

We have seen this most clearly in the mental health space. Users, including children and other vulnerable individuals, are increasingly turning to chatbots for therapy.

Tragically, we have seen too many cases in which the children took their own lives after interacting with chatbots that failed to recognize a person in crisis and even encouraged their harmful thoughts.

These limitations extend beyond mental health, too. People are turning to unqualified so-called robo-lawyers for legal advice and AI financial advisers for guidance on investing their hard-earned retirement savings.

These are high-stakes interactions that can have devastating consequences without proper oversight, which is why every State regulates the licensing of these professionals according to rigorous standards.

Many chatbot providers have added disclaimers, saying their products are not licensed professionals, but, Mr. Speaker, disclosures are not enough.

For example, here, in just a few messages with my staff, this chatbot readily claimed that it was a licensed healthcare professional and even invented a fake license number. For a vulnerable user, that claim can be all it takes to place complete trust in a system that is incapable of consistently providing clinical care or sound professional guidance.

In another example, a seemingly benign bot, marketed as offering legal guidance, quickly claimed to be a licensed attorney.

Clear rules are needed now to protect consumers, promote trust in responsible innovation, and ensure a level playing field for companies that are doing the right thing.

□ 1045

That is why I am introducing the CHATBOT Act. This legislation would prohibit companies from claiming or implying that a chatbot is a licensed professional through marketing or the bot's output.

This is a narrow, commonsense consumer protection bill. I am proud that it has been endorsed by a broad coalition of healthcare, legal, financial, and trade organizations as well as consumer protection and technology policy organizations.

We must come together to ensure this new technology is developed safely and responsibly.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the CHATBOT Act.

SALUTING MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the outstanding presence in the city of Mount Vernon of Macedonia Baptist Church. Founded 113 years ago, Macedonia has been a bedrock of faith

and community service in the African-American community on the south side of Mount Vernon, where I grew up.

The church is led by Pastor Rev. Dr. Darren Morton, also a local Mount Vernon boy, who holds a degree in business administration and a doctorate in education and is a graduate of the Tabernacle Bible Institute and the Manhattan Bible Institute.

The Macedonia family holds weekly Sunday services, Sunday school for young people, Wednesday Bible study every week at 7 p.m., and midweek Lunch with Jesus fellowship discussion over lunch.

As they approach the solemn Christian season of Good Friday and Easter, Macedonia provides a daily 40 Day Lenten Journey series.

Macedonia's outreach into the community as well—feeding those in need, clothing those in need, providing positive outlets for young people, and attention and care for our seniors—helps put their Christian values on display every day to the people of Mount Vernon.

From the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, we salute Macedonia Baptist Church, its lay leaders, and its spiritual leaders for its vibrant presence in Mount Vernon.

HASTINGS FARMERS' MARKET

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, along the Hudson River in Westchester County, there is a place to go on a Saturday morning where you can find farm-fresh produce and goods from the Hudson Valley, the Hastings Farmers' Market.

The market supports regional agriculture by bringing these products close to home on alternate Saturday mornings in the winter season and every Saturday throughout the spring and summer seasons, in the winter season from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Hastings Farmers' Market opened the summer of 1998. Now, under the leadership of Ms. Pascale Le Draoulec, it features dozens of vendors with a wide variety of offerings in the strategic location across from the Hastings-on-Hudson Metro-North Railroad station.

The market, along with its sister market in Irvington, the Irvington Farmers Market, which is on Sundays, is convenient to all the Rivertowns residents and the city of Yonkers residents.

The market's mission also includes educating and inspiring the market community about the benefits of local farming and sustainable practices. They invite charitable nonprofits and organizations to participate in the farmers' market, groups from the Girl Scouts of Hastings to the local volunteer fire department.

From the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, we salute the Hastings Farmers' Market as a valuable and estimable community asset.

SALUTING KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FATHER JOHN M. GRADY COUNCIL 503

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute the leadership and the

membership of the Knights of Columbus Father John M. Grady Council 503 located in Port Chester, New York, for their service to the community.

The Knights, an organization of Catholic men nationwide, are organized into local councils and draw their membership in Council 503 from the parishes of St. John Bosco and the churches within the parish, including Corpus Christi-Holy Rosary, and formerly named Our Lady of Mercy.

The Knights of Council 503, led by Grand Knight Mark Scocchera and Deputy Grand Knight Phil Dorazio, have an active program that works to support the parish with local dinners and fundraising events, programs for the seniors and the veterans of the Port Chester community and the Rye Brook community, and programs for young people, especially through the Scouting troop programs.

They maintain an active Knights of Columbus hall that hosts their events and other events in the village with the ever-present chef, past Grand Knight Charlie Sacco, and his wife, the head of the Ladies Auxiliary, Toni Sacco, in charge. You can join them for Pasta Fridays every Friday night during Lent. It is very affordable.

