

S. 1626. An act to reauthorize the National Landslide Preparedness Act, and for other purposes.

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE DOUG LAMALFA

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 978

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Doug LaMalfa, a Representative from the Senate of California.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING MARK LUSK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lycoming County Sheriff Mark Lusk, who retired Monday after 50 years of outstanding community service.

Mark was elected as Lycoming County sheriff in 2009 and served in this role for four consecutive terms. Over his 50-year career, Mark has held a variety of positions, including patrolman, criminal investigator, corporal, chief of police, and deputy coroner.

Mark's leadership has been pivotal, and he was responsible for many rescue operations when the county experienced major floods.

Beyond his role as sheriff, Mark has volunteered for the Old Lycoming Township Volunteer Fire Company for 45 years. He has also worked alongside the local VFW and American Legion.

Mark has received various awards for his leadership over his career. In 2007, he was recognized by the Lycoming County Department of Public Safety and the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Mark has dedicated his career to serving the community and answering the call of those in need. I thank him for his service, and I wish him the very best.

WAR FOR OIL

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, unable to run America, Trump says that he will run Venezuela.

Unwilling to provide help to Americans facing soaring health premiums, he offers new tax subsidies to Big Oil.

Long eager to drag America back to the ugly glory days of White nationalism under his hero, President William McKinley, Trump now is apparently going to make imperialism great again, also.

Declaring that he and he alone will dominate the Western Hemisphere, he sends a chilling message to his fellow authoritarians, like Putin, Xi, and others: Might makes right. Just stay in your own neighborhood.

With no interest in democracy, he has made clear that this is a war for oil and that he will work with any pawn that will get it to him, even those who are launching a new wave of repression in Venezuela.

Colombia, Mexico, Greenland—he is handing Putin a gift by dividing NATO. Our allies had to meet yesterday to defend Denmark on Greenland from this bully in chief.

So many conflicts but no plan to provide security to American families. He ignores our needs.

RECOGNIZING CO-OP CITY TIMES

(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, in a world where local news services—newspapers and radio stations—are disappearing on a frightening level, it is important to recognize and salute those organizations that are continuing to provide information about our localities, the lives and times of the individuals of our communities.

In the Bronx—specifically, in Co-op City—we have a public debt of gratitude that we owe to the Co-op City Times, which is serving the 40,000-plus people who reside there.

Owned and operated by the Riverbay Corporation, the Co-op City Times, led by Rozaan Boone, editor-in-chief, and her team of reporters, covers the work of the Co-op Board of Directors and the many organizations of Co-op City, from the NAACP branch to The American Legion post and every other group in between.

The Co-op City Times provides weekly news, free of charge, that covers the events and information of the individual building organizations, local arts and performances, and the churches and houses of worship and all of their events, and they spotlight the persons and the personalities that move Co-op City every day.

I thank Co-op City Times from the floor of the House of Representatives for showing that local news can still be vocal news.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, after months of delay, the Trump adminis-

tration finally released an annual food security survey, which confirms what we know to be true: Hunger is increasing in this country.

Nearly 48 million Americans, including 14 million children, in the richest country in the history of the world, are food insecure, meaning that they lack the money and resources to acquire adequate food to feed their families. Those are moms, dads, grandparents, and kids who are unable to consistently access the most basic necessity: food.

Mr. Speaker, it is no wonder that the Trump administration has unilaterally canceled all future food security reports. They know that their big, ugly bill and Trump's terrible economy are going to cause food insecurity to skyrocket, and they are desperate to hide the data from the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to say that Democrats in Congress are not going to stand by while Trump tears apart basic needs programs. We will continue calling attention to the increase in hunger caused by this administration and their Republican allies in Congress, and we will always fight for a future when we finally end hunger now.

□ 1210

ELECTING A MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 979

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS: Mr. Knott.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4593, SAVING HOMEOWNERS FROM OVERREGULATION WITH EXCEPTIONAL RINSING ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5184, AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVER MANDATING EFFICIENCY STANDARDS ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6938, COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE; ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT; AND INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 977 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 977

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4593) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to revise the definition of showerhead. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5184) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from enforcing energy efficiency standards applicable to manufactured housing, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6938) making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; (2) proceedings under section 4 of this resolution; and (3) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. The proceedings referred to in section 3 of this resolution are as follows:

(a) after debate pursuant to section 3 of this resolution, the Chair shall, in the order specified by the Chair, put the question on (1) retaining Division A and (2) retaining Divisions B and C;

(b) the yeas and nays shall be considered as ordered on each of the questions under subsection (a); and

(c) after disposition of the questions under subsection (a), the Chair shall put the question on engrossment and third reading of the text comprising those portions of the bill retained pursuant to subsection (a).

SEC. 5. In the engrossment of H.R. 6938, the Clerk shall conform division and section numbers and make related corrections to cross-references in the event a portion of the bill is not retained pursuant to section 4 of this resolution.

SEC. 6. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record not later than January 9, 2026, such material as he may deem explanatory of H.R. 6938.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Indiana is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this morning, the Rules Committee met to produce a rule, H. Res. 977, providing for the House's consideration on the following three bills:

First, the rule provides for H.R. 4593, the SHOWER Act, to be considered under a closed rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, or their respective designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Second, the rule provides for H.R. 5184, the Affordable HOMES Act. H.R. 5184 would be considered under a closed rule. It also provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, or their respective designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Third, the rule provides for H.R. 6938, Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026. H.R. 6938 would be considered under a closed rule, and it also provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, or their designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule provides for separate votes on division A and divisions B and C.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and in support of the underlying legislation. These bills reflect a simple governing philosophy: freedom of choice, fiscal responsibility, regulatory clarity, and a government that focuses on the American people, not bureaucracy.

Let me begin with the appropriations package. Beginning with H.R. 6938, the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2026, these bills make targeted, disciplined investments to strengthen American energy dominance, reinforce our nuclear deterrent capabilities, support law enforcement, and expand access to critical minerals. These policy priorities are shared by President Trump, congressional Republicans, and millions of Americans. Importantly, this appropriations package ends Biden-era policies enacting a more con-

servative vision, all while cutting fiscal year 2026 spending by nearly \$2 billion, delivering significant savings for taxpayers. Let me repeat that: Passing full year appropriations ensures we are not defaulting to Biden-era spending levels or radical priorities. It allows Congress to reset funding levels in support of the conservative policies aligned with President Trump's agenda.

The Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2026 provides \$78 billion in discretionary funding, including resources to stop the flow of fentanyl, and provides critical funding to support State and local law enforcement. It increases funding for the Drug Enforcement Administration to combat the fentanyl crisis, supports the Department of Justice grant programs that target opioids and child exploitation, and facilitates immigration enforcement. It protects the Second Amendment by keeping long-standing safeguards in place that prevent Federal agencies from restricting lawful firearms, ammunition, and sporting equipment without congressional approval, and decreases funding for the ATF. It also maintains pro-life Hyde protections to ensure taxpayer dollars are not used to fund abortions.

The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act directs \$58 billion towards national security and strengthens America's energy independence. These investments are essential to restoring American leadership in nuclear energy and achieving the administration's goal of dramatically expanding nuclear capacity by mid-century. At the same time, they eliminate wasteful Biden-era offices that prioritize ideology over outcomes.

The Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act provides \$38 billion to expand access to public lands, reverse harmful regulatory overreach, and rein in agency budgets. It increases funding for responsible onshore and offshore energy development in oil and gas, exempts farmers and ranchers from burdensome greenhouse gas emissions reporting schemes, and reduces funding for the EPA.

In addition to these wins for the American people, I am proud that my office was able to secure \$8 million in community project funding for Indiana's Ninth Congressional District. This funding will support projects, including a riverbank stabilization plan for the Ohio River shoreline in Clarksville, Indiana, and support booster pump stations that are needed to increase water capacity to serve constituents in Bloomington, Monroe County, and the home of Indiana University football and students at Indiana University.

Funding in this package will also provide residents and businesses in Brown County with long, and greatly needed, sewer services and support for

the city of Madison's stormwater mitigation project to reduce flooding and improve water quality.

These investments will support critical infrastructure and local priorities that communities themselves identified, bringing improvements from shoreline protection, to water systems, to supporting economic development that will directly benefit residents across the Ninth District.

□ 1220

Together, these bills reflect a disciplined approach to governing by investing in community priorities, cutting unnecessary spending, and reducing good governance.

Turning next to H.R. 4593, the *SHOW-ER Act*, this is a simple bill with a simple goal: end the regulatory whiplash and return consumer choice and common sense to a basic household product. A showerhead should not require extensive regulation. Yet, under the Obama and Biden administrations, bureaucrats redefined a clear term to advance an ideological agenda creating confusion for manufacturers and frustration for consumers.

This was the status quo under the leadership of Democrats—regulate everything in our lives right down to our showerheads. It is incredible if you think about it. This may seem like a ridiculous bill to be considering by our Democrat counterparts. Believe me, it is ridiculous that their policies would require legislation to prevent this kind of government intrusion, but here we are.

The Biden administration regulated every nozzle in every American home individually, reducing water pressure and frustrating homeowners, all while increasing costs for compliance. Ending this rule will permanently save Americans billions of dollars, reduce regulatory bloat, and restore a workable standard.

The Department of Energy estimates that eliminating this rule, along with dozens of related inflationary standards, will save consumers \$11 billion and will cut more than 125,000 words from the Code of Federal Regulations.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I turn to H.R. 5184, the *Affordable HOMES Act*, which I was proud to author with Congressman MIKE FLOOD. This bill addresses a real problem in the housing market, one that affects our most vulnerable homebuyers. It reduces the upfront costs of buying a home, making it easier for Americans to achieve the dream of homeownership. The *Affordable HOMES Act* restores clarity by placing manufactured housing standards back under the Office of Housing and Urban Development where they belong and eliminating duplicative regulatory authority by the Department of Energy.

It overturns a 2022 Biden administration rule that increased manufactured housing costs, again, without regard for what consumers want or how the market actually works prioritizing energy efficiency under the Green New

Deal and directly contributing to the housing affordability issues we see today.

The objective here is clarity so manufacturers can build more homes and families can afford them.

Mr. Speaker, this rule moves legislation that reflects fiscal discipline, regulatory sanity, consumer choice, and a commitment to affordability and growth. I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying bills.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is a new year in America, but judging by the remarks of the gentlewoman from Indiana, it is the same old Republican Party. Here is where we are at on January 7, 2026. We have a Republican President who promised to put America first. Instead, in just under a year he has bailed out Argentina, bombed Venezuela, gave Qatar an air force base in Idaho, pardoned the former Honduran drug trafficking president, and cozied up to dictators all around the world.

We have a Republican majority that promised to bring down prices. Guess what. Prices are going up. Families across this country are hurting. People are losing health coverage because you guys chose deliberately, Mr. Speaker, to let the *Affordable Care Act* tax credits expire. Rent keeps going up. Grocery prices keep going up. Paychecks are not keeping pace.

Meanwhile, the President of the United States is openly boasting that America is now running a foreign country. His own advisers can't even answer basic questions about what the hell comes next, what the plan is, how this ends, or when the Venezuelan people can expect democracy.

We have a Speaker of the House who is the weakest and most incompetent Speaker of the House in the history of this body. I mean, honest to God, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether that is a good thing for the country or a bad thing. On one hand, he is so incompetent he can't get anything done. On the other hand, the things he wants to get done are crazy.

Don't ask him his opinion on anything. He doesn't have one. He doesn't watch the news. I don't even think he goes outside. I don't know what keeps him so busy that he doesn't have an opinion on anything, but he certainly isn't legislating.

With all that is going on—conflict, economic strain, and real crises facing the American people—let us turn to the calendar and see what important issue that this Republican majority has us debating on the floor this week, Mr. Speaker. Do you want to know what it is? It is not housing, not food prices, not rent, not war and peace, foreign policy, or America's future, no, no, no, no. All of us are here on the

floor right now at the behest of this Republican majority to debate showerheads. You can't make this stuff up.

As if that weren't bad enough, they are still trying to pass last year's appropriations bills. Let that sink in. These are bills that should have been passed months ago. That is the state of governance under this Republican majority: late, unserious, and completely detached from the lives of the people they claim to represent.

