

Our citizens are being hurt. Green card holders have gone underground. Our economy is suffering because of these brutal practices.

Let's dismantle ICE. Let's take a look at these best practices, and let's move forward as one United States of America.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President and to observe decorum on the House floor.

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with urgency and outrage.

The Trump regime, with its lawless and cruel immigration agents, has become a source of nightmares for children.

People are living in hiding, fearful, as these agents are kidnapping, assaulting, and murdering people.

Last month it was Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti.

Next month? It could be another beloved, hard-working member of your community.

Agents are detaining sick children.

Last month it was Diana Crespo, a seven-year-old from my district and her parents who were detained on the way to urgent care.

Next month? It could be another sick second grader in your community.

Children are being traumatized, communities are being torn apart, and people are being murdered.

Republicans need to wake up from the delusion that what Trump is carrying out in your name is lawful, needed, or making us safer.

When your children and grandchildren ask what you did when secret police came for families, when children were imprisoned, when U.S. citizens were murdered by federal agents without accountability, what will you say?

You have the power to help stop this.

It is past time to do so.

HISTORIC TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. MOORE of Utah was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I am so glad to be joined by my colleagues this evening to talk about the historic tax relief we are providing for working families this tax season. I think it should be on the mind of every single American, and we are thrilled to be able to highlight some of the many things that we have accomplished in the preceding calendar year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri, (Mr. SMITH) before I begin my remarks.

HONORING MARK ROMAN

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) for yielding and for being an incredible member of the best committee in Congress, the Ways and Means Committee.

□ 1750

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my staff director, Mark Roman, who is leaving Federal service at the end of this week.

For more than one decade, Mark has been one of the most capable and loyal public servants I have ever worked alongside. My team is stronger today because of his judgment and the example his work ethic sets for the rest of my team. He has not only been my most trusted adviser, but I am proud to also call him a true friend.

Mark began working in the House of Representatives just over 20 years ago for his hometown Congresswoman, Ms. Nancy Johnson, from Connecticut. Mark went on to work for two congressional Members from Illinois before he joined my team in 2015 as my deputy chief of staff to serve the great people of Missouri's Eighth Congressional District.

Mark's keen eye for tax policy in particular and, in fact, his keen eye for all policies within the Ways and Means jurisdiction made him so important to me when my colleagues selected me to serve as a member of the Ways and Means Committee. He went on to become my chief of staff and my staff director when I was the Republican leader of the Budget Committee, and my staff director for the Ways and Means Committee for the last 3 years.

Mark's deep understanding of and relationships within the conservative and the populist movements have been invaluable as we worked to build the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

I am told that most Ways and Means Committee staff directors often have their legacies defined by their one signature accomplishment, and I think it says so much about Mark that his signature accomplishment will be the largest tax cut in our Nation's history and a bill remembered for rejecting special interest tax policy in favor of relief for the tens of millions of working American families, farmers, and many small businesses that are the heartbeat of this Nation.

I know that Mark's wife, Tate, and his two wonderful children, Johnny and Ann Tate, have made a lot of sacrifices along the way to allow him to serve for so long, and I will say I am blessed to call them family as well.

Mark is not going far, and even though he won't be here in the Capitol with us, I have no doubt he will continue to leave a lasting impact on all of us after he leaves. His incredible tenure of service has strengthened my team and this institution for the better.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Mark Roman for his dedication and years of public service to this institution.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I will briefly add that I had the opportunity to serve on Chairman SMITH's Ways and Means Committee, and I have seen the work that Mark Roman did, mostly behind the scenes, the stress that he is put under, and the outcomes that we have delivered.

Oftentimes, we don't talk about this being a functional place. Sometimes when you go to Congress, Mr. Speaker, all you hear about is the gridlock, the nonsense, and all the rhetoric. Mark Roman accomplished some things for the American people that he will never get credit for.

I am going to speak a little bit about it today, but I also wanted to add how much I appreciated getting a chance to work under Mark. I wish his amazing kids and family all the best. We hope that he really, truly won't go far.

HISTORIC TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, I want to share a brief message about what we have accomplished this last year.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans have turned a season of dread as tax season approaches into a season of historic relief. Tax season is officially underway, and this year, 91 percent of all taxpayers will experience an easier and more simplified filing process.

We locked in the doubled standard deduction, and not only at the rate that Republicans established in 2017. We actually boosted it for this new approach. It is now considered permanent policy, meaning that families will pay no taxes on the first \$31,500 of what they make.

It will also save Americans an estimated 210 million hours per year in paperwork and \$13 billion in compliance costs annually.

We talk all the time about simplifying the tax code. Everybody talks about it, and we have done it. Since 2017, we decided to double the standard deduction.

That immediately targets middle- and lower-income Americans who choose not to itemize. Itemizing is still an option you can do, Mr. Speaker, if you have multiple different types of elements that you can deduct from your taxes. You can still choose to do that, but the vast majority of Americans, working Americans and everyday Americans, use the doubled standard deduction.

That is real tax relief. It goes unsaid a lot. It is such a standard piece. Nobody truly disagrees with it—"nobody" meaning both parties. It is something that we have now established as the norm, and it will give immediate relief to the vast majority of American families.

Because the historic tax cuts are retroactive to 2025, the average refund is projected to increase by \$1,000, with a total of \$91 billion in additional refunds being returned to the American people this spring. We also repealed the Democrats' \$600 reporting requirements for payments through PayPal or Venmo

and requirements for paperwork reporting of small payments to casual sellers and service providers.

