



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025

No. 41

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROUZER).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 4, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID ROUZER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

AMERICA DESERVES PRESIDENT TRUMP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend President Donald Trump for the executive actions he has taken to secure our southern border. Thanks to his leadership, illegal crossings have dropped to the lowest level we have seen in decades. Our communities have suffered for too long under Joe Biden's failed open-border policies.

Crime has surged, fentanyl has poured in, and American jobs have been undermined. Biden's refusal to enforce our immigration laws created a national security crisis, but now with President Trump back in office, we are witnessing the power of real enforcement.

His executive actions are restoring order, protecting American families, and putting our country first. Biden let chaos reign while Trump is bringing security back to our borders.

We must never allow radical left policies to threaten our Nation's safety again. America deserves a leader who enforces the law, defends our borders, and stands up for its citizens, and that leader is Donald Trump.

REPUBLICANS STAND UP FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I should be standing here today celebrating the Senate's passage of the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, a bill that simply ensures fairness and common sense in athletics. Instead, Senate Democrats made their priorities clear. Mr. Speaker, 45 Senate Democrats voted against protecting women's sports, 45 Senate Democrats voted against keeping women's spaces safe, and 45 Democrats voted against protecting women.

Despite the fact that 80 percent of Americans agree that men do not belong in women's sports, Senate Democrats still chose to ignore reality and put our daughters at risk.

This isn't about politics. This is about fairness, safety, and protecting the integrity of women's sports. This is about a level playing field. If it wasn't obvious before, now it is. Republicans are the party that stands for women. We are the party that defends their right to compete on a level playing field, and while Democrats try to erase the very definition of womanhood, we will never back down. They can slow us down, but they will not stop us. We will keep fighting until every woman and

girl in this country has the protections they deserve.

America's daughters deserve better than what Senate Democrats did last night.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Women's History Month by uplifting my dear friend, a powerful organizer, Erendira "Ere" Rendon.

Ere has dedicated her life to fighting for the dignity and liberation of immigrant communities.

Hailing from Oaxaca, Mexico, Ere immigrated to the United States in 1990 to be reunited with her father. Ere is 1 of 530,000 from the roughly 3.6 million Dreamers receiving DACA, a program that has been viciously attacked in this Chamber. Inspired by her family's and her own experiences, Ere has fought to expand and affirm immigrant rights, ensuring access to driver's licenses, healthcare regardless of legal status, and funding for necessary legal services.

For nearly 15 years, Ere has organized at the Resurrection Project helping to found the Immigrant Justice Department where she serves as vice president.

Ere is one of the countless "powerful women," "poderosas mujeres" leaders organizing to protect and unite our communities reminding us that immigrants make our communities stronger.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Erendira Rendon in this day for her lifelong commitment to ensuring that immigrant communities are seen and that immigrants are valued, uplifted, and loved just as she is.

Congratulations to Ere.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H949

POWERFUL WOMEN

Mrs. RAMIREZ. At a time of unserious efforts to establish English as the official language of the United States, I rise today to celebrate my constituent, Angelica Garcia Santos, in a language proudly spoken in Illinois' Third Congressional District.

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish by Mrs. RAMIREZ is as follows:)

In honor of Women's Month, I congratulate community leader and activist Angélica García Santos, my West Chicago constituent.

Angélica began volunteering at IL03's non-profit immigrant advocacy organization, Casa Michoacán, where she now serves as coordinator.

At Casa Michoacán, Angélica provides resources to connect her immigrant neighbors with their community and inform them about their rights.

As an activist, Angélica has also helped advocates for the expansion of healthcare for immigrants, inspired by her own experiences with the healthcare system.

Angélica is one of countless community leaders in my district who feel the urgency of this moment as my Republican colleagues move forward with devastating cuts to federal programs like Medicaid.

Angélica's activism reminds us how much our immigrants contribute to our communities and shape the change they know we need.

On behalf of Illinois' 3rd Congressional District, it is my great honor to congratulate Angélica García Santos for her activism, leadership, and advocacy.

Thank you, Angélica.

En honor al Mes de la Mujer, felicito a la líder comunitaria y activista Angélica García Santos, mi constituyente de West Chicago.

Angélica comenzó como voluntaria en la organización sin fines de lucro de defensa de los inmigrantes de IL03, Casa Michoacán, donde ahora se desempeña como coordinadora.

En Casa Michoacán, Angélica brinda recursos para conectar a sus vecinos inmigrantes con su comunidad e informales sobre sus derechos.

Como activista, Angélica también ha ayudado a defender la expansión del cuidado médico para inmigrantes, inspirada por sus propias experiencias con el sistema de salud.

