

While all this is a huge accomplishment, there is still much left to do. This is why I will continue to advance legislation that promotes workforce development.

In my home State of Pennsylvania, there are over 80 career technical colleges and 145 high schools offering CTE courses. I am proud to be an advocate for these institutions and courses and to see the positive impact these students have within their communities.

Madam Speaker, when these students graduate, they graduate with a diploma and multiple certifications in one hand and a tremendous number of job offers in the other. It is a pathway to opportunity and prosperity.

Madam Speaker, CTE students are the backbone of our workforce and invaluable to our communities. It is important that we continue to provide them with the resources that they need. I urge my colleagues to join the Career and Technical Education Caucus and work to provide learning opportunities for everyone.

STATE OF OUR UNION IS FRAGILE

(Mr. GREEN of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise today to state the state of the Union.

Madam Speaker, the state of the Union is fragile. It is fragile because we have a President who does not respect democracy. He believes that he can go to war at will without conferring with the Congress of the United States of America. He believes that there is no such thing as separation of powers. He believes that if he thinks it is right, then the courts have to agree.

He doesn't believe in due process of the law. He would have people be picked up on the streets and taken off to some distant place without any indication as to where they are, such that family members can understand that they are at least okay.

He is a reckless, ruthless President, and what he is doing at the top has influenced things all the way down the line to the very bottom.

We now have officers who have taken the lives of two people, two Americans, Madam Speaker. They were unarmed, Madam Speaker. They were not a threat, Madam Speaker. Two American citizens have lost their lives, and we have just moved on.

Madam Speaker, our democracy is at risk because we have a President who disrespects the rule of law. He believes that if the ends can justify the means, then any means are available to him to utilize to do whatever he chooses. If we allow this to continue, Madam Speaker, the Constitution will be meaningless.

There is but one solution to a reckless, ruthless, lawless President. It has to be utilized because we want history to show that we had the courage to do what was right. Dr. King has given us the notion that the time is always right to do what is right.

There is but one solution, and that solution is impeachment, trial, and conviction, but if not trial and conviction, impeachment, so that those who look through the vista of time will understand that we took a stand against a reckless, ruthless, lawless President.

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

CONGRATULATING CHRIS TUNGSETH

(Mrs. FISCHBACH of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chris Tungseth from Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on earning a golden ticket to Hollywood on "American Idol."

Chris proved that the American spirit is built on more than just hard work. It is built on resilience, faith, and the power of song.

Chris' journey to the golden ticket was not an easy one. He spoke of his family's battles with illness, his mother's diagnosis of multiple sclerosis, and the loss of his father, whom Chris called his Superman.

When Chris stood before the judges and performed his original song, "Lonely Road," he was not just singing for a TV show. He was singing to honor his father's legacy and his family's strength. His performance earned him a unanimous "yes" to advance to Hollywood.

On behalf of Fergus Falls and all of Minnesota, I wish Chris the best of luck in the next round.

GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE FFA NAMED 2025 NATIONAL MODEL OF EXCELLENCE WINNER

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA chapter for being named the 2025 National Model of Excellence winner.

Glencoe-Silver Lake was selected for this award out of nearly 10,000 chapters. This is the highest honor a chapter can achieve, marking them the gold standard for leadership, community impact, and innovation.

By fostering student-led initiatives that strengthen our rural economy and prepare the next generation of leaders, these students have proven that the future of American farming is in excellent hands.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the students, advisers, and the entire Glencoe-Silver Lake community on this prestigious award.

I congratulate the Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA on being the best in the Nation.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL FFA WEEK

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National FFA Week.

Since 1925, FFA has changed lives and developed young leaders in the areas of leadership, personal growth,

and career success through agricultural education. It is the top school-based youth leadership development organization in the United States.

Opportunities within the agriculture sector are vast, and FFA fosters the talents of members so that they can achieve real-world success. They participate in leadership conferences, career development events, and community service projects. The skills that these students develop serve them well when they embark on their future career paths.