This, again, is an effort to simplify the tax code and make it work for American families so they will be able to have more of what they earned. I will get to more of that.

Filing taxes is a pain point—we all know that—for most people because of both the amount and the process. We have simplified it to improve the experience for filers and increase accountability for lawmakers deciding where those funds are allocated.

Working families were our top priority in these tax cuts. We wanted to help them achieve the American Dream, make life more affordable, and make filing taxes less of a burden. This year, Utah families will be able to keep more of their hard-earned money through the increased standard deduction and face less burdensome paperwork.

It is very simple. Republicans have created a tax code that simply works for American families. This is something that doesn't work against them, as so oftentimes things from Washington, D.C., do.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a part of delivering this win for Utahns, and I yield back the balance of my time.

REWRITING HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in the RECORD on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight during Black History Month to raise the alarm on the rewriting of American history that is happening at our national parks, our museums, our monuments, and our public spaces as the Trump administration is attempting to erase the histories, the stories, and the lives of our Black, Native, Chicano, AAPI, and LGBTQ+ communities.

I rise tonight to talk about what this means for the past, the present, and the future of this country because, as they say, those who cannot remember the past are doomed to repeat it, and this country has come too far to forget.

□ 1800

Mr. Speaker, how we as a nation remember matters, what we remember matters, and who we remember matters because this collective memory is the map on which we build our future. Our Nation's national parks, our monuments, our memorials, our museums,

and our public spaces are the places in which those memories are inscribed.

Now, I begin tonight with a simple premise: that the act of remembering is a deeply political and a deeply powerful act. So, too, is the act of erasure, of erasing and removing history. These are not merely acts of omission, but acts of power, acts of dominance, and, yes, even acts of violence.

Erasing is about telling people that their histories and their people do not matter. That your history, your ancestors, and your collective memories of pride, joy, struggle, resilience, and generations that came before do not matter.

This is exactly what this administration is doing. They are trying to take us back to a time where only the stories and lives of the few mattered. It began a year ago, on day one, when the President signed an executive order renaming Denali, the tallest mountain in Alaska and most sacred site to multiple indigenous communities, renamed after a President from Ohio without any consultation to the indigenous people of Alaska.

That same day, the President signed an executive order mandating the elimination of diversity, equity, and inclusion offices across the Federal Government, leading to the illegal firing and loss of leadership across Federal and military service.

In March, he signed another executive order called the "Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History" order, directing the Smithsonian and the Secretary of the Interior to remove what they called improper partisan ideology from exhibits and materials across the country.

It targeted mentions of slavery, Native American history, Chicano history, AAPI history, LGBTQ+ history, climate change, and other topics which they claimed were divisive, anti-American, and created "national shame," thereby erasing the history of tens of millions of Americans.

Secretarial orders, including those at the Department of the Interior, that have led to the censorship of government websites and the tearing down of signs at multiple monuments, references to the histories of famous leaders removed from websites, national holidays erased, rewriting history and removing us from the American story.

What is this all in service of? It is promoting some singular narrative to undermine the recognition of this Nation's true history and its long history of struggles that have shaped it, from overcoming the loss of land, the killing and displacement of indigenous people, slavery, Jim Crow, internment, and the continued struggle for justice across our communities.

This is our true history as a nation, not something we should be ashamed of, but what has shaped who we are. These actions erase the story of what makes this great Nation beautiful: it is multicultural, multiracial, indigenous, Black, Brown, White, and diversity that makes us who we are.

This erasure delegitimizes the movements and wins we have secured generation after generation, from the struggle for civil rights at Selma and the Edmund Pettus Bridge, slavery at Gettysburg, and westward expansion into Tribal lands that secured Tribal sovereignty.

References to transgender were erased from the signs at Stonewall, where the birth of the modern LGBTQ+ movement began. References to indigenous history were removed in places where people came from, including the battleground at Little Big Horn in Montana. Memories of Black and Native history were erased from Independence Park, Cape Hatteras, and The National Mall.

Remembrance of internment of Japanese Americans was removed from Jamaica Bay in New York City. References to climate change were removed at Fort Sumter in South Carolina and Acadia National Park in Maine. Public institutions and gift shops were banned from carrying books. In America, they were banned.

In addition, the Department of Education is seeking to defund schools, universities, and institutions for teaching the history of the people and students and children who are there.

Mr. Speaker, these are not isolated incidents. This is a wholesale attack on American history, on American democracy, on American progress, and the stories of our people. It is, at its core, about power. As George Orwell noted: "Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past."

This is not, as this administration claims, about patriotism or telling the American story. It is about controlling knowledge and history itself. Those whose histories, whose stories, and whose people are lifted up, especially as this country is celebrating its 250th birthday.

We are here tonight to say: Not on our watch. We will not let this country slide into an Orwellian or authoritarian state where we cannot even tell our own histories.

We are here to tell the truth, just as history does.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI).

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because history is not just being forgotten, it is being erased.

In 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, approving the removal of American citizens of Japanese descent to remote camps. My parents and grandparents were among the 120,000 forced to leave their homes and their businesses.

They were sent by their own government, our government, to a camp in Poston, Arizona. They lived in appalling conditions, surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards, solely because of who they were.

I was born in that internment camp, and that history lives with me every day. It drives me to fight for my neighbors, for their rights, for their dignity