

just bombing medics, children, residential neighborhoods, set aflame with U.S.-produced white phosphorus, which is a war crime, Mr. Speaker, poisoning the land and poisoning the people.

We are witnessing the same genocidal playbook used against Palestinians in Gaza, and now they are doing it in Lebanon.

Mr. Speaker, I will be introducing a House Resolution standing with the people of Lebanon against these war crimes and calling for an end to this illegal invasion. It is time for us to be able to stop this illegal invasion, enact a total arms embargo, and put an immediate end to this destructive regional war.

PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT OF ESSENTIAL
MEDICATIONS AT COST

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, in Detroit, we say that we don't have healthcare in our country. We have sick care in our country.

Under the Trump administration, we know that this crisis is getting worse. Trump has already cut \$1 trillion from programs like Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, so I introduced a bill to be able to hone in on the pharmaceutical industry. It is called Medicines for the People Act, a plan to develop essential medicines and medications in the public sector and distribute them to all Americans at not-for-profit rates.

The National Institute for Biomedical Research and Development would drive the development of these drugs and devices to lower costs and expand access to medicines, boost innovation, and address public health concerns. It creates the real competition that we need in our healthcare system: lower the prices and save lives.

We all know that there are real consequences to these higher costs and fewer breakthroughs in the industry that prioritizes profits over public health, so I urge my colleagues to please support Medicines for the People Act. It is important because healthcare is a human right.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to build a system that ensures that lifesaving prescription drugs are affordable and accessible to everyone. When my residents tell me that we have sick care instead of healthcare, that should be a signal that we need to do more and need to be able to combat profit and corporate greed within our healthcare system.

HUMAN AND ECONOMIC COSTS OF
WAR IN IRAN

(Mrs. SYKES of Ohio was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, last week, our Nation lost six American servicemembers in a tragic aircraft crash over Iraq. They are among the 13 who have lost their lives to date after Trump waged war in Iran.

Among them are three Ohioans serving in the Ohio National Guard: Captain Seth Koval, Captain Curtis Angst,

and Technical Sergeant Tyler Simmons. These were brave men who answered the call to serve their country.

Technical Sergeant Tyler Simmons was only 28 years old. He had what his family called his dream job in the Air Force. His cousin said that he had a million-dollar smile that could light up a room and that he loved flying and serving his country.

Captain Curtis Angst, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, spent a decade serving his country as a pilot.

Captain Seth Koval, who served nearly 20 years in uniform, had dedicated much of his life to flying missions that kept other aircraft in the sky and other servicemembers safe.

These men flew one of the most demanding and dangerous missions in the Air Force: refueling other aircraft mid-air so that they could complete their missions and return home safely. Yet, these airmen never made it home.

Each of these men have families, friends, and communities that will carry this loss forever. Today, my heart breaks for them.

To those families and the families of other servicemembers who we have lost, please know that the people of Ohio are grieving with you.

Mr. Speaker, these six Americans are not the only lives that we lost. Since President Trump dragged us into this war with Iran, 13 Americans have already died. These are 13 families who have received the worst knock at the door imaginable, and more than a dozen communities across the country are now mourning someone who stepped forward to serve.

While those families are paying the ultimate price, Americans here at home are feeling the consequences of this war in other ways. Gas prices, oil prices, and the cost of nearly everything else are skyrocketing. Families feel it every time they fill up their tanks, during every trip to the grocery store, and with the cost of food at the market. Their paychecks are not stretching as far because of the President's reckless America last decisions.

In Ohio's 13th Congressional District, families were already struggling with rising transportation costs. Cars, gas, insurance, and public transit costs are becoming increasingly expensive.

According to the House Budget Committee, Ohio families saw transportation costs increase by an average of \$65 last year alone because of Republicans' careless policies.

President Trump promised that prices would go down on his first day in office, but that promise turned out to be a lie. Instead, his tariffs, which act like a national sales tax on American families, and the Republicans' big, ugly bill are driving up costs and squeezing families' budgets even more.

□ 1030

Mr. Speaker, I refuse to sit back and watch working families in Ohio get squeezed like this. That is why I have been pushing for policies that actually

lower everyday costs and put more money in people's pockets.

I introduced the Lower Your Taxes Act to do such a thing. The bill would expand the earned income tax credit and child tax credit so working families can keep more of the money that they earn.

This effort and other commonsense solutions I have proposed, and my Democratic colleagues have offered, to lower costs have been blocked or opposed by Republicans.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot forget the real people caught in the middle of all of this: families who now have to decide between filling up the gas tank and buying groceries, between fixing their car, going to the doctor, or paying their rent.

Americans cannot survive Trump's dangerous actions overseas that are taking human and economic tolls. Republicans have ignored warning signs and blocked cost-cutting solutions, and they have left working families to fend for themselves. That is a failure of leadership.

We can act to restore affordability, or we can keep letting costs spiral while Republicans protect the millionaires and the billionaires. I hope that we protect American families because the people we represent deserve so much better than what they are getting right now.

May God bless our troops, and may God bless the United States of America.

WAR IN IRAN WITHOUT
CONSULTATION

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the sentiments of my constituents in the 12th Congressional District in New Jersey. They are furious.

The President's war in Iran is one of the greatest foreign policy blunders in American history. It is a war of choice, and he took this action without consulting either Congress or the American people.

The President's reasoning after the fact has been one lie after another. In briefings to Congress, the administration has admitted this isn't about regime change and that there was no imminent threat, that there was no nuclear threat.

The administration has gone before the American people and provided zero clarification of the objectives, nor have they planned for the obvious consequences of this action. There is no clear off-ramp.

The Strait of Hormuz has been closed, with several cargo ships already destroyed, choking the global supply chain. This has led to higher oil and gas prices, which President Trump has declared is a good thing. In addition, a third of the world's traded fertilizer has been blocked from the market, putting agricultural work at risk.

The American people were already struggling to pay the bills, thanks to Trump's self-declared trade wars. Now, we are forced to deal with the economic fallout, the personal fallout, and the loss of lives of this self-declared war.

The American people are paying for this war of choice with a price tag of \$1 billion a day. The families of the 13 servicemembers who were lost are paying for this. Meanwhile, the President stands to profit from this war.

Trump's sons are investing in drone companies with contracts with the Pentagon. This is a clear conflict of interest that calls into question the President's motives when sending our brave servicemembers into harm's way in the first place.

The President's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, is gallivanting across the Middle East for his private firm while simultaneously serving as one of the United States' chief negotiators.

We have come to expect corrupt self-dealing from this President, the most corrupt President in our history, his family, and their cronies. However, now American lives are at stake.

Finally, this week, the President's Secretary of Defense said that we will "keep advancing, no quarter, no mercy." The Secretary of Defense is committing war crimes at a press conference.

Declaring that the United States will offer no quarter puts our own troops at greater risk. It represents an appalling lack of concern for the well-being of our troops, a direct violation of both U.S. and international law, and highlights his incompetence and his lack of soul.

Mr. President, if you have the ability to feel shame, you will end this war now.

If my colleagues in this Chamber have a shred of dignity left, they will immediately pass a War Powers Resolution and bring an end to this disaster before more lives are lost.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President. Members are also reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

CONCEALING PRESIDENT'S INVOLVEMENT WITH EPSTEIN

(Mr. GOLDMAN of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss this administration's massive coverup of the Epstein files in order to conceal President Trump's involvement.

This coverup reached its apex last month when Attorney General Pam Bondi falsely testified under oath before the House Committee on the Judiciary. The Attorney General testified: "There is no evidence that Donald Trump has committed a crime. Everyone knows that."

This is a lie. In the 3 million or so documents that the DOJ has disclosed to Congress under the Epstein Files Transparency Act, there is credible evidence that Donald Trump committed a crime. That, of course, excludes the nearly 3 million pages that the DOJ is refusing to turn over.

