

She talked about solutions. She didn't just say: We want you to come out. She talked about solutions for working people that would actually make a difference. This is what is really important.

The reason that we are so enthused is that we see someone who reaches out to young people, who is a grassroots organizer, and who understands the problems of working families.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the new member of our New Jersey delegation, the gentlewoman, Congresswoman MEJIA.

Ms. MEJIA. Mr. Speaker, good evening. It is a privilege and an honor to stand before this Chamber. We, the privileged few, are honored with the responsibility to represent the interests of our fellow Americans at home and across the world.

I thank my new colleagues for their warm welcome and the great people of New Jersey's 11th Congressional District for their trust. I thank, of course, my husband, Robert, and my two children, Langston and August, for being my best supporters. The three of them mean the world to me. I also thank my sister, Anaisa, and my two mothers, Luz and Michele, and my dearly departed father, Francisco, for always standing alongside me.

My presence in this Chamber is, in many ways, an unlikely reality. I am the daughter of a Dominican factory worker and a Colombian seamstress who knew struggle. Yet, I stand before you, representing the great 11th Congressional District of New Jersey, a place rich in history and eager to make more.

I bring greetings from Morristown, where George Washington led through the harsh winters of the Revolutionary War.

I bring greetings from Bloomfield, New Jersey, as well, which led the way on access to public education for all. In fact, I send greetings from every corner of my district. My constituents are eager to hear how we shall work together to improve the lives of the many I am honored to represent.

Mr. Speaker, there is an African proverb that says: If you wish to know the end, you must strive to understand the beginning. This proverb feels timely as I begin my tenure in this lauded space, at the precipice of our Nation's 250th anniversary. As I address this body, I am ever present to the fact that it was conceived and designed as the people's House, a counterweight at critical moments, where people may have the fullest say.

I stand before you on this day, the 20th of April. I want to remind you that on this date in 1871, an "Act to enforce the Provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other Purposes," otherwise known as the Ku Klux Klan Act, was signed as an attempt by we the people to make true the promise of freedom and equity hard earned through conflict and peacemaking.

The third in a series of Enforcement Acts, it was designed to protect the

civil and political rights of individuals, under threat by the violence of vigilante groups intent to deny the protections of the Constitution for those who earned it through blood, sweat, and tears.

The 14th Amendment defined citizenship and guaranteed due process and equal protection of the law to all Americans. Vigilante groups like the Klan, however, threatened by the idea of expansive freedom, used violence to undermine the Republican Party's plan for Reconstruction.

The Ku Klux Klan Act made it a Federal crime to deny any group or individual "any of the rights, privileges, or immunities or protections named in the Constitution."

In a moment in which a State-sanctioned vigilante group threatens due process and equal protection, and our highest Court questions citizenship, clearly defined in the Constitution, it is important for us to strive to understand the beginning so that we may protect what we hold most dear all the way through to the end.

I join you today with a message delivered by the people of New Jersey's 11th Congressional District but echoed nationally: Stand up, defend, restore not only our democracy, but also a just economy that actually works for working people.

Stand up for folks like Bob, a retired fire captain who served at Ground Zero, struggling to access healthcare because of staffing cuts and hiring freezes.

Stand up for Mary, who alongside her husband, dropped her own health coverage just to afford their child's college tuition.

Think about and stand up for Larry and Joe, who work hard every day and deserve a just retirement in their golden years.

These are not just abstract policies or debates. These are real consequences of the decisions made in this Chamber. At a time when our Constitution and our rights are under strain, we are called not just to serve, but to stand up, to protect, and to deliver on the promise of equal protection and justice under our great laws. That is the work ahead of us. That is the work that we must take on.

□ 1910

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentlewoman from New Jersey, the whole number of the House is 432.

EMERGENCY REPORTING ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5200) to direct the Federal Communications Com-

mission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 386, nays 7, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 126]

