

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

up there in Heaven with all of the other soul singers. We are never going to give him up, and I know that he is up there leading them in glory, hallelujah, His truth is marching on.

The only thing that I can say is Jerry lived a life well done, and I will see him when I get there.

HONORING CHIEF OF STAFF, KARI OSMOND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, ask any Member of Congress and they will tell you, none of us could adequately serve our constituents without staffers. They are a necessary component of our office.

Today, I will take a moment to thank my chief of staff, Kari Osmond, who will be leaving our office at the conclusion of today's work.

Kari has been working with me since I was first elected to represent the 12th Congressional District a decade ago, but I have known her since my time in the State assembly.

In fact, we spent so much time together during my first campaign, driving around the 12th Congressional District listening to gospel music, I nearly turned her into a Black Baptist. We preferred Hezekiah Walker's "Every Praise."

Her dedication and her commitment to the people in the four counties that I represent has never wavered in all of the time that I have known her.

Kari is not just a friend. Bill, my husband, and I consider her family. She has been a tremendous professional, a committed organizer, and a courageous leader who has always run toward the fight.

In her time as chief of staff, she also helped me to assemble a talented team committed to representing the values of the 12th Congressional District and fighting for everyday New Jerseyans.

A Congress Member is only as good as their staff, and she has led one of the best on the Hill for the last 4 years and the best in our district office in New Jersey.

I will miss her greatly. I will miss her dearly. I am certain, though, that she will carry her talent and her commitment to service to her new role at the College of New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Kari Godspeed, best wishes, and know that she goes with my love.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS THE NUMBER ONE ANTIPOVERTY PROGRAM IN UNITED STATES

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak and address the Chamber about the Nation's

number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the Nation's number one antipoverty program for children. I speak, of course, of Social Security.

Social Security is currently under attack by the Trump administration with just this weekend, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Trump calling Social Security a scam and Mr. Musk calling Social Security a Ponzi scheme.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am sure as you know in your district, you have 209,000 Social Security recipients: 157,000 are retirees; 25,000 plus are disabled workers; 10,000 are widows; 3,678 are spouses; and over 12,000 are children. I don't believe that you think that Social Security and the checks that these people receive is a scam or that Social Security is a Ponzi scheme.

In fact, in your district, \$377 million comes into your district monthly that goes to those individuals. Where do they spend that money? They spend that money right back in your district at the grocery store, at the pharmacy, at the dry cleaners, heating and cooling their homes, paying their rent, their mortgage, and putting gasoline in their car.

The brilliance of Franklin Delano Roosevelt still lives on. This is capitalism's answer to have a safety net for people, who through no fault of their own or because they work and ultimately end up retiring, have benefits that they can live on. It is especially more important as people are living longer. They need these benefits that are currently under siege by an administration who has asked Elon Musk to find \$2 trillion in cuts.

Where is he looking? He is looking right at your district, Mr. Speaker, and my district, and the 435 congressional districts, who, on average, receive \$200 million monthly from Social Security where, on average, the more than 145,000 people per district that receive these benefits go directly back to the local economy.

We are looking for three Republicans to stand with a unified Democratic Party and Congress to push forward a bill that was last extended in 1971. Richard Nixon was President of the United States the last time Social Security benefits were extended for your constituents as well as my constituents in Connecticut.

It is long overdue. We have a COLA that doesn't work. We have people that continue to work after they receive Social Security that are taxed on their benefits. We have had teachers and firefighters and police officers, as well, who have been denied benefits. Now, while they are eligible for them, they are not funded and so that money comes out of the trust fund.

President Trump has now proposed a tax cut for Social Security that is unpaid for. That is over a \$900 billion hit to Social Security and all the constituents who receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I know you to be a man of goodwill and you understand your district and what your people need, as

well. It is long overdue for the citizens of the United States to have their Social Security benefits enhanced, not cut.

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 10 o'clock and 39 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Great and awesome God, Your glory is too wonderful to be seen. Even Your servant Moses, whom You regarded worthy enough to bring forth Your law to Your people wandering in the desert, You covered his face that he would not perish in Your sight.

In our journey through at times the wilderness of faith, it seems You have hidden Your face from us, too. Is it because the brilliance of the righteousness that You demand for us is too great to bear witness to?

Or is it that You are not hidden, but it is we who have turned away from You? The events of these days, the inhumanity of war raging throughout the world, the conflict and controversy in our own country, not to mention the personal unrest in our own lives, all these have grabbed our attention.

Perhaps it is these things that have kept us from seeing Your face, from experiencing Your abiding presence. Perhaps we are looking in the wrong places, searching our social media or our social circles for our answers.

In this season, call us to search our hearts and, in Your mercy, may we find You there. Reveal in our spirits, by the power of Your own holy spirit, what You have always wanted us to see: Your great and wonderful love for us and Your desire for us to live righteously.

We lean on Your everlasting arms and call on Your name as we pray this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON)