

They want to gut Social Security.

My constituents sent me here to protect their benefits.

It is clear to me that my colleagues across the aisle and this DOGE program will never stand up against this administration.

The Democrats will.

As the President and DOGE delay payments, disrupt services, and deny these hard-earned benefits, I will push back and protect Social Security.

SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, there were reports last night that the Social Security Administration may reduce their staff by more than 50 percent. This will affect whether seniors receive all the benefits that they are entitled to.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, 10,000 baby boomers every day become eligible for Social Security. How could they possibly keep up with that demand with a 50 percent reduction in staff?

In my district, we have been told that the Social Security Administration is closing the White Plains hearing office. That will mean that people in Westchester and the greater Hudson Valley will have to drive longer distances at greater expense to fight for their benefits, and this is happening nationwide.

This all comes in the same week as House Republicans passed their budget plan that would cut Medicaid by \$880 billion.

We were told this President would lower costs. Nothing I just mentioned lowers costs, and it actually throws people's livelihoods into chaos.

I am committed to making Westchester and Bronx lives less expensive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to reverse course and do the same.

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN BEVERLY BYRON

(Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I had the honor of standing with community leaders, friends and family to remember an amazing woman, former Congresswoman Beverly Byron. Ms. Byron was the last woman to hold my seat in the Sixth District of Maryland and honorably served from 1978 to 1992.

"Bev," as she was known, was sharp, funny, and wise. She was a true public servant who always put her country first. She stepped into her seat in 1978 after the sudden death of her husband, Goodloe, and she went on to serve for 14 years with distinction on matters that mattered most to Maryland families.

To me she was more than just a role model. At 92 years old, she was a friend

and a strong support system. Even in her last months, she was by my side on the campaign trail as she was for John when he held the seat.

As she often reminded me, she would say: April, remember our rural America. Remember western Maryland is important. We need our voices to be heard, and remember our armed services and our national parks.

Bev set the standard for public service and left a legacy we are all inspired to follow. She will be very much missed, but we will honor her memory by continuing the work she cared about so much.

Rest in peace, Bev. We have a special place in our hearts for you.

STAFFING CUTS AT THE VA

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago we saw more than 1,000 staff being fired at the VA. Then, this week, 1,400 more staffers were fired at the VA.

Who are these folks?

They support the veterans' crisis hotline. They take care of medical research, studying cancer, mental health, you name it, and burn pit exposure.

Mr. Speaker, remember that the Federal Government is the largest veteran employer in the United States. Around one-third of all VA employees are veterans themselves.

Yesterday, we learned the Trump administration is canceling more than 800 VA contracts.

Do you know what these things fund, Mr. Speaker?

Getting toxic exposed veterans access to their records to prove their claims, cancer care for veterans, and calibrating radiation detection equipment. I could go on and on.

It is a betrayal to attack veterans' care. We do not send young Americans off to fight wars and then when they come back to this country, we betray them by attacking the VA.

Mr. Speaker, do you want to talk about fiscal responsibility?

Then go look at the fraud, waste, and abuse at the Pentagon. Go tax billionaires and offshoring corporations. We don't do it on the backs of veterans.

This is unacceptable, and we are going to fight this every way we can.

RECOGNIZING STEVE MARTIN OF NORTHWEST OHIO

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, there is always good news in America. It is contained in the hearts of its people.

I rise today in recognition of an extraordinary citizen of northwest Ohio, Mr. Steve Martin, for his selfless dedication to our community. Steve creates community.

Since April of last year, Steve has volunteered with I Want to Mow Your Lawn, a nonprofit providing free lawn care to elderly individuals, veterans, people with disabilities, and families in need.

Through his hard work and generosity, Steve has completed 30 visits to care for the homes of Nancy Kinkaid and Bill Orzechowski, two neighbors facing serious health challenges.

His service not only maintains their yards, he has given them peace of mind, dignity, and the knowledge that their community cares.

Steve's contributions exemplify the very best of the northwest Ohio spirit, neighbors helping neighbors and lifting each other up in times of need. His work reminds us all that small acts of kindness can have a profound impact.

I am honored to recognize Steve Martin today. Let's thank him for his unwavering commitment to making our communities a better place for all.

SOVEREIGN TRIBAL NATIONS

(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, as you know, there are hundreds of sovereign Tribal nations across the United States. Since this great Nation's founding, the United States has signed hundreds of treaties with Tribal nations and passed hundreds of laws reaffirming Tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and U.S. commitments to indigenous communities.