Angélica es una de los innumerables líderes comunitarios de mi distrito que siente la urgencia de este momento en el que mis colegas republicanos avanzan con recortes devastadores a programas federales como Medicaid.

El activismo de Angélica nos recuerda cuánto contribuyen nuestros inmigrantes a nuestras comunidades y dan forma al cambio que saben que necesitamos.

A nombre del tercer distrito del Congreso de Illinois, es un gran honor para mí felicitar a Angélica García Santos por su activismo, liderazgo y defensa.

Gracias, Angélica.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SELF). The Chair asks the gentleman to provide a translation to the desk.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Women's History Month and to celebrate the rich contributions of Ukrainians in Illinois—03 by uplifting my constituent, Dr. Mariya Dmytriv-Kapeniak, for her work to honor our shared humanity.

A family medicine doctor, Dr. Dmytriv-Kapeniak exemplifies putting together our vocation into service for humanity. As a proud member of the Illinois Chapter of Ukrainian Medical Association of North America and the president of the Illinois division of Ukrainian Congress Committee of North America, she has secured medical donations and supply donations to help save lives in Ukraine.

This past Sunday I had the honor to stand with her and Ukrainian Americans at a Chicago rally to send a clear message: We who stand for democracy will not be bullied by dictators, not in Ukraine, not in other parts of the world, and not in the United States.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, home to thousands of Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans, it is my honor to commend Dr. Mariya Dmytriv-Kapeniak for her tremendous leadership and commitment to human dignity, to peace, and to democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mariya and congratulate her.

MAKING AMERICA SECURE: HOLDING LEFTIST SANCTUARY CITIES ACCOUNTABLE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, before President Trump got into office recently, America's security was really, really in doubt, especially on our border, so the actions taken by us in this House as well as, very importantly, what President Trump has done to secure our border is incredible. The numbers are down dramatically from the amount of people coming across illegally daily to the mere small number that is still doing so now until such point as we complete the border fence and the other measures taken to have the border completely secure. It is a pretty amazing turnaround.

Tomorrow, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will question the mayors of several of our large cities who seem to be just more concerned about the benefits of illegal immigrants than of those of the American people. The mayors of Boston, Chicago, Denver, and New York who have been harboring illegal immigrants as sanctuary areas and have jeopardized the public safety of their own constituents and drained taxpayer resources will be held accountable in this hearing.

These so-called leaders have chosen to ignore Federal immigration laws. They are breaking the law. They brag about it, and they say they will con-

tinue to do so. They chose to shield the illegal immigrants, including criminals, rather than protect the people they were actually elected to serve.

They chose policies that have overwhelmed law enforcement, strained public services, and put American families at risk. They don't seem to care that these tax dollars come from the hardworking people who actually did have eligibility to vote for them.

We House Republicans refuse to let this continue and have continued to take action.

President Trump declared a national emergency and deployed the military to the border to slow down that massive tide. Indeed, it has worked.

He has ended catch and release where basically law enforcement catches somebody at the border, processes them as fast as they can, and turns them loose in the country maybe to come back for a hearing on asylum supposedly within a couple years.

He reestablished the remain in Mexico policy so they are not to just come into the country. If Mexico is going to let them in from the south, then they can deal with it. Remain in Mexico is not automatic passage into the U.S.

He has restarted the border wall construction. Indeed, that makes it so much easier for our law enforcement personnel, our border personnel, to be able to narrow down the tide coming in and focus on what is going to happen there.

He shut down the CBP One app. He has terminated taxpayer-funded benefits for illegal immigrants. We still have States like my home State of California who can't give it away fast enough, at one point \$9.5 billion for illegal immigrants in their health care program at the same time that the State is asking for \$40 billion to get bailed out after the horrific fire situation in southern California.

He has terminated taxpayer benefits overall for illegal immigrants via executive order. We need to back him up on that.

He began transferring criminal aliens to Guantanamo Bay so they don't get away. He classified cartels as foreign terrorist organizations, and indeed they are.

He suspended the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. He has clawed back DHS funds that were being used for the benefit of housing illegal immigrants while at the same time we have people suffering from disasters.

Here we were able to pass the Laken Riley Act to keep violent criminals off our streets, especially those who are here as illegal immigrants. We passed the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act to protect these innocent lives.

We passed the HALT Fentanyl Act to stop deadly drugs from flowing across our border. Fentanyl is an existential crisis in this country for so many people. It is so deadly and yet so prevalent. It is sent through Mexico so much by China. Mexico is not being a good neighbor when they keep allowing this.