

California leads the Nation in fraud. California leads the Nation in unemployment. California leads the Nation in homelessness. California leads the Nation in poverty. California leads the Nation in illiteracy. California leads the Nation in gas prices. California leads the Nation in electricity prices. California leads the Nation in housing prices. California leads the Nation in debt and deficits. Just this week, we learned that for the sixth straight year, California leads the Nation in outbound U-Haul rentals. The greatest State in the country has become the most popular State to leave.

That, Mr. Speaker, is the true state of our State during this Governor's tenure.

□ 1740

HONORING GOVERNOR JIM HUNT

(Ms. ROSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Governor Jim Hunt, a giant in North Carolina history who sadly passed last month. Governor Hunt leaves behind an extraordinary legacy as a fighter for education, economic development, equality, innovation, and so much more. He was the engine for positive progress in our State.

Hunt was known nationally as the Education Governor. He worked relentlessly to ensure that every North Carolinian had access to high-quality and public education and every teacher earned a decent salary.

Governor Hunt was a visionary who pushed the economy in North Carolina into the modern era, propelling us from economic stagnation to global leadership in technology and innovation.

Personally, he was a mentor to me. I will carry his legacy with me forever. North Carolina is a better place because of Jim Hunt.

HONORING PAM MOLL

(Mrs. FEDORCHAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. FEDORCHAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a valued member of my team, Pam Moll, who retired last week after an extraordinary career serving North Dakotans. Pam served as my constituent services director. During my predecessor, Kelly Armstrong's tenure, she had the same role.

For 7 years, she has been a steady and trusted presence for veterans seeking answers, seniors seeking help, and families simply trying to be heard. Pam is the kind of public servant most Americans never see but whose work touches countless lives.

She understood that behind every case file and every form is a real person, and she never lost sight of that. Her legacy is not just measured in

years of service but in the countless lives she helped improve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of North Dakota, I thank Pam and wish her the very best in this next chapter.

REMOVING PFAS FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, PFAS are everywhere, and they are endangering Michiganders' lives. PFAS, as we know, are toxic forever chemicals that persist in the environment, contaminate the water we drink, and accumulate in the body. Sadly, Michigan is ground zero for PFAS pollution.

I am proud to have worked across the aisle to deliver results for Metro Detroit and Michigan in this regard, but we must do more. That is why today I am introducing the PROTECT Act. It is bipartisan legislation that takes urgently needed steps to remove PFAS from our environment and prevent future contamination in the air we breathe.

By listing PFAS as hazardous air pollutants, this bill sets the foundation for strong, science-based standards that will reduce emissions. The PROTECT Act also holds major polluters responsible for the cleanup of these poisons, delivering real transparency and accountability to affected communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my bipartisan cosponsors from Michigan and across the country for joining me in this important effort. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

FIXING THE IMMIGRATION CRISIS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I attended a hearing today in the Judiciary Committee. There was some confusion in the committee about what we should be doing to enforce our immigration laws and who is at fault for the mess we have in Minneapolis.

There are some people who are apparently under the impression we should only enforce our immigration laws if the people who came here illegally commit another crime. If we think about it for 2 seconds, that is completely ridiculous.

Right now, every year in this country, about 850,000 new citizens are naturalized citizens. When I was a child, that was under 200,000. That is without taking into account people who become citizens because of birthright citizenship, which is not even intended under our Constitution.

We must not fall for the idea that all a person has to do is sneak across the border and hang around here and not commit a felony and, therefore, they come in here.

I feel so sorry for our great President Trump. He was left with such a mess when Joe Biden let in 10 million people, and he is now honor bound to remove them from this country. That is why we have a mess in Minneapolis.

CELEBRATING SOUTH OAK CLIFF HIGH SCHOOL AND DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

(Ms. CROCKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with immense pride to celebrate two exceptional football teams from Texas' very own 30th Congressional District for their championship wins this season. They are South Oak Cliff High School and DeSoto High School.

This win comes as no surprise to those of us who call the district home. These young men showed up, put in the work, and, once again, proved that if we are looking for champions, all eyes should be on Texas-30.

I am proud of each of these students' commitment, as well as every faculty member and parent who supported them along the way. Their dedication, commitment, and passion made these wins possible.

I anticipate celebrating the many successes yet to come. Celebrate big, keep striving for greatness, and continue standing out.

Go Bears and go Eagles.

Mr. Speaker, I will not yield back. I will say something real quick about this ICE situation.

The reason we have a mess as it relates to ICE has nothing to do with President Biden. We need to accept responsibility for what is going on, and it is the mess of this administration.

HOLDING ICE ACCOUNTABLE

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

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday ICE murdered an American citizen. Renee Good was a wife and a mother who has now become ICE's latest victim. To those at DHS and in this Chamber who have created and rewarded a culture of murder, I ask the same question that God asked Cain:

What have you done? You have slain your sister who gave you no offense. The voice of her innocent blood cries out from the ground where it was spilled, where you try to cover and hide. But we saw what was done.

What kind of monster shoots an unarmed, fleeing woman in the head? What kind of monster watches the video of that crime and chooses to lie to the American people as they defend the murderer and defame the victim? How do we prevent ourselves from descending to their monstrous depths?

