Health and Wellness; and University of Nebraska Medical Center/Nebraska Medicine Servant Leader Award. He has done it all.

The accolades Kenny received reflect his excellence through investing in public health, uplifting community development, and demonstrating to inspire innovative change in every role he has played while being a great husband and father, which I also admire.

Through dedication and perseverance in tackling healthcare inequities or inequalities, Kenny has encompassed a meaningful vision for disenfranchised populations. His role has laid a foundation for healthier, more equitable communities.

Kenny McMorris' contributions in Omaha exemplify nothing short of the values of Black History Month, which celebrates resilience, leadership, and a commitment to advancing public health and opportunity for all.

Omaha is a better place because of Kenny McMorris. His impact has been positively felt by thousands upon thousands.

OPPOSING CUTS TO NIH FUNDING FOR INDIRECT COSTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the illegal and unwise policy recently announced by the National Institutes of Health to limit their indirect cost recapture rate to 15 percent.

To start with, as we start with most Trump administration maneuvers these last 3 weeks, it is illegal. I know that my Republican colleagues don't think that it is possible for the President to answer to the rule of law, but it is critical, particularly with the biomedical enterprise that makes long-term, expensive investments, to have

confidence that when Congress or the President make a commitment, they stand by it over the course of years and even across decades. Undermining the rule of law undermines our ability to do the kinds of long-term, transformational science that changes lives.

In 2017, when the Trump administration first attempted to lower the indirect cost recapture rate to 10 percent, the Appropriations Committee, by an overwhelming bipartisan vote, rejected it and froze the IDC at its current level. That has been reauthorized every single year from 2017 through 2024.

I ask my Republican colleagues: You voted for this. They are breaking that law that you voted for. What are you going to do about it?

Now, the NIH might say: Well, we are referring to a different section of the code whereby we can, for a subset of grants with documentation, reduce the IDC.

That is not the NIH policy, though. The NIH did not do a subset of grants. They did it for every single grant and with zero documentation.

Wake up, Republicans. They are breaking your law.

The NIH might claim that what we are doing here is actually not cuts to the NIH because the same \$35 billion is going to go out to science, but now it is just going to be more of those direct experiments, the people, the reagents, and the travel, and less of that expensive overhead. While it is true that the same amount of dollars could go out the door, in reality, these institutions, whether universities or hospitals, are going to be decreasingly able to afford to accept them.

Of any given experiment, the overhead associated with that experiment is well more than 15 percent. Research facilities, energy bills, support personnel, and data and technology, these things are expensive. We are not in the era of beakers in somebody's backyard doing chemical experiments. We are in an era of cutting-edge genetic engineering, and the equipment costs money.

Fewer institutions and investigators are going to be able to accept these grants. What we are ultimately going to do is privatize research infrastructure, so we are going to get less of it. It is just as though the Department of Transportation told businesses to build their own bridges and sidewalks. We just wouldn't get as many of them.

The impact in Massachusetts is going to be profound. It is a \$2 billion attack on the research infrastructure that undergirds our eds and meds enterprise, an enterprise that creates billions of dollars in economic activity that supports hundreds of thousands of well-paying jobs. Each of those jobs in biopharma, for example, can create five other jobs. That is a profound economic multiplier.

The work that we do in Massachusetts changes lives. There is progress on Alzheimer's, under which 15 million Americans will suffer by 2050 if we do

not come up with therapies. Gestational diabetes—and, just recently, a non-opiate painkiller was developed in Massachusetts with NIH basic research funds that will provide outlets for acute pain that do not expose people to this most addictive chemical that has caused so much pain.

My Republican colleagues might say, "Yeah, that is Massachusetts." That is the whole point, don't you see? "It is the blue State and those universities and hospitals who think they are so much better than everybody else." That is exactly the point.

Here is my challenge to my Republican colleagues: Go back to your districts, talk to your universities, and talk to your hospitals. See how they are feeling about this policy. What you are going to hear is that they can't afford to take these grants. The research, the development, and the commercialization that you brag about when you go home, the ribbons that you cut for new companies and for new projects, all rest upon this research infrastructure that is getting cut.

Go talk to these companies. Go talk to these institutions of higher education. Go talk to these hospitals. They don't want to see this policy go into effect, and they want to see you vote for it and explain it back home, not hide behind the NIH.

So, they are losing. Who is winning? China. There were two main themes in the recent J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference. One was artificial intelligence, which, by the way, requires a lot of research infrastructure. The second was how good China has gotten at biotech in the last few years.

The Chinese biotech enterprise is looking at the United States cutting our own research infrastructure at a time when they are investing tens of billions of dollars, and they cannot believe their luck.

My Republican colleagues need to wake up, stand up, and support basic science.

HONORING HOMETOWN CHAMPION NICK SIRIANNI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a man whose journey from Jamestown, New York, to the pinnacle of professional football is a testament to perseverance, grit, and the power of believing in yourself: Philadelphia Eagles Head Coach Nick Sirianni.

As a lifelong Buffalo Bills fan, I never thought I would be here on the House floor praising the coach of another NFL team, but some stories transcend football rivalries, and Nick's is one of them.

From a young age, Nick was a student of the game. He was immersed in football. He was brought up by two very loving parents who instilled a tremendous work ethic and value set in

him. His father, Fran, was a beloved high school football coach, and his older brothers, Michael and Jay, were standout athletes, as well. In the backyard of their home, they weren't just playing football. They were shaping a champion.

At Mount Union, Nick Sirianni won three national championships, but an injury nearly ended his playing career. Instead of giving up, he pivoted, launching a coaching career that would take him from his alma mater to the NFL. He climbed the ranks with the Chiefs, Chargers, and Colts, proving himself every step of the way.

