

We passed the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act to give law enforcement the tools they need, as well.

The results are that illegal border crossings, as I mentioned, have dropped dramatically. Apprehensions have fallen by 93 percent because they don't have to apprehend this 93 percent, which is a major victory for border security.

We will not back down. I know President Trump will not back down. We need to move forward because we raise our right hand and swear allegiance to this country and its Constitution. It is our job to make our country strong, to make our country safe, and to serve our own citizens who are already struggling enough with inflation and with choking regulations in some cases. So much is going against the grain of what the founding of this country was about.

I am proud of the work we have been trying to do here on the House floor. I hope we can get more of a bipartisan effort on that as we see the common sense of what we are trying to do. The Senate can take this up and support the leadership President Trump has provided and the results we have seen so strongly so far.

□ 1015

A SERIOUS AND PROFOUND MOMENT

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, within 12 hours, this very Chamber is going to witness a joint address to Congress. I will take my time and my privilege as a duly elected Member of this Chamber to share some of the sentiments about the state of the Union that is emerging very clearly and loudly from Michigan and on behalf of my constituents.

First and foremost, tariffs that are coming down today on Canada are wreaking havoc on autoworkers, our auto industry, and, frankly, the stock market.

Secondly, I am hearing very grave concerns about the state of Social Security and Social Security's ability to meet its fiduciary commitments to its millions and millions of recipients. Never once in the history of that program has a payment been missed, but the actions of DOGE are disrupting that very agency.

There is also a very palpable fear in my constituents. Veterans who are 100 percent disabled are concerned and fearful that they may or may not be able to continue to receive their medical care.

This is a serious and profound moment. This is a self-inflicted crisis.

I did serve this Nation during a time of real economic crisis during the Great Recession in the administration of Barack Obama. That was when I was in the Treasury Department, working to save General Motors and Chrysler

and millions of American automotive jobs as the companies were staring liquidation in the face.

Mr. Speaker, I will take a moment to share some words. On February 8, at the Sheet Metal Workers union in Oakland County, Michigan, I was joined by an incredible medical expert from Michigan, my friend, Dr. Preetha Iyengar, who happens to be in this very Chamber alongside her family here today.

She read these words, which I would like to share and read on her behalf, and on the behalf of the American people, in this Chamber.

Dr. Iyengar shared:

I am a pediatrician and epidemiologist. After residency, I trained for 2 years at the CDC and then worked in Washington, D.C., at an NGO and the D.C. Health Department.

I am here today to highlight the impact of recent policies and actions on scientific institutions and how that impacts us in Michigan.

Our scientific institutions are being attacked from many angles, but I wanted to highlight three areas: spreading of misinformation, purging of experts and destruction of scientific institutions, and destruction of critical infrastructure.

We are seeing that the current administration's agenda is misinformation and confusion. Federal healthcare and public health institutions are facing unprecedented censorship and harassment. Bans for external communications have crippled international collaborations, with special exceptions given at random and many that have not been restored. Websites with CDC healthcare guidelines used by doctors and public health information used by all of us in the medical community, like vaccine safety information sheets, were forced to be removed without warning.

Dr. Iyengar also mentioned that we now are less safe in protecting ourselves during the flu season, particularly with bird flu.

I may insert the question: How much are egg prices today in the United States of America? People are stealing eggs outside of delivery trucks and engaging in fights in supermarkets across this country. This is the United States of America, and we need an egg price plan.

Dr. Iyengar also went on to say that, as a woman in STEM, she is horrified to see the targeting of DEI programs, and let's say the words: diversity, equity, and inclusion. Equity, which is enshrined in our very Constitution, is something that all equal Members of this Chamber swore an oath to uphold. I will remind people of the rights and the tenets of Article I in our Constitution.

Dr. Iyengar says that she is horrified by the cuts to diversity, equity, and inclusion as a woman in STEM.

Frankly, as the leader of the Women in STEM Caucus, I founded this bipartisan caucus with four Members of this Chamber, two Republicans and two Democrats. It is Women's History Month, and we would like to do some things for women in STEM to meet the workforce challenges and needs of this great Nation. Of course, I cannot, at this present time, tragically, get a Re-

publican Member of Congress to join the Women in STEM Caucus for this term.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members that the rules do not allow references to persons in the gallery.