One of these appropriations bills funds the Department of Justice and Federal law enforcement. That brings us to something Republicans would rather forget, but what our country must not: Yesterday marked the 5-year anniversary of the January 6 insurrection.

It has been 5 years since a violent mob, whipped into a frenzy by the lie that Trump won the election even though he lost, stormed into this building to overturn a free and fair election.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 5 years since law enforcement officers, Capitol Police, and others were beaten, crushed, stabbed, pepper sprayed and hunted down by a MAGA mob determined to overturn the election and stop the peaceful transfer of power.

They hunted Members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike. I can still remember them chanting "hang Mike Pence" because I was here that day, Mr. Speaker, right where you are sitting right now, right in that chair. I was one of the last Members to leave the House floor, and I watched officers barricade the Chamber doors behind me here with furniture, knowing that they were outnumbered but refusing to surrender. I smelled the tear gas. I felt the chaos. I saw the mob outside of the Speaker's lobby.

The officers who were here that day saved lives. They upheld their oath to the Constitution. Many of them were hospitalized. Many were permanently injured. Some died either from injuries sustained that day or by suicide after the trauma that they endured.

Nearly 2,000 people were arrested, tried, and found guilty for their crimes that day. What did Donald Trump do? He pardoned every single one of them. He pardoned the criminals who beat officers bloody, desecrated this building, and tried to tear American democracy apart. In my book those pardons were unforgivable, unforgivable.

Do you know what he did yesterday? He put up a disgusting, disgraceful statement on the official White House website lying about what happened that day, blaming the police, blaming the police and calling everyone who was here that day innocent. There was not a single mention, not a single mention of the 140 officers who were assaulted that day with weapons like bear spray, stun guns, hockey sticks, broken pieces of furniture, and flag poles—not a single mention.

In fact, the White House even put up a statement that "zero law enforcement officers lost their lives," which is

a disgusting lie. It is a disgusting lie and a disgrace to the memory of Officer Brian Sicknick who laid in honor in the rotunda of this Capitol Building after he died in the aftermath of January 6.

After all of that, after all of that, Speaker JOHNSON still refuses to display a plaque in the Capitol Building to honor the officers who stood up to the mob that day, a memorial he is required by law to put up. I mean, you know, here it is, Mr. Speaker. Here it is right here. That is what the Speaker refuses to put up.

□ 1230

This is what it looks like. It is not the real one because the real one is downstairs in storage somewhere. Speaker JOHNSON refuses to hang it up.

Why? Why? We all know why. We all know why. He won't hang it up because he is Donald Trump's puppet. That is all this is. If he hangs up the plaque, Trump might get mad at him. What a pathetic and shameful abdication of duty.

I am sure the gentlewoman won't address a single point I made here about January 6. I don't know whether she is afraid of the repercussions, but the bottom line is that I just want to say, for the record: Shame on Republicans for trying to cover up their complicity in what happened that day, and shame on them for wasting the people's time on showerheads while ignoring the economic, democratic, and moral crises staring this country in the face.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am not sure if the gentleman from Massachusetts heard my opening, but this is about housing. We literally have a bill called the Affordable HOMES Act, and it addresses the cost of housing.

He also commented that we are only appropriating and considering our appropriations bills yet today, but we weren't the ones who shut down the government for 41 days, preventing us from doing our appropriations work. They did this. The Democrats shut down the government to fight for taxpayer-funded healthcare subsidies that would go to the wealthiest ObamaCare enrollees across the Nation.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker. They shut down the functioning of the government, preventing us from appropriating on the very good things that we talked about in the opening comments, meaning millionaires would be eligible to receive tens of thousands of dollars of taxpayer-funded subsidies for their ObamaCare plans. This would give \$350 billion in taxpayer bailouts not to the American people, but to big health insurance companies, all while they are receiving record profits.

This incentivizes bad actors to manipulate individuals to sign up for coverage through the ACA marketplace, oftentimes without people even realizing that they had been enrolled.

This is government waste, fraud, and abuse at its worst, and I am proud the House Republicans stood up against that.

The gentleman from Massachusetts also referenced the SHOWER Act that we have here today. I would just like to say that I will stand up here every day of every week to restore freedom of choice and freedom of movement back to the American people.

You have to start somewhere, Mr. Speaker, from electric vehicle mandates to prohibitions on gas stoves and heaters. Showerhead efficiency and efficiency standards in affordable homes and manufactured housing will cause the cost of homeownership to go up and void American Dream opportunities for millions of Americans, but that is business as usual with Democrats in Congress. Closing businesses and demanding quarantine is Big Brother knows best, and that is what the Democrats are best at.

House Republicans are going to fight back to restore that personal choice, all while ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 977, the combined rule for the consideration of H.R. 4593, H.R. 5184, and H.R. 6938.

Mr. Speaker, it gets fun listening to the fairy tales from the other side from time to time. I have to give them that.

This rule advances the combined appropriations package that includes critical investments for Texas' 14th Congressional District, which I am proud to represent. My district is home to some of the largest refineries in the United States, three LNG gas export terminals, numerous petrochemical facilities, and vital energy infrastructure that keeps our Nation running.

The energy produced in southeast Texas, Mr. Speaker, moves across America and to our allies through pipelines, trains, trucks, and even cargo ships. Federal provisions in this bill ensure that energy continues to flow reliably and securely.

Funding for the coastal Texas protection and restoration project, more locally known as the coastal spine project, is included in this underlying bill. This critical project focuses on flood damage reduction and environmental enhancement as well as economic resiliency. It could save \$2.3 billion, with a b, annually by reducing flood damage and improving over 6,000 acres of coastal marsh and land to help mitigate storm surges.

Just as importantly, it protects 30 percent of the Nation's refining capacity, 42 percent of specialty chemical feedstock, and 80 percent of our military-grade fuel supply.

The bill also provides over \$9 million to upgrade the Sabine-Neches Waterway, which moves over 194 million tons of cargo each year and is projected to exceed 210 million tons in the near future. This waterway supports approximately 375,000 jobs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. It is indispensable to America's economy and energy security.