Four years ago, he took over as head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles and wasted no time turning them into a real contender, but this season, against all odds, his underdog Eagles did more than just compete. They dominated.

In a stunning Super Bowl victory, his team overwhelmed the Kansas City Chiefs, proving that heart, preparation, and relentless determination can overcome even the toughest challenges.

Nick's success isn't just measured in wins. It is measured in the message he sends to every small-town kid in Jamestown, New York, the southern tier, and across small-town America: No dream is too big, and no setback is too great. Success is never given. It is earned. It is built on faith in God, family, and an unrelenting will to win. It is forged through late nights, overcoming obstacles, and moments of doubt that are met with unwavering determination. It is about proving that talent when paired with hard work can take you anywhere.

Nick's hometown stands a little taller today. He has shown us what is possible when resilience meets opportunity.

While hoisting the Lombardi Trophy is an unforgettable triumph, I know this: His greatest chapters lie ahead for him.

I congratulate Coach Sirianni. He has reached the top of the mountain. He is a Super Bowl champion. Chautauqua County celebrates him, and America honors him. I know there is even more yet to come.

Fly, Eagles, fly, and go Bills.

□ 1045

THE SCRIMMAGE LINE FOR LIBERTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, Ukraine is the scrimmage line for liberty on the continent of Europe today. We all have witnessed hundreds of thousands of war deaths at record levels in this 11-year, cruel war that Russia has perpetrated against the free nation of Ukraine.

Russia had no provocation. For 30 years, Ukraine had tried to build her land forward.

Importantly, this morning in Europe, U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth

made an opening statement, along with many of our allied nations, seeking an end to the horrific 11-year killing field that is Ukraine after war criminal Vladimir Putin's illegal invasion, as I said, in 2014. It has been 11 long years of war.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has stated a negotiated peace will require an exchange of territory. Working with our closest and most-valued allies in NATO in the free world, the United States must do everything possible to bring full liberty to Ukraine and move Russia back into her own borders.

The international community must safeguard those borders, and those negotiations are yet to come. We have some hope this morning if we are serious about making sure the dividing line between the free world and the suppressed world is clearly drawn and safeguarded.

RIISING COSTS FOR OHIOANS

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning on behalf of the people of northwest Ohio. We face an economic reality that many across our country are experiencing.

Prices are on the rise. Trade war panic is causing more inflation. Uncertainty and the short supply of goods and services rise as inflation rises. It was announced this morning that prices are up 3 percent across the board, more than expected over the past month of this new administration.

Too many families are overwhelmed by the cost of living, and everyday people are having to face really hard choices between paying for groceries or rent, between medicine or a tank of gas. Do you just fill it halfway?

The latest curse: rising property taxes. In Ohio, eggs cost between \$6.66 a dozen and \$8 a dozen. Gas is back up to over \$3 a gallon. Unemployment is ticking up. Property taxes are skyrocketing, and working people are being squeezed from all sides. They don't have a lot of time to think about politics.

With Democrats here in the House, President Biden was able to allow a few prescription drug prices to be lowered, but it is no secret that the majority of families struggle to pay for medicine when they need it.

Meanwhile, major pharmacy chains, like Rite Aid, are shutting their doors, leaving entire communities with no pharmacy.

Why are there no hearings on that here in Congress?

Where are people supposed to go to fill their prescriptions?

People aren't just feeling economic pressure. They are being crushed by it.

Rents keep rising. This forces families and seniors to downsize or leave communities they have called home for decades.

Consumer credit card fraud is on the rise, bilking people who are already stretched thin. When families have no room left in their budgets, far too many gamble on their futures, making desperate choices just to get by.

My district is no stranger to gambling with lottery tickets, scratch offs, and casinos. The wheels just turn faster. People take chances. In the last election, that is exactly what they did. They gambled.

Many didn't vote. They voted not because they support radical extremism but because they want to get ahead. They want this Congress and the new President to help them do that.

I hear them. We all should, but the reality is that prices are going up. The Consumer Price Index just rose over the past month with 3 percent unexpected inflation. Prices for eggs are up, as I have said, 53 percent.

Look at what is happening with the price of higher education, which is now unaffordable for the majority. If our young people can't afford to go to school and learn, what does that imply for the future of this country?

WICHITA REMEMBRANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, January 29 is typically a day of celebration in Kansas. From Manhattan to Goodland, Topeka to Liberal, Kansas City to Dodge City, Kansans come together to celebrate the rich history of Kansas and to celebrate the anniversary of our statehood.

January 29, 2025, changed the meaning of this day for Kansans forever. The entire world stood in disbelief as we watched a tragedy unfold in the crash of American Airlines flight 5342 out of Wichita and a U.S. Army helicopter. The world lost 67 bright, innocent souls that day, and I speak for all Kansans when I say that this is a day that we will never forget.

When we celebrate our statehood in years to come, we will also feel the nudging of the somber emotions aroused by last month's accident. We will remember our fellow Kansans whose lives were tragically lost. They were farmers, parents, professors, college students with bright futures, all taken from us far too soon.

Audrey and I continue to grieve, and we are praying for the victims and their families. We express our deepest gratitude to the efforts of local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers and first responders. It is our prayer that God would continue to provide comfort to their families, communities, and loved ones.

There will be a lot to uncover in the days ahead. For now, we join Wichita, our beloved Kansas, and the Nation in mourning the lives lost.

Psalms 34:18 states: "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

God is near us.

Kansas is the heartbeat of the country. As our State motto reminds us, we will persevere together through this difficult time.

FAREWELL TO LAURA FRANCIS

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Laura Francis, an American