RECOGNIZING PHIL GINN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly remarkable individual, Phil Ginn, whose unwavering commitment to his community has been an inspiration to all of us who know him.

His lifetime of service to his family, to his faith, and to his country has made him an institution in his community, and his influence will be felt for generations to come.

Judge Ginn's pursuit of excellence began with his education. He graduated magna cum laude from Appalachian State University and earned his law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His legal career spanned over four decades, including 22 years as the senior resident superior court judge for the 24th Judicial District in North Carolina. Throughout his tenure, he upheld the rule of law with wisdom, with fairness, and with integrity.

Judge Ginn's influence extended far beyond the courtroom, where he not only delivered legal rulings but also mentored those around him, always striving to instill truth and justice.

After retiring from the bench in 2014, Judge Ginn transitioned to the business world as he purchased a struggling horizontal pump company in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Over the next 3 years, with the help of key employees and through exemplary leadership, he managed to turn the business into one of the largest privately owned horizontal pump companies in the United States.

In early 2018, Judge Ginn completed the sale of the company and returned to his beloved mountains of western North Carolina.

It is not just in law and business where Judge Ginn's legacy is found. His greatest passion has always been his faith. His devotion led him to serve as chairman of the Southern Evangelical Seminary board of trustees. In 2021, he assumed the role of the sixth president of the board. Under his leadership, the seminary has continued its vital mission to evangelize our culture as a defender and as a disciple of the Christian faith.

Founded in 1992 by Dr. Norman Geisler and Dr. Ross Rhoads, Southern Evangelical Seminary is widely recognized as one of the top 10 evangelical Christian seminaries in the country, offering accredited programs rooted in a classical philosophy of education.

Recently, SES has further enhanced its national standing as one of the premier evangelical seminaries in America through the establishment and

dedication of a new innovative training center in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The center includes a state-of-the-art, fully digital campus that serves as a thriving international body.

Throughout his accomplishments, Judge Ginn has remained a devoted husband, a devoted father, and a devoted grandfather. He and his wife, Lynn, have been married for over 40 years and have raised four daughters, three sons-in-law, and five grandchildren, imparting to them the same values of faith, service, and community that have helped shape his life and legacy.

Above all of his many accomplishments, it is Judge Ginn's unwavering faith in the Lord Jesus Christ that has truly defined his life. In his courtroom, in his office, and in his personal life, the Holy Bible has been a standard of truth, the source of all wisdom, and the promise upon which he stands.

In dealing with his fellow man, he is a person who knows no superiors. He is a person who knows no inferiors. He lives by the values instilled in him at a young age by his parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Charles Ginn, to treat others without regard for position or power, respect elders and love children, work hard, speak the truth, stand for the American flag and those who fight for our freedom, and give generously but quietly.

Judge Ginn's life is a master class in respect, honor, and kindness, and his legacy will be long remembered not just for his accomplishments but for his character.

Judge Ginn's legacy of leadership, compassion, and commitment to justice continues to inspire all who encounter him. He is a man who lives by the Bible and is proof of: "To whom much is given, much will be required."

On behalf of the people of South Carolina's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest congratulations to Judge Ginn and his family on his well-deserved recognition. His life reminds us that true leadership begins with being a good and honorable person.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in giving heartfelt thanks to Judge Phil Ginn.

DISASTROUS IMPLICATIONS OF A YEARLONG CR

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, Republican leadership has called for a yearlong continuing resolution ahead of next week's government funding deadline.

That is a horrible idea. To be clear, the government funding bill should have been completed last year, but House Republicans made the political decision to punt it to this year because my colleagues wanted to wait for President Trump to move into the White House.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans got what the majority wanted but still

haven't been able to pass any new funding because their party refuses to accept the responsibility of governing. That is what has led us to this yearlong CR.

Both the President and the Speaker have called for a "clean" CR, but neither of them can articulate what that means.