YEAS—386

Adams	Dean (PA)	Higgins (LA)
Aderholt	DeGette	Hill (AR)
Aguilar	DeLauro	Himes
Alford	DeBene	Hinson
Allen	Deluzio	Horsford
Amo	DeSaulnier	Houchin
Amodei (NV)	DesJarlais	Houlahan
Arrington	Dexter	Hoyer
Auchincloss	Diaz-Balart	Hoyle (OR)
Babin	Dingell	Hudson
Bacon	Doggett	Huffman
Balderson	Donalds	Huizenga
Balint	Downing	Hunt
Barragan	Dunn (FL)	Hurd (CO)
Barrett	Edwards	Issa
Baumgartner	Elfreth	Jack
Bean (FL)	Ellzey	Jackson (IL)
Beatty	Emmer	Jackson (TX)
Begich	Escobar	Jacobs
Bell	Espallat	James
Bentz	Estes	Jayapal
Bera	Evans (CO)	Jeffries
Bergman	Evans (PA)	Johnson (GA)
Beyer	Ezell	Johnson (TX)
Bice	Fallon	Jordan
Biggs (SC)	Fedorchak	Joyce (OH)
Bilirakis	Feenstra	Joyce (PA)
Bishop	Fields	Kaptur
Boebert	Figures	Keating
Bonamici	Fine	Kelly (IL)
Boyle (PA)	Finstad	Kelly (MS)
Brecheen	Fischbach	Kelly (PA)
Bresnahan	Fitzgerald	Kennedy (NY)
Brown	Fitzpatrick	Kennedy (UT)
Budzinski	Fleischmann	Khanna
Bynum	Flood	Kiggans (VA)
Calvert	Fong	Kiley (CA)
Cammack	Foster	Kim
Carbajal	Foushee	Knott
Carey	Fox	Krishnamoorthi
Carson	Frankel, Lois	Kustoff
Carter (GA)	Franklin, Scott	LaHood
Carter (LA)	Friedman	LaLota
Carter (TX)	Frost	Landsman
Case	Fry	Langworthy
Casten	Fulcher	Larsen (WA)
Castor (FL)	Fuller	Larson (CT)
Castro (TX)	Garamendi	Latimer
Chu	Garbarino	Latta
Ciscomani	Garcia (CA)	Lawler
Cisneros	Garcia (IL)	Lee (FL)
Clark (MA)	Garcia (TX)	Lee (NV)
Clarke (NY)	Gill (TX)	Lee (PA)
Cleaver	Gillen	Leger Fernandez
Clyburn	Gimenez	Letlow
Clyde	Golden (ME)	Levin
Cohen	Goldman (TX)	Liccardo
Cole	Gonzalez, V.	Lieu
Collins	Gooden	Lofgren
Comer	Goodlander	Loudermilk
Conaway	Gosar	Lucas
Correa	Graves	Luna
Costa	Gray	Luttrell
Courtney	Green, Al (TX)	Lynch
Craig	Grijalva	Mackenzie
Crane	Grothman	Magaziner
Crank	Guest	Malliotakis
Crawford	Guthrie	Maloy
Crockett	Hageman	Mann
Crow	Hamadeh (AZ)	Mannion
Cuellar	Harder (CA)	Mast
Davids (KS)	Haridopolos	Matsui
Davidson	Harris (NC)	McBath
Davis (IL)	Harshbarger	McBride
Davis (NC)	Hayes	McClain Delaney

McClellan	Perry	Steube
McClintock	Peters	Stevens
McCollum	Pettersen	Strickland
McCormick	Pfuger	Strong
McDonald Rivet	Pingree	Stutzman
McDowell	Pocan	Subramanyam
McGarvey	Pou	Suozi
McGovern	Pressley	Sykes
McIver	Quigley	Takano
Meeks	Ramirez	Taylor
Mejia	Randall	Tenney
Menefee	Raskin	Thanedar
Menendez	Reschenthaler	Thompson (CA)
Messmer	Riley (NY)	Thompson (MS)
Meuser	Rivas	Thompson (PA)
Miller (IL)	Rogers (AL)	Timmons
Miller (OH)	Rogers (KY)	Titus
Miller (WV)	Rose	Tlaib
Miller-Meeks	Ross	Tokuda
Mills	Rouzer	Tonko
Min	Ruiz	Torres (CA)
Moolenaar	Rulli	Torres (NY)
Moore (AL)	Rutherford	Trahan
Moore (NC)	Ryan	Tran
Moore (UT)	Salazar	Turner (OH)
Moore (WI)	Salinas	Underwood
Moore (WV)	Sanchez	Valadao
Moran	Scalise	Van Drew
Morelle	Scanlon	Van Duyne
Morrison	Schmidt	Van Epps
Moskowitz	Schneider	Van Orden
Mrvan	Scholten	Vargas
Mullin	Schrier	Vasquez
Murphy	Schweikert	Veasey
Nadler	Scott (VA)	Velázquez
Neal	Scott, Austin	Vindman
Neguse	Scott, David	Wagner
Newhouse	Sessions	Walberg
Norcross	Sewell	Walkinshaw
Nunn (IA)	Sherman	Wasserman
Oberholte	Shreve	Schultz
Ocasio-Cortez	Simon	Waters
Ogles	Simpson	Watson Coleman
Olszewski	Smith (MO)	Weber (TX)
Omar	Smith (NE)	Westerman
Onder	Smith (NJ)	Whitesides
Owens	Smucker	Wied
Pallone	Sorensen	Williams (GA)
Palmer	Soto	Williams (TX)
Panetta	Spartz	Wilson (SC)
Pappas	Stansbury	Wittman
Patronis	Stanton	Womack
Pelosi	Stauber	Yakym
Perez	Steil	Zinke