From the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, we salute the Knights of Columbus Father John M. Grady Council 503 for their service to Catholic values and their service to the local Port Chester and Rye Brook communities.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 49 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FONG) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God of peace, grant that Your spirit of peace would descend upon us in this day. You have granted us this unique and daunting opportunity to work with those who represent every corner of our United States, on behalf of every citizen of this Nation, and we pray Your spirit lead us.

Show us how to respect those who labor with us, to acknowledge the gifts and graces You have bestowed on them, and to treat our differences with dignity and not disdain. Give us both the opportunity and the inclination to esteem them highly with the same love

and esteem You show to us. May Your spirit of peace reside among us.

When we encounter those who fail to value the work with which You have entrusted us, may we reprove them, not as adversaries but as peers. Keep our eyes watchful for the fainthearted, that we would encourage them. May we share with the weak the strength You have provided. Let Your spirit of fellowship guide us.

With all people, especially in these days where discord is the cultural default, may we show patience to one another, proving the better part of our beings. May Your spirit of love uphold us.

In all that we do, may we choose not to repay evil with evil but seek to advance the common good and strive to follow the course of kindness in all of our endeavors.

As we pray in the power of Your name, we ask that You send Your spirit to lead us this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HARRIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN WILLIAMS

(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 Susan Williams, the president and CEO of the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce. Susan will retire at the end of the month after 20 years of dedicated service.

Susan first started working for the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce in 2006 as the assistant executive director. She became the president and CEO 1 year later.

During her first year with the chamber, Susan operated with a team of just

two full-time staff and a summer intern. However, she quickly expanded the team and the programming offered by the chamber.

Susan was instrumental in the launch of FLEX, Venango County's young professionals organization. This initiative helps young people in the county collaborate and develop leadership skills.

In addition to FLEX, Susan helped launch Leadership Venango. This is a 9-month program designed to educate and motivate individuals in the community who aspire to be leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Susan for her selflessness and serving Venango County so well.

I congratulate Susan on her retirement.

CELEBRATION OF EID AL-FITR

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

Ms. TLAIB. This week marks the celebration of Eid al-Fitr, which comes at the end of the holy month of Ramadan.

Ramadan is a time that strengthens our faith, deepens compassion, and brings people together in care for one another, but I also know that this Ramadan has been incredibly difficult for many of our families, especially those with loved ones in Lebanon and in Palestine.

I am sending love to all of the families who have lost loved ones and those who are celebrating Eid on top of the rubble of their masjids and their homes.

Even in the midst of pain and uncertainty, our Muslim neighbors have continued to show resilience. They continue to come together in community and supporting one another. As we gather to celebrate, let us keep showing up for each other and speaking out against injustices and caring for our communities with compassion and solidarity.

To all of the millions of Muslim Americans in our country right now, I want you to know that not everybody in this Chamber sees you as less human. A majority of us in this Chamber know that you are worthy of life, liberty, and justice.

May this Eid bring us closer to a future grounded in peace, justice, and dignity for all.

“Blessed Eid”; “Eid mubarak” to every Muslim here in the United States and around the world.

TRUMP PROTECTING AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Iran has been at war for 47 years, murdering American families,

justifying President Donald Trump to respond to the imminent threat from the Iranian regime.

Since the 1979 embassy seizure in Tehran to sponsoring terrorism through puppets like Hezbollah, Hamas, Iraqi militants, and Houthis, to Iran boasting to Envoy Steve Witkoff of 11 nuclear bombs, the regime in Tehran has chosen oppression of Iranians over peace and prosperity. They chant: “Death to America.”

President Trump has made the decision, with Israel, defending Americans: destroying missile capabilities, annihilating naval assets, and ensuring that Iran can never have a nuclear weapon.

We are forever grateful for the servicemembers defending American families.

Courageous commentator Mark Levin of Buckley, Goldwater, and Reagan heritage, stands with Trump, condemning isolationists as either dumb or evil.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstating peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump as Putin provides targeting information to Iran to kill Americans.

Our prayers for Suzie Wiles for a full recovery.

□ 1210

SUCCEEDING IN AI-DRIVEN ECONOMY

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, artificial intelligence is already transforming the way Americans live, work, and learn. It holds enormous promise for our future. From improving healthcare outcomes to helping small businesses grow, AI can be a powerful force for good when we, as legislators, create the environment to use it responsibly.

We also have a responsibility to prepare our workforce for the challenges ahead. That is why I have been leading on this issue in Congress, focusing on expanding job training and ensuring that employees and employers alike in north Texas and across this country have the tools they need to succeed in an AI-driven economy.

We cannot afford to fall behind. Other nations are investing aggressively in this technology. If we don't act, we risk ceding both economic and national security leadership.

Congress must act to prepare our workforce for this new reality and to establish a smart, reasonable regulatory framework—one that encourages innovation while protecting the public and keeping our kids safe in an increasingly digital world.

AI presents extraordinary opportunities, but only if we are prepared. That means investing in our people, setting