Donald Trump is mentioned thousands of times in the Epstein files. There are multiple allegations that he sexually assaulted young girls, but I want to focus on one victim's allegations that the FBI unquestionably found to be credible.

The DOJ tried to hide reports of three of the four interviews that this victim gave to the FBI, but pressure from the media and Congress forced them to disclose them. Now we know why. She credibly accuses Donald Trump of sexually assaulting her when she was between 13 and 15. In each of her interviews, this victim recited the same account of her interaction with Donald Trump.

On August 7, 2019, she explained that she was between 13 and 15 when she was left alone with Donald Trump, who "mentioned something to the effect of, 'Let me teach you how little girls are supposed to be.' Trump unzipped his pants and put [her] head down, 'down to his penis. [The victim] bit the [s] out of it.' Trump struck [the victim] and said words to the effect of: 'Get this little [b] the hell out of here.' [The victim] advised she bit Trump's penis because he disgusted her."

She provided some additional details in the next interview 2 weeks later. Then, a month later, she met again with the FBI and asked "what the point would be of providing the information at this point in her life when there was a strong possibility nothing could be done about it."

She didn't speak to the FBI again, but the FBI certainly found her story credible. In a 21-page PowerPoint presentation that the FBI made to prosecutors, they included this victim's testimony. They would not have done so if they did not find the evidence credible, which means that Attorney General Bondi lied when she stated under oath that there is no evidence that Donald Trump committed a crime.

We are just scratching the surface because the Epstein files also reveal that Donald Trump has made false statements over the past quarter century about Jeffrey Epstein. We know, in 2002, he called him a terrific guy and said: "It is even said that he likes beautiful women as much as I do, and many of them are on the younger side."

In a birthday card in 2003 that Donald Trump gave to Jeffrey Epstein for his 50th birthday, Donald wrote for himself: "We have certain things in common, Jeffrey." "Enigmas never age, have you noticed that?" "A pal is a wonderful thing. Happy birthday—and may every day be another wonderful secret."

In that same year, Palm Beach County opened an investigation into Epstein

that eventually was turned over to the FBI. The investigation became public in 2006, and the Palm Beach County police chief received a call quickly after from Donald Trump, where Trump told him: "Thank goodness you're stopping him. Everyone has known he's been doing this." What innocent person calls the police chief about an investigation upon just learning about it?

The recent documents also show that Jeffrey Epstein e-mailed Ghislaine Maxwell and said: "I want you to realize that that dog that hasn't barked is Trump. [Redacted victim] spent hours at my house with him. He has never once been mentioned."

Trump also denied that he ever went on Epstein's plane, but, of course, the Southern District of New York said that he was on his plane eight times, often with young women.

The reason why this matters is because we don't have half of the Epstein files. If the Attorney General is covering this up in such a degree that she is redacting things from the public that she then shows to Congress, what else is she covering up?

I will just show that this document here was redacted to the public. It was unredacted to Congress, and it completely disputes everything that Donald Trump has said about Jeffrey Epstein, about what he knew about the allegations, about his disgusting behavior, about whether he had ever been to Jeffrey Epstein's house, saying: "I may have been there with my wife." Asked if any young girls were there, "No. May have been children of guests, but that's it."

Well, we know that is not the case. Now, why is this important? Because if the Attorney General is covering up this information that she then reveals to Congress, what else is she covering up about Donald Trump's involvement in the Epstein files?

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

GUARDRAILS NEEDED FOR AI CHATBOTS

(Mr. MULLIN of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the rapid rise of AI chatbots and the urgent need to put clear guardrails in place.

Artificial intelligence chatbots are becoming increasingly common in our daily lives. They are embedded in our phones, our classrooms, and our workplaces.

There is no question that this is an innovative technology with the potential to democratize access to information, reduce costs, and expand opportunity. As promising as this technology is, we must also be clear about its limits.

AI chatbots are not and should not be treated as substitutes for licensed professionals, like doctors, therapists, lawyers, and financial advisers.