Mr. Speaker, this appropriations package delivers real results not just for southeast Texas but for the Nation. I urge my colleagues to support the rule and this critical legislation.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me just respond to the gentlewoman: A lot of words, a ton of words, but as I predicted, there is not a single word about the brave officers who defended this Chamber and defended every Member of Congress on January 6 who were attacked by a violent mob. I heard not a single word, not a single word.

I just also want to remind the gentlewoman, because maybe she forgot, regrettably, Republicans are in charge. They are in charge of the House, they are in charge of the Senate, and they are in charge of the White House. So they can complain about Joe Biden and they can complain about Democrats, but they are running this show.

I was really fascinated to hear the gentlewoman talk about the shutdown. Again, the Republicans are in charge of everything. They have the votes to do whatever they want to do, but when the government shut down—it was a Republican shutdown, by the way. When it shut down, they could have worked on the appropriations bills, by the way, which were already late by definition. By the time of the shutdown, they were already late. Republicans could have worked on getting the appropriations work done.

What did my Republican friends do?

They decided to go home and take a vacation. They just left. They walked away. They did not do a thing. They went on an extended vacation rather than doing the people's business.

I have to say to the gentlewoman: With all due respect, I do townhalls all the time. I don't know whether the gentlewoman does. I know a lot of Republicans do not, but when I do my townhalls, what I hear from people is about the high cost of living. I hear about the high cost of groceries. I hear about the high cost of healthcare. I hear about the high cost of housing.

Mr. Speaker, do you know what I don't hear people talk about? It is showerheads. When they talk about freedom and liberty, they don't talk about showerheads. I don't know what planet my Republican friends are living on, but I have news for them: The number one issue in America is not showerheads.

It is healthcare. It is affordability. It is housing. It is making sure that they can support their families. People look at life through their kitchen window, and they have to pay bills. They have to make sure that they make ends meet, and right now, under this Republican economy, life is too damn expensive. People can't afford basic needs.

I just gave a 1-minute speech before we got into this debate about the increase in hunger in this country.

Do you know what the Republican response to that is, Mr. Speaker, what the Trump administration is doing to combat hunger?

They are now banning the monthly report, which gives us the data on how many people are hungry in this country. No, we are not investing in programs to help combat hunger. We are not fighting for higher wages. We are not trying to lower healthcare costs. We are just going to hide the information from people so that people don't know how bad the situation is.

So, again, I appreciate all the gentleman's words, but, quite frankly, they ring hollow. What people want us to do is to fight to make life more affordable and more reasonable for them.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1240

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague on the other side of the aisle that House Republicans did pass a funding mechanism out of the House of Representatives to the Senate, and because of the 60-vote rule in the Senate we did need the help of Democrats in the Senate to fund the government. They held out, again, for the purpose of funding taxpayer-funded healthcare subsidies to benefit the wealthiest ObamaCare enrollees in the Nation and fat cat insurance companies.

I would also note that much of what the gentleman has been referring to, the deflection is like a magic trick. You can say words, just like he accused me of saying many words, but the facts outweigh the deflection, which is that it took much of 2025 to rid ourselves of the sleepy Joe, America last, Biden economic hangover, but Republicans in Congress and President Trump have delivered. America is now reaching new milestones under Republican leadership, turning the tide back to American greatness.

Let's just look at the economy. Quarter three GDP growth was a roaring 4.3 percent, the fastest growth in years. The deficit is being addressed. The Federal Government's cumulative deficit for fiscal year 2026 at the end of November was 19 percent lower than the same time last year. Core inflation is at 2.6 percent, the lowest we have seen in 4 years.

Rents are falling month after month, and shelter inflation is at a 4-year low. Gas prices are down to their lowest levels in 4 years. Stocks were at near

highs by the end of the year, with the S&P climbing by 17 percent in 2025.

All of this occurred before the gains of the Working Families Tax Cut Act are realized, and we are just getting started.

It will take us a while to recover from the years of inflationary policies of the Biden administration, but the facts show that House Republicans under President Trump's leadership are delivering on promises to reduce costs for American families.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI).

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bipartisan conference agreement covering the Commerce, Justice, and Science; Energy and Water; and the Interior and Environment appropriations bills.

This package shows that when Congress works together, we can deliver full-year funding that meets the needs of our communities. This package makes smart, responsible investments in public safety, energy reliability, our public lands and, for those of us in the West, water conservation and infrastructure.

As the only member of the Arizona delegation in both the Senate and the House serving on the Appropriations Committee, I have worked to make sure this bill delivers real results back home in Arizona's Sixth Congressional District. That includes specific Community Project Funding requests developed directly with local leaders who know their communities best and targeted at the issues that matter to our communities the most.

This bill supports, for example, community safety vehicle fleet modernization so that Tucson's first responders have reliable vehicles when every second counts in their line of work. It also includes funding for the Sahuarita Police Department radio replacement, so officers can communicate clearly and safely in the field.

As the Colorado River continues to face a worsening drought, water security is more important than ever. This package helps fund water reclamation facility upgrades in Tombstone that will improve efficiency and replace aging infrastructure.

It supports the multi-municipality sewer treatment project that modernizes systems and protects public health across multiple communities in Graham County.

It also invests in source water system improvements at Marana Regional Airport and the Pioneer Well PFAS Treatment Project to help ensure safe and reliable water for families and businesses. These are practical, locally requested projects that are transparent, accountable, and focused on results.

Mr. Speaker, this conference agreement reflects a responsible use of taxpayer dollars while strengthening public safety, water security, and critical infrastructure. I am proud of the work

we have accomplished, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this package.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again, the gentlewoman said nothing about January 6 or nothing about the brave men and women who protected this Chamber and all of us on that terrible, terrible day.

I have to say that I was more than amused by listening to the gentlewoman spout about how great everything is right now: The Trump economy is perfect. Everybody is doing great. Everything is wonderful. Everything is terrific.

I don't know whether the gentlewoman holds townhalls or not, but I wonder whether the voters of Indiana actually share that point of view. I have got to tell you, I don't think so because I don't think the voters in general in this country, the citizens of this country, share that view.