Not only are the students who participate in FFA future farmers, but they are also future business leaders, entrepreneurs, teachers, bankers, veterinarians, public servants, biologists, and so much more.

Every year, thousands of the iconic blue FFA jackets from across the country visit our offices on Capitol Hill. In my home State of Minnesota, FFA has 15,000 members and 220 chapters, as well as 97 alumni chapters. This year, Minnesota FFA chapters will participate in local events aligned with the National FFA Week calendar.

I always appreciate having the opportunity to visit with these students and future leaders. Anyone who spends time with these young leaders will leave with a sense that our future is in good hands.

HONORING BLACK HISTORY

(Ms. TLAIB of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, in the 12th Congressional District, every single day is Black History Month.

I am so incredibly proud to have been born in the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country. I know Detroit has built movements from every corner, and our community is a reminder of the civil rights movement, the labor rights movement.

I still remember, Madam Speaker, in ninth grade getting this bright orange book. It was the first time we ever got brand-new books. It was a beautiful book around history and teaching American history through Black history.

To this day, I know that I am rooted in community and understanding movements because, again, I was able to be educated in a way that was full of justice seekers, full of movement makers.

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I know that it has always been a city of changemakers. We bore witness to Dr. King's first Walk to Freedom and the transformative work of trailblazers like Mother Rosa Parks and Malcolm X.

From the iconic Motown sounds to generations of powerful activism, our Black neighbors have changed the course of our history. Yet right now, we are witnessing efforts to erase that history.

Systemic racism has been codified into laws, Madam Speaker, and into our budgets. Black unemployment has skyrocketed. Black homeownership has significantly decreased.

We know the Department of Justice has rolled back civil rights protections and disparate impact antidiscrimination regulations, weakening the ability to change policies that harm our Black communities in housing and unemployment.

Trump has issued executive orders targeting museums and institutions like the National Museum of African American History and Culture trying to hide the truth about Black history.

We will never stop fighting to protect and center the voices of our Black neighbors. No matter how much the Trump administration attempts to whitewash it and how hard they try, they cannot erase Black history.

My Black neighbors ask me: Is it true that the President has not said anything about Black history?

Not once did he acknowledge Black History Month.

Again, we know our Black neighbors have shaped every chapter of our Nation's history. That will never change. This Black History Month, we renew our commitment to fighting for a more just, equitable future. Black history is American history.

THANKING LARISSA RICHARDSON

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, every time I tried to sit down and write this, I found myself tearing up. That is how much my chief of staff, Larissa Richardson, meant to me and continues to mean to me and so many of our team members.

Larissa has served our families for over a decade. From my time as a State Representative to our years in Congress, Larissa has been a tremendous and deeply committed partner in this work. She built an exceptional district team to make sure our neighborhood service centers were responsive and rooted in community.

She helped deliver close to \$70 million back home through the appropriations process, resources that made a real difference in people's lives.

She made sure every single meeting, policy decision, and late night was centered on the needs of the beautiful families that we represent.

She always had my back. She believed in the vision I had for our work, even when the culture here in Washington, D.C. didn't make it easy. We faced very difficult moments together, and we always said we are going to outwork the hate.

We stay grounded in our values, and Larissa Richardson was such a huge part of making that possible. She has now transitioned to continuing the fight for our families on our new mayor, Mayor Sheffield's team, and I couldn't be any prouder of her.

Madam Speaker, Larissa will always be part of Team Tlaib. That doesn't change. We already miss her presence, leadership, and calm strength. This

isn't goodbye. This is just a new chapter.

Madam Speaker, I wish everyone will take a moment and join me in thanking her for her years of service for our community.

I love you, Larissa.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JACK LINK, FOUNDER OF LINK SNACKS, INC.

(Mr. TIFFANY of Wisconsin was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. TIFFANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jack Link of Link Snacks, Incorporated, on his induction into the Wisconsin Manufacturing Hall of Fame.