Not only is Republican leadership struggling to say what my Republican colleagues want to see in it, but a yearlong CR would negatively impact our economy. A yearlong CR creates economic uncertainty and job insecurity because it prevents Federal agencies from making new hires and starting new programs. It delays contracts and applications for grants, which reduce the level of services agencies provide while also increasing costs. It reduces funding for nearly every Federal program that America relies on, such as VA medical care and food assistance programs.

Donald Trump and shadow president Musk have already thrown hundreds of thousands of public employees in limbo. A CR would only exacerbate that uncertainty and endanger their livelihoods.

Mr. Speaker, that is not the only disastrous implication of a yearlong CR. A yearlong CR would undermine our military readiness and our national security. The Department of Defense would have to slow recruiting efforts and delay servicemember moves, throwing our military families into limbo, not to mention it would potentially negate the 14.5 percent pay raise for junior-enlisted servicemembers, delay military housing projects, and undercut initiatives to improve servicemember quality of life and mental health.

Also, since a yearlong CR would not account for inflation, thousands of DOD programs would see cuts. That includes programs that deal with nuclear triad modernization, shipbuilding and ship maintenance, munitions production and replenishment, and U.S. priorities in the Indo-Pacific.

Ultimately, a yearlong CR would force too much uncertainty and stress on our servicemembers and their families, and it would impede our ability to react to national security threats.

Even some of my Republican colleagues agree with me on this point. One Republican colleague has said: "A continuing resolution, CR, is bad for our military and weakens our national security. A CR means new weapons programs cannot get started." Shipbuilding will be delayed. "A yearlong CR means we are not serious about building a military that will deter China, Russia, and Iran."

The White House may be out of touch with reality when it comes to Ukraine and supporting our allies abroad, but their fealty to Vladimir Putin doesn't mean the United States can resign its role in standing for Ukraine and democracies around the world.

Washington Republicans need to get it together. My colleagues on the other

side of the aisle control the White House and Congress. If we have a government shutdown, it falls on the majority and their inability to govern.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JERRY "ICEMAN" BUTLER

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend, great vocalist, entertainer, outstanding civic and community leader, and a solid member for many years of the Cook County Board of Commissioners with a primary focus on healthcare, Jerry Butler.

Jerry was born in Sunflower, Mississippi, and his parents, like thousands of other Blacks, migrated to Chicago. As a matter of fact, we fondly sometimes call Chicago "northern Mississippi."

Jerry's family lived in the Cabrini-Green area, which was a large public housing development. That is where Jerry, Curtis Mayfield, and their friends, as young teenagers and young adults, sang spirituals and doo-wops, hung out, and had fun.

They ultimately formed a group called The Roosters and then The Impressions. The Impressions were sensational. Jerry performed with them for a bit, and then he went solo.

After leaving the group in 1960, Jerry achieved over 55 Billboard pop and rhythm and blues hits as a solo artist. Some of his top hits were "He Will Break Your Heart," "Let It Be Me," and "Only the Strong Survive." Jerry cowrote the song "For Your Precious Love," which is ranked No. 321 on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the 500 greatest songs of all time.

Jerry was known as the Iceman. He even played a small role in a movie.

Jerry was elected to the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 1985 and served there until he retired in 2018.

□ 1030

His last election was in 2014 in which he received 80 percent of the votes.

Jerry served as host of PBS' TV music specials such as "Doo Wop 50" and "Doo Wop 51"; "Rock, Rhythm & Doo Wop"; "Rhythm and Blues 40: A Soul Spectacular."

He also served as chairman of the board of the Rhythm & Blues Foundation.

In 1991, Jerry was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, along with the other original members of The Impressions: Curtis Mayfield, Sam Gooden, Fred Cash, Richard Brooks, and Arthur Brooks.

When Jerry and I served on the Cook County Board together, I was walking down the hall one morning humming "Moon River," and I passed Jerry's door. He hollered out and said: I hear you. I said: Well, how am I doing? He said: Well, don't quit your day job.

Well, Jerry, I didn't quit my day job. I am still here, and I know that he is