Every poll that I have seen, every townhall that I have been at—by the way, not only in my district but in other States—people have complained about how expensive things are. They say Trump's economy is making life more expensive, more difficult. The price of health insurance is going through the roof because this Chamber won't extend the ACA tax credits. Groceries are going up. I don't know whether the gentlewoman goes to the supermarket or not, but the price of groceries is going up.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from POLITICO titled: "Poll: Trump's own voters begin blaming him for affordability crisis."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From POLITICO, Dec. 4, 2025]

POLL: TRUMP'S OWN VOTERS BEGIN BLAMING HIM FOR AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

(By Erin Doherty)

New polling shows many Americans have begun to blame President Donald Trump for the high costs they're feeling across virtually every part of their lives—and it's shifting politics.

Almost half—46 percent—say the cost of living in the U.S. is the worst they can ever remember it being, a view held by 37 percent of 2024 Trump voters. Americans also say that the affordability crisis is Trump's responsibility, with 46 percent saying it is his economy now and his administration is responsible for the costs they struggle with.

Those are among the new results from The POLITICO Poll that crystallize a growing warning sign for Republicans ahead of next year's midterms: Some of the very groups that powered Trump's victory last year are showing signs of breaking from that coalition, and it's the high cost of living that's driving them away.

It's a growing vulnerability that Democrats exploited repeatedly in recent months, with campaigns focused on affordability sweeping key races in last month's elections in New Jersey and Virginia and powering an overperformance in a deep-red House seat in Tennessee on Tuesday.

"This is a small warning, but it's one that Republicans need to understand, is that to

hold the House in 2026, it's going to be an all-hands-on-deck effort," GOP strategist Ford O'Connell said after the Tennessee election, where Republican Matt Van Epps beat Democrat Aftyn Behn by 9 points, but underperformed against Trump's 22-point margin in 2024.

One year ago, Trump's economic message helped him piece together a diverse winning coalition, fueling his return to the White House amid widespread frustration over spiraling inflation.

Then Trump, after campaigning against Joe Biden, inherited the economy he spent months attacking, and both parties were anticipating the moment when voters would begin to turn their blame to the new incumbent.

Almost one year into Trump's term, that shift is well underway.

The POLITICO Poll, conducted by Public First, found that despite Trump's continued support among the Republican base, his softest supporters—the ones the GOP most needs to hold onto next year—are expressing concern.

Republicans were already worried about how they can turn out lower-propensity voters during a midterm cycle when Trump himself is not on the ballot. Now Democrats are also trying to peel away their voters by focusing aggressively on affordability, which remains a top priority for 56 percent of Americans, according to The POLITICO Poll. As was the case in November, affordability was central to the Tennessee special election, with Behn repeatedly centering her campaign on an affordability pitch.

"Republicans have long had the advantage on dealing with the economy, but if [it] remains in the doldrums and prices remain high, it's harder to find a good job, they will blame the party in power, and that's Republicans," said Arizona-based Republican strategist Barrett Marson.

Republicans' growing vulnerabilities on the economy represent a stark inversion on an issue that has long defined the GOP, and presents an emerging splintering in Trump's 2024 winning coalition as his party heads into a high-stakes midterm fight.

Three-quarters of Trump voters say they trust the Republican Party over Democrats to reduce the overall cost of living. But his numbers are far weaker among those who say they voted for him, but do not identify as "MAGA Republicans"—61 percent, compared to 88 percent of MAGA-aligned voters—pointing to a possible weak spot in his coalition.

Even among Trump voters a meaningful portion—nearly 1 in 5—say Trump holds full responsibility for the state of the current economy.

The White House disputes that Trump is losing ground on the economy. "Cleaning up Joe Biden's economic disaster has been a Day One priority for President Trump," spokesperson Kush Desai said in a statement.

"President Trump is just getting started implementing the policies that created historic economic prosperity in his first term, and Americans can rest assured that the best is yet to come."

AMERICANS AGREE THAT AFFORDABILITY IS THEIR TOP PRIORITY, AND THEY HOLD TRUMP RESPONSIBLE FOR ADDRESSING IT

Across parties, age groups, races, genders and income levels, Americans say the cost of living is the nation's top problem. The POLITICO Poll finds, a sign that the economy will again overshadow other political topics in next year's midterms.

The poll underscores just how pervasive the affordability crisis cuts across Americans' everyday lives. A 45 percent plurality

list grocery costs as the most challenging things to afford, followed by 38 percent who say housing costs and 34 percent who say health care. (Respondents could select multiple responses.)

Forty-three percent of Americans—including 31 percent of Trump voters—say there is less economic opportunity in the U.S. now than there has been in the past.

Other indicators present a similarly bleak view: Consumer sentiment fell in November to one of its lowest levels on record, according to the University of Michigan.

And while Trump frequently points to his predecessor to deflect blame for inflation and high prices, the survey reveals that defense is starting to crack.

More Americans say Trump holds most or all responsibility for the economy (46 percent) than say Biden does (29 percent).

"Voters aren't going to go, 'I voted for Trump to better the economy, but Biden just hamstringed [him] too much,'" Marson said. "Voters are going to very quickly forget about Joe Biden and just as quickly turn their ire to Trump unless things get better."

The survey underscores how Trump is now running into the kinds of economic headwinds that dogged Biden and the Democratic Party during the 2024 campaign.

While inflation rates have fallen from a high of 9.1 percent during the Biden administration to roughly 3 percent last month, voters' frustration with the cost of living has remained elevated.

Biden repeatedly pointed to job growth to argue the economy was strong, even as prices rose. Now Republicans—who repeatedly hammered Biden over his handling of affordability concerns—are increasingly concerned that Trump is taking a similar tack.

"It's striking to see President Trump make the same mistake," said Michael Strain, the director of Economic Policy Studies at the historically conservative-leaning American Enterprise Institute.

VOTERS SAY TRUMP ISN'T DOING ENOUGH, AND IT'S FRACTURING HIS COALITION

The survey shows that there is a limit to how long Trump voters are willing to give him to deliver on a core campaign pledge. Already, 1 in 5 say he has had a chance to change the economy but has not taken it, underscoring how an issue that helped Trump form his coalition is now splitting it.

A significant portion of Trump's voters last year did not come from his base—more than a third, 38 percent, self-identified as not being a "MAGA Republican" in the survey—and those voters are more likely than self-identified MAGA Republicans to hold a pessimistic view of Trump's handling of the economy.