NAYS—7

Burlison	Harris (MD)	Self
Cloud	Massie	
Harrigan	Roy	

NOT VOTING—38

Ansari	De La Cruz	McClain
Baird	Fletcher	McGuire
Barr	Goldman (NY)	Meng
Biggs (AZ)	Gomez	Mfume
Bost	Gottheimer	Moulton
Brownley	Griffith	Nehls
Buchanan	Hern (OK)	Norman
Burchett	Ivey	Schakowsky
Casar	Johnson (SD)	Smith (WA)
Cherfilus-	Kamlager-Dove	Stefanik
McCormick	Kean	Tiffany
Cline	Mace	Webster (FL)
Crenshaw	McCaull	Wilson (FL)

□ 1919

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today, due to a commitment in my Congressional district. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 125 and YEA on Roll Call No. 126.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was not recorded today on Roll Call Nos. 125 and 126. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on Roll Call Nos. 125 and 126.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELIOT ENGEL

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today, alongside my colleagues in the New York delegation, to mourn the loss of our dear friend and former colleague, Eliot Engel.

Over the course of a lifetime in public service, including more than three decades in Congress, Eliot was a tireless champion for the people of the Bronx, Westchester, and Rockland County.

Throughout his career, his hard work and fierce advocacy improved the lives of countless people in the United States and across the world.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, he was a leader on such issues as healthcare, energy, and consumer protection. Yet, Eliot had perhaps his greatest impact as chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, which he led with integrity and experience, lending strength and credibility to America's role in the world.

Among his many accomplishments, he played a crucial role in protecting the people of Kosovo and combating child labor.

Most of all, he will be remembered as an unwavering friend to Israel. As the Congressional Jewish Caucus noted upon his passing, Eliot Engel "is among the pantheon of champions of our people who have served with distinction in the Halls of Congress."

His legacy of service to New York, to the Nation, and to the world lives on through the issues he fought for and the lives he touched.

Our thoughts are with his wife, Pat, and all of his loved ones. May his memory be a blessing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members and staff rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of Chairman Eliot Engel.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR SLAIN SHREVEPORT FAMILY

(Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, our hearts are broken tonight, as they have been since Sunday morning. Everyone has seen the stories in the news out of my hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana, a city that is represented in part by Congressman CLEO FIELDS, who is here with me now.

We stand here with one voice as members of the Louisiana delegation to express our deep sorrow for the lives that were taken too soon. There were eight young, innocent children, all between the ages of 3 and 11, lost in a tragedy that can only be described as senseless, unspeakable evil.

Jayla Elkins was 3 years old; Shayla Elkins, 5; Kayla Pugh, 6; Layla Pugh, 7;

Markaydon Pugh, 10; Sariah Snow, 11; Khedarrion Snow, 6; and Braylon Snow, 5.

As the details of their killing unfold, it is difficult for us to put our emotions into words. This tragedy confounds the minds and hearts of every parent in America, and we have been thinking a lot about this. We encourage mothers and fathers to go home tonight and hold your loved ones extra close. I think all of us are doing that.

Life is a sacred gift from God. As this horrific event reminds us, it can be too short.

The entire community of Shreveport needs our prayers right now: the first responders and law enforcement who descended swiftly on the scene, the classrooms with empty seats and missing friends at school today, and, most of all, the families whose lives have been forever changed by this tragedy.

Hold all of them close in your hearts and your prayers, if you will, and we trust that God is close to the brokenhearted, as promised to us in Scripture.

If we could all please join in a moment of silence in honor of the eight young and precious lives who were lost far too soon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House now observe a moment of silence.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 7380

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 7380, a bill originally introduced by Representative SWALWELL of California, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CRANK). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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

There was no objection.