Mr. Speaker, I will tell my colleagues how. We prosecute the murderer with

the due process he denied Renee and demand accountability up the entire chain of command. Our job is not to bear their sins. Our job is to make sure this never ever happens again.

□ 1750

RECOGNIZING GEORGE HINCKLEY

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

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize George Hinckley on his work in founding Smart Community STEM Camp.

This camp is a youth program that teaches kids coding and how to fly and operate drones, provides mentorship, and brings communities together.

As camp director, George encourages young Virginians who are interested in pursuing technology-based careers as their pathway to success.

George's dedication to STEM education is contributing to the future of learning and exposes students to diverse opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, George's leadership and unwavering commitment to this program are truly deserving of this recognition. I am honored to congratulate him on this well-earned moment and recognize him as this week's Constituent of the Week.

I congratulate and thank George for all that he does for our students.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

(Ms. STANSBURY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the House floor with a heavy heart for the family and the community of Renee Nicole Good.

My heart is heavy and not just because of the unabashed and violent killing that happened last night by an ICE agent in Minneapolis, but because I am also sad for our country, to see the Vice President of the United States and officials impugn a young woman who leaves behind her community and an orphaned child.

This is not our country. Shame on you. To those of you who are continuing to provide cover for this lawless, unconstitutional, abusive, and violent administration, shame on you.

I will be joining to file Articles of Impeachment against Secretary Noem. Enough is enough.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE DOUG LAMALFA

(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 saddened and honored at the same time to be able to host, alongside my California colleagues, a special hour dedicated to the memory of Congressman Doug LaMalfa from California.

As I looked at some of my notes here of the amazing things that he had accomplished and who he was, I realized that we are going to hear that over the next hour.

The thing that my team and I were reflecting on earlier today, and all I wanted to share as we kick off this memorial to an amazing man, was that, as vice chair, I get to, every week, host an evening of floor time for my colleagues on a myriad of topics. Doug LaMalfa was here every single time. Every time we needed him to be here, he was here, but he was here whether we asked him or not. Most times, he was the only one.

Yet tonight, when I asked my colleagues if they wanted to share a message on Doug, the reverse: It is a packed house.

That is all I wanted to share, to think about the legacy that he has left and the importance that he has to so many of our colleagues. He was always here for me, and we are all here today for his family. They are hopefully able to take some comfort and solace in his memory as we share this.

We have a lot of folks who want to share a message, and we are going to kick it right off. I am just going to go around the room and start calling on people as we move forward.

We are going to first hear, of course, from the California delegation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, the sudden passing of our close friend and colleague, Doug LaMalfa, has caused both shock and sadness throughout the entire House of Representatives. We lost a friend and a colleague. His northern Californian constituents lost their tireless advocate in the House.

Most tragically, his family lost a husband, a father, and a grandfather.

Doug was a proud family man. He and his wife, Jill, have four beautiful children. He just recently became a grandfather.

Doug was a fourth-generation rice farmer and a contributor to our State's important role of producing the food that sustains America. His experience as a farmer provided the foundation for his future as a legislator, both in Sacramento and here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, it comes as no surprise that in 2024, Doug was unanimously

elected to serve as the chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, one of the largest congressional membership groups on Capitol Hill, focusing on rural policy and issues that affect the West and beyond.

Doug left an indelible mark on this institution and the people whom he got to know along the way. For those who knew him, they understood his unique love of nicknames, movie quotes, and NASCAR. They understood his dislike of food waste, smartphones, and ketchup on hot dogs.

Doug's sense of humor, collegial manner, and expertise will be sorely missed. While he is no longer with us, Doug's significant contributions to agricultural and rural policies will endure long after his passing.

I will very much miss my friend and my colleague. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Jill; the entire LaMalfa family; his friends; and his staff.

God bless you, Doug.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK), a distinguished colleague and very close friend of Mr. LaMalfa.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the Romans had a saying: "Time is fleeting, remember death"; "Tempus fugit, memento mori." It reminds us that life is not a gift. It is just a loan, and when it comes due, all that matters is what we have given to others.

Doug LaMalfa was the kindest and most sincere person I have encountered in more than 40 years of public service. He passionately defended the working men and women of the rural community where he was born and raised and grew up, but he always did it with a good-natured smile and a quiet, respectful manner.

Just 3 weeks ago, on December 15, I took my seat on an early Washington-bound flight from Sacramento, about eight rows behind Doug.

When I looked up, he was standing there in the aisle with an outstretched hand. He leaned over, and he quietly said to me: TOM, I know this is a hard day for you, and I want you to know that my prayers are with you and Lori.

You see, that was the fourth anniversary of my dear wife Lori's death, and how he knew that, remembered it, and offered such warm comfort on such a cold morning tells you what a truly caring and wonderful man he was. And now he is gone, for time is fleeting.

Yet, death can't take the kindnesses and memories that he gave us all, or the wisdom, common sense, and achievements that he gave our country. Our Nation, our State, and our community have all suffered an irreplaceable loss, and rural America has lost its most tireless and effective advocate. Most of all, we have lost a good man, a very good man.

To his family, I can only say that you are not alone in your grief. Your community and your country grieve with you.