Among non-MAGA Trump voters, 29 percent say Trump has had a chance to change things in the economy but hasn't taken it—more than double the 11 percent of MAGA voters who say Trump had not taken his opportunity.

Non-MAGA Republicans were also much more likely than MAGA voters to say the Trump administration is more responsible for the things they find difficult to afford, including grocery costs, utility bills and health care costs.

Democrats are eager to take advantage of the shifting politics of affordability and make the 2026 midterms a referendum on Trump's economic record—and plan to link GOP candidates up and down the ballot to his policies.

Democrats from New York to Georgia zeroed in on affordability to propel them to victory in last month's elections, and many party leaders believe it's a playbook that candidates should follow closely next year.

"House Republicans should 100 percent expect to see ads next year calling them out

for their broken promise to lower prices and for supporting Trump's tariffs," CJ Warnke, a spokesperson for the Democratic super PAC House Majority PAC, said in a statement.

Republicans, for their part, argue they're the ones focused on reducing costs. "While Democrats are fighting amongst themselves on who can be the next Zohran Mamdani socialist, Republicans are laser-focused on lowering costs, rebuilding prosperity, and delivering relief for the middle class," NRCC spokesperson Mike Marinella said in a statement.

Trump allies also say he's making an affordability pitch, even if voters aren't yet feeling improvements in their daily lives. But Trump himself has sent mixed messages on the issue.

On Saturday, he posted on Truth Social about drug prices that he claimed are falling so fast Republicans should easily win the midterms, declaring: "I AM THE AFFORDABILITY PRESIDENT."

Days later, he said "affordability" is a "Democrat scam" and "con job" during a Tuesday Cabinet meeting.

"They just say the word," he said. "It doesn't mean anything to anybody. They just say it—affordability. I inherited the worst inflation in history, there was no affordability. Nobody could afford anything."

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I don't want to be lectured about wealthy people in this country because the Republicans have done everything they can to help those who were well off get more and those who are struggling get less.

We saw the One Big Beautiful Bill Act that included tax cuts for multimillionaires and multibillionaires, giveaways to billionaires, giveaways to Big Ag, Big Tech, Big Oil, and we see cuts to programs that help average people in this country to get by.

By the way, their big, ugly bill included a trillion dollar cut to Medicaid. They are cutting moneys for SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. That is basically to help people put food on the table. By the way, increasingly, a majority of the people who are on SNAP are working families, and they are cutting that at the same time that groceries are going up. However, if you are a billionaire, don't worry about it.

We are fighting a war of oil right now because we want to make sure Big Oil, that invested so heavily in the last campaign, gets their payback. The bottom line is, when it comes to people who are well off, well connected, and have lots of money, you know, they are doing fine. Everybody else is getting screwed.

If you ask the average person on the street about what they think of Donald Trump's economy, I will tell you what they will say. They will say it sucks.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let's just review some of the wins in the Working Families Tax Cut Act because taxpayers are expected to take home an additional \$91 billion in refunds and keep an additional \$30 billion in their paychecks from reduced withholdings.

Taxpayers are set to continue to receive support in tax years to come through a double standard deduction and lower tax rates, making the 2017 tax cuts permanent, an increase in the standard deduction by up to \$1,500 per family in 2025, no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, no tax on Social Security, a boost to the child tax credit of \$2,200 while indexing its value to inflation, expanding access to childcare and paid leave tax credit permanently, expanding the 529 savings accounts to help families choose education that best fits their needs, and expanded health savings accounts so American families can control their own healthcare. That doesn't sound like benefits to millionaires and billionaires. It sounds like benefits to hardworking American families.

Also, I note that the subsidies that the gentleman from Massachusetts so wants to support, the American people would not see a dime of that. It would go directly to insurance companies who, again, are seeing record profits.

The one thing we can do is continue to support health savings accounts, continue the Trump-era tax cuts from 2017, making them permanent, and continue to promote the tax provisions in the Working Families Tax Cut Act that received no Democratic support, by the way, that really will help American families.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TAYLOR).

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding me the time.

Ohio families are working harder than ever day in and day out just to make ends meet. They are frustrated that they have to stretch their dollar as far as it can go just to keep a roof over their heads, afford to buy the basics, and deal with higher utility bills to keep their water and power on. Buckeye families have worked too hard to struggle this much, and I am standing here today ready to do something about it.

House Republicans have listened to hurting families, and we are bringing forward legislation to help them get ahead. The Affordable HOMES Act will cut through unnecessary and complicated red tape that has been driving up the cost of manufactured housing for far too long.

Who has ultimately shouldered the burden of these soaring costs? It is not the manufacturers. It is the hardworking families who are simply trying to buy a home and live the once-attainable American Dream.

□ 1250

Owning a home shouldn't be this much of a challenge. This bill will help Ohio families check homeownership off the list, knowing they were able to achieve exactly what they worked for.

House Republicans are also reining in the Biden administration's overregulation of everyday household water fixtures and bringing down costs for all

Americans with the SHOWER Act. I applaud Representative FRY for leading on this legislation.

Americans don't need the government to tell them which showerhead to use. They need the government to get out of the way so they can afford the necessities and have money to spend on other things in their lives. This bill will claw back ridiculous Biden-era red tape and put American families first.

Lastly, I am working alongside my fellow Republicans to pass full-year funding for several critical programs. In my district, several water and police projects will be funded, which will benefit some of the poorest and most rural areas in this country. These projects will help fund long-overdue water infrastructure projects and make local improvements, ultimately driving down costs for communities throughout the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize Representatives HOUCHE and RUSSELL FRY, as well as our Republican leadership and the Appropriations Committee led by Chairman COLE, for their leadership on these critical pieces of legislation being considered. I urge Congress to pass these commonsense bills to lower the cost of living not only for Buckeye families but for families across America.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will tell everybody a little secret here. The Republicans are really clever, but not really as clever as they think they are. The big, beautiful bill that they passed, the one that includes tax cuts for multimillionaires and multibillionaires and the one that guts Medicaid by a trillion dollars, is incredibly unpopular. It is incredibly unpopular.