However, over the last month, we have seen and heard from Tribes all over the country whose Federal funds have been frozen and their programs impacted by mass firings, including at Indian Health Service, BIA and BIE, including in my district at SIPI and at Haskell's College where faculty and students have been devastated by mass firings.

That is why yesterday myself, the New Mexico delegation, and 111 Members of Congress sent a letter to the administration calling on them to halt and reverse these harmful cuts to Tribal programs.

These programs are vital to Indian Country and part of the United States' solemn Tribal trust and treaty responsibilities. Our sovereign Tribal nations depend on these programs, and we must protect them.

HONORING GLYN RAMAGE ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible career of Glyn Ramage and to congratulate him on his retirement.

A resident of Millstadt, Illinois, and a lifelong labor champion, Glyn has inspired so many, including myself.

For 25 years, Glyn served as business manager for the Downstate Illinois Laborers' District Council. During that time he fought to secure better benefits and higher wages for more than 10,000 union families.

As a member of the Illinois Capital Development Board, Glyn brought workers' voices to the table that oversees State construction projects.

He also chairs the Illinois Laborers' and Contractors' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program to help build the next generation of construction workers.

I thank Glyn for all he has done for Illinois' workers, the labor movement and our community.

I congratulate Glyn on his retirement.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO VENEZUELA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-21)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 of March 8, 2015, with respect to the situation in Venezuela is to continue in effect beyond March 8, 2025.

The situation in Venezuela continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 with respect to the situation in Venezuela.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 27, 2025.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO UKRAINE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-22)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, which was expanded in scope in Executive Order 13661, Executive Order 13662, and Executive Order 14065, and under which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13685 and Executive Order 13849, is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2025.

The actions and policies of persons that undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets, as well as the actions and policies of the Government of the Russian Federation, including its purported annexation of Crimea and its use of force in Ukraine, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 with respect to Ukraine.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 27, 2025.

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RETURN THE UNITED STATES TO A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time and effort to make this time available so that we can communicate directly with the American public about what is going on in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that I sometimes hear a lot of misinformation going out, including several presentations just a few minutes ago on the distortion of what the intentions are under the budget resolution and ultimately budget reconciliation and how we are going to return the United States back in the direction of a balanced budget, which has ballooned to be so unbalanced in the last few years. At least let's get back to the pre-COVID numbers instead of \$2 trillion annually.

We will resolve that, and we will talk about that. We will talk about it publicly in the upcoming weeks, and the people can tune right into the com-

mittee hearings and see for themselves rather than having to believe lies made by politicians and by the media.

Mr. Speaker, I also will share this time and this hour here with colleagues, including my new colleague here from Indiana (Mr. SHREVE), who would like to give his comments and thoughts here.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SHREVE).

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, during our district workweek this past week, I had the opportunity to visit with Hoosiers across Indiana's Sixth District. I applied my first in-district workweek traveling from Indianapolis to Columbus and points in between. It was great to hear directly from Hoosiers about their priorities and listening to the issues that are important to them.

Above all else, in this role, our job as Representatives is to listen to our constituents. I was honored to attend the Indiana National Guard change of command ceremony, at which Brigadier General Lawrence Muennich assumed command from Major General Dale Lyles, making General Muennich the 60th Adjutant General of Indiana's National Guard.

I met with constituents from the Indiana Railroad Association and the Indiana Trucking Association. The district that I represent literally lies at the crossroads of America, and industries such as these represent key parts of the lifeblood of our economy.

Indiana's Sixth continues to be home to safe and prosperous communities in which to raise families. It was highlighted by my visit with the leadership of Franklin College and a number of state of the city addresses that occur in the month of January, including Greenwood's, where I attended Mayor Mark Myers' 14th state of the city address.

I visited with the leadership of Cummins Engine Company, headquartered in the district. I toured their cutting-edge engineering facility at their Cummins Engine plant.

I toured Rolls Royce and their massive aircraft engine design and manufacturing facility, where they are at the leading edge of military aircraft production for our national defense.

I also visited with SABIC, a company in Bartholomew County that is part of a global plastics industry.

At each of these companies in my district, I witnessed the best of Indiana: highly-skilled, hardworking Hoosiers who are contributing to the success and the defense of our country.

Above all, I heard a common theme as I traveled my district: Let's bring more Hoosier common sense to Washington.

Mr. Speaker, that is the commitment I made, and that is what I will continue to do.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for participating and letting us know what is going on in the gentleman's district. I wish the gentleman the best in his first term and new term as a Member of Congress.