Born and raised in Minong, Wisconsin, Mr. Link learned the fundamentals of meat processing at an early age in his family's butcher shop.

By the mid-1980s, after the family meatpacking business closed, Jack identified an opportunity to improve the quality and consistency of meat snacks available in the marketplace.

These efforts led to the creation of Jack Link's Beef Jerky. What started as a small Wisconsin operation has now grown into the world's largest manufacturer of jerky in the world. Through it all, the company has remained 100 percent family owned.

Jack Link's induction into the Wisconsin Manufacturing Hall of Fame is a well-earned recognition of a man who built a manufacturing powerhouse while staying true to Wisconsin ingenuity and values.

Jack has also been a strong supporter of education in the Northwoods, contributing to the Northwood Foundation and funding Jack Link's Aquatic and Activity Center. The center provides the Minong area with its first space for swimming, fitness, and youth programming.

Madam Speaker, I thank Jack Link for strengthening America and Wisconsin's manufacturing, and offer congratulations to Jack, Mary Jo, and the entire Link family on this honor.

STATE OF OUR UNION IS TRAUMATIZING OUR CHILDREN

(Ms. PRESSLEY of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, the state of our Union is traumatizing our children. Today, I refuse to give an audience to a man who breaks promises and steals childhoods, but instead, I rise to address the children directly.

Madam Speaker, I rise today for 2-month-old Juan Nicolas. Juan Nicolas, you came into this world mere weeks ago and already America has broken her promise to you.

At barely 2 months old, you should know only the comfort of a soft blanket and your mother's voice. Your cries should be met with warm milk and lullabies, but your small body has been detained by the State. You and

your mother were imprisoned at Dilley Detention Center, a for-profit prison. Your mother told us you were in pain. I can only imagine the pain she felt, too. Your small body vomited up the formula you drank. The water there is dirty. The stress and trauma of being shackled and locked up in the precious days of postpartum made nursing impossible. You were finally seen by a doctor, returned to the baby prison that is Dilley, and then mere hours later, your entire family, your parents, and your 1-year-old sister, Mia, were forcefully deported and left along the side of the road in Mexico.

You, my sweet boy, are precious and deserving of love and safety. No child should endure what you are going through. Journalists, pediatricians, and people of good conscience have rallied around your family to keep you safe.

Madam Speaker, I rise today for 2-year-old Daphne from Massachusetts. Daphne, your dad, Fidel, loves you more than anything. Your father has no criminal record. He has done nothing wrong. I know it is hard for you to understand why your father suddenly disappeared. ICE says Fidel was picked up as a collateral during an ICE operation in Chelsea, Massachusetts. Fathers are not collateral. They are someone's whole world.

Daphne, your dad missed you every day that you were apart. You are together again, but you never should have been separated. We will do everything we can to keep him home with you where he belongs.

Madam Speaker, I rise today for 9-year-old Susej. The world has heard your pleas from behind the walls of the Dilley Detention Center. You have been imprisoned for over 60 days, and I want you to know that so many people are pressing for your freedom. You deserve a joyful life free from fear and a childhood filled with love, but this White House and everyone complicit in their wholesale child abuse and neglect has ignored your cries. Your story, brilliance, and voice belong everywhere, so let me read directly from a letter you wrote.

You pleaded: I miss my school and my friends. I feel bad since when I came here to this place because I have been here too long. I have been 2 years and 6 months in the United States, and I was happy with my friends in the school, but now I need to leave. Seeing how people like me, immigrants, are being treated changes my perspective about the U.S. My mom and I came to the U.S. looking for a good job and a safe place to live, and my mom was looking for a good job.

You believed in the promise of America. I will not stop fighting until you are free.

Madam Speaker, I rise today for siblings from Chelsea in my district. Liam, Ailany, and Ashley. Ailany, you were only 2 weeks old when your father was taken by ICE. In the precious days he spent with you, he cared for you