In fact, the Kaiser Family Foundation said that 64 percent of American families oppose it, and even FOX News says that 59 percent of the American people oppose it.

Why do they oppose it, and why is it so unpopular? It is because of what is contained in it. Rather than fix that—and we just heard the gentlewoman do this. Rather than fix it, they renamed the bill the Working Families Tax Cut Act. That never passed the House. That is a new title they made up.

They think all they need to do is change the title of a bill, and then the American people won't realize all the garbage that is tucked into the bill. It is like lipstick on a pig. It is ridiculous. This is insane.

The American people are hurting because of the Republican policies. The American people are hurting because they won't extend the ACA tax credits.

By the way, people will see their health insurance costs go down if the ACA tax credits are extended. The gentlewoman is all upset about it, but I will urge her to talk to some of her Republican colleagues, by the way, who have signed on to a discharge petition to force a vote on extending the ACA tax credits. We will begin that debate today and vote on it tomorrow.

It is not just Democrats. There are some Republicans who are hearing from their constituents that they are getting screwed over on their healthcare, and they want us to do something.

The bottom line is, they can change the titles of bills and all that kind of stuff, but if they don't change the substance, if they don't get Donald Trump to back off on his tariffs—which, by the way, are responsible for rising housing costs in this country—if they don't get him to change his views on that, things are going to continue to get worse. They can change the titles of bills all they want, but they are not changing the reality for millions of Americans.

It is hard to believe that in the House of Representatives, which is supposed to be a serious body, this is what we are talking about. We are changing titles of bills so that maybe the American people won't know what we are talking about.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I am going to offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H. Con. Res. 33, which calls for the plaque honoring the brave police officers that defended this Capitol and our democracy on January 6 to be put up in the Capitol as required by law.

Mr. Speaker, I am sick and tired of Republicans standing up and proclaiming their unwavering support for law enforcement when they won't even honor the law enforcement that saved them, that saved us and our democracy here on January 6.

Yesterday was the fifth anniversary of the January 6 attack on the Capitol by supporters of Donald Trump. Over 140 officers were injured, an officer was killed, and others died by suicide following the trauma of that day.

Do you know how the White House marked this anniversary? They marked it by putting up an Orwellian web page, rewriting history, and claiming it is the officers who were to blame for the violence. How disgusting. How despicable. How disgraceful.

I ask my Republican colleagues: Do you really believe that crap? When you look in the eyes of the Capitol Police who guard this building, do you accuse them of being responsible for the violence of that day?

How dare the President of the United States say such a thing, and how shameful of this Republican majority to stay silent in the face of this depravity and rewriting of history.

Republicans found the time to illegally slap Donald Trump's name onto the Kennedy Center, defacing a memorial to a great President in a single day, within 24 hours, but a legally required honor for the officers who defended this democracy? It is 5 years of excuses, 5 years of delay, 5 years of cowardice and disrespect to law enforcement by Republicans.

When all is said and done, history will not look kindly on these Trump Republicans and this Republican majority, and they all know it.

At this point, let me say to my Republican friends that it is always the right time to do the decent thing, the thing the law requires, which is to hang the plaque honoring these brave men and women who put their lives on the line to defend us, to defend this building, and to defend this democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD, along with any extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY).

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule that moves appropriations bills, bills that reflect the leadership of Chairman COLE and the priorities of this Congress, avoiding another shutdown and spending taxpayer dollars responsibly in a way that directly benefits Americans.

These bills lower the cost of living and boost the economy. They support domestic energy production, resulting in lower costs for American families and businesses, and invest in water infrastructure to address drought and protect supplies for communities across this country.

These appropriations bills that are included in the rule spend hard-earned tax dollars responsibly, reduce spending below current levels, putting money back in Americans' pockets, and reduce our deficit. They ensure that government funding works efficiently to deliver services that make life better for Americans.

The American people are watching us. They want to see Congress do our most basic, essential function, which is spending government dollars and controlling the power of the purse. Through bipartisan, bicameral negotiations, led by appropriators, we are turning priorities into action and putting America first.

Mr. Speaker, this package demonstrates the value of Congress by delivering results for communities in Utah and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again, no discussion, no comments on what happened on January 6 or about what the White House put on its web page yesterday, blaming police officers for the violence of January 6, saying that no police officer died when we know that is a lie, and no explanation as to why we are having such a difficult time hanging a plaque that, quite frankly, the law requires us to hang.

Again, the gentlewoman voted against an amendment to force the

Speaker to hang the plaque. I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman if she wants to explain why she voted that way. Does she have any reaction to the White House's horrific and disgraceful statement yesterday, basically smearing the brave men and women who are in our law enforcement and the Capitol Police officers?

□ 1300

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman.

And nothing. And nothing. I mean, really? That is what things have come to? We can't even come together and stand in defense of the Capitol Police who defended us that day? We can't honor them? Somehow that is a no-no because Donald Trump doesn't like it. I mean, that really is shameful.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS).

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, the Affordable HOMES Act is commonsense legislation that cuts red tape and lowers housing costs for hardworking American families.

We all recognize between 2021 and 2024 that interest rates went from 3 percent to 7 percent. In my home community, that meant we spent \$1,200 more a month for the average home in my community. We spent \$1,200. We need to think of commonsense ways to turn this around and make housing more affordable.

President Reagan once said: "If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. If it stops moving, subsidize it."

Today, Washington has regulated the same thing twice. Manufactured homes are being hit with overlapping energy mandates from HUD and the Department of Energy. The Affordable HOMES Act fixes this by repealing DOE's separate energy rules, restoring clear authority to HUD, which already oversees construction and safety standards.

Lower costs mean more homes built and greater supply. More families will be able to build equity and secure their future. This is conservative policy at its best. It is less government, more opportunity, and more relief for American families.

Let us also remember that home prices also went up because 10 million people came into this country in a 4-year time period. The simple law of supply and demand tells me that causes prices to rise radically, much like radical policies from 2021 through 2024.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the Affordable HOMES Act to cut red tape and help more Americans achieve the dream of homeownership. I very much thank the chairwoman for leading this charge.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, for too many American families, the American Dream seems further out of reach each and every year, especially when it comes to owning a home.

Do my colleagues know that housing is the number one monthly expense for most families? When Washington piles on blue tape mandates and bureaucratic nonsense, working families pay the price.

Under the Biden administration, their so-called Inflation Reduction Act, which was really nothing of the sort, homebuilders were buried under costly green new scam mandates and overregulation, driving up construction costs and pushing homeownership even further out of reach.

This was also known as the green new scam in action. House Republicans are changing that. We are cutting the blue tape. We are lowering costs. We are making homeownership more affordable in 2026 and beyond.

One great example is the Affordable Homes Act, led by my colleague Congresswoman ERIN HOUCHIN. This commonsense bill removes unnecessary Federal interference and eliminates costly energy mandates that drive up the price of manufactured housing. This is one of the most affordable pathways to homeownership for first-time buyers, young families, and seniors.

This is just one example, Mr. Speaker, of how House Republicans are working to lower housing prices. As co-chair of the Real Estate Caucus, I worked with the Trump administration to reverse these disastrous policies because the government should get out of the way and not stand in the way of the American Dream.

Back home in Missouri, I have seen exactly what these mandates do. A Kansas builder showed that so-called green energy codes save homeowners only about \$125 a year but add more than \$1,200 a year to families' mortgages.

It is simple, folks. If a policy costs families more than it saves them, it is not a smart policy. House Republicans are fighting to make housing affordable again. They are putting families first. The first step is this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the rule. I urge passage of this act. Let's make homes affordable in America again and save the American Dream.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 9 minutes remaining. The gentlewoman from Indiana has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, let's be honest about what we have seen from this Republican majority. Republicans can't govern. They can't lead. They won't and don't fight for the people who sent them here.

They rush, rush, rush to the floor to redefine what a showerhead is. That is the big issue. They move at lightning speed on tax breaks for billionaires. They bend over backward to enrich Trump and his inner circle, going so far as to invade another country to grease the skids for Big Oil. It is not about democracy. It is not about human rights. It is not even about drugs. It is about Big Oil.

The priorities of Big Tech, Big Oil, Big Pharma, and Big Banks move at lightning speed. Tax cuts for the wealthy pass overnight. Corporate giveaways face no obstacles.

When it comes to protecting healthcare for millions of Americans, suddenly there is hesitation. Suddenly, there are delays. Suddenly, there is no money. Suddenly, they move in slow motion. Suddenly, we can't do anything.

It may be 2026, but it is the status quo for this Republican majority. It is a new year but the same BS for them except when it comes to what is happening in Venezuela. Then they are dragging us back to 2003.

Other than that, it is always the same funding from elite donors with phony talk about helping regular people. It is the same contempt for their own voters. It is the same recklessness abroad. It is the same incompetence at home.

Here is what Republicans always underestimate. The American people are paying attention. They are not stupid. They know when billionaires get everything and everyone else gets excuses. They know when governance is replaced by stunts, distractions, and culture war nonsense. There is always a reckoning for that kind of failure. This year will be no exception. They know all the gimmicks.

We passed this monstrosity of a bill called the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The American people are horrified by what is in it. There are excessive giveaways to the wealthiest in this country. There are cutbacks in healthcare. There are cutbacks in everything that matters to working families. Every poll that is done says that it is incredibly unpopular.

What do they do? Rather than fix the problem, they come up with a counterfeited name for the bill. It is no longer the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. Now it is the Working Families Tax Cut Act. I don't know what the hell that is. I don't know who came up with that idea. Maybe some pollster gave it to them, as if changing the name of what they call this big, ugly bill will make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that with all that is going on in this country right now, with all of the concerns that the American people have, and with people desperately pleading with this Republican President and this Republican majority in the House and Senate to do something to make their life better, we have an opportunity to maybe legislate and help people. In-

stead, we are talking about showerheads. I mean, really? I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I will also again remind people about the vote on the previous question. We have a chance to actually do something positive today, and that is to honor the men and women who protected us on January 6. Unfortunately, Republicans on the Rules Committee all voted "no" to require the Speaker again to hang the plaque.

They all voted "no." Not a word has been said. There is no explanation as to why. Not a word about what happened on January 6 has been spoken on this floor by the Republicans today. I don't know how that can be. I don't know how that can be.

Mr. Speaker, I was there that day. I was in the Speaker's chair. I saw what happened. I saw what happened when I walked out to the Speaker's lobby. I saw the people who protected us being beaten by this angry mob, and not a word. We can't get the Speaker of the House to hang up this plaque. That can change with the previous question vote.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1310

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this rule is very straightforward. We are here to cut burdensome red tape and regulatory overreach that leads to higher energy costs for Americans. Commonsense reforms like these are simple and long overdue.

We are also here to move an appropriations package that provides critical funding and returns us to more responsible spending levels while delivering for the American people.

One thing we have noted is that there is fraud in government programs, including in Medicaid and SNAP. Republicans have sounded the clarion call to try to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse, while Democrats want to minimize it.

We have known about it for decades, even when we went after some of the waste, fraud, and abuse in ObamaCare, and guess what. After we passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, the CBO stated that healthcare premiums would go down as a result of our work.

We went after Medicaid fraud, especially involving illegal immigrants. By the way, a Federal court recently ordered officials to turn over Medicaid information to ICE enforcement. If illegal immigrants weren't accessing Medicaid on Democrats' watch, as they tirelessly asserted, then why would a Federal court provide such an order?

We went after waste, fraud, and abuse through our rescissions package, and once again, Democrats refused to acknowledge that that premise ever existed.

Mr. Speaker, we are cutting out waste, fraud, and abuse. We are becoming fiscally responsible. We are putting

the American family first by reducing burdensome regulations that increase costs.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to moving these bills out of the House this week. I ask my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 977 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 7. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 33) directing the Architect of the Capitol to install at a permanent location on the western front of the United States Capitol an honorific plaque listing the names of all of the officers of the United States Capitol Police, the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and protective entities who responded to the violence that occurred at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021. All points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution are waived. The concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the concurrent resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to adoption without intervening motion except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration or their respective designees.

SEC. 8. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 33.

SEC. 9. The Clerk shall transmit to the Senate a message that the House has adopted H. Con. Res. 33 no later than one calendar day after adoption.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.