

access to an attorney. We do not throw away civil liberties because of political pressure or fear. Due process is not a loophole. It is a cornerstone of American democracy. It protects citizens and noncitizens alike from government overreach and ensures that our laws are applied fairly and consistently.

We can modernize our immigration system and protect public safety while still upholding the Constitution. Those goals are not mutually exclusive. In fact, our system works best when we defend both security and justice together.

We need comprehensive immigration reform that expands legal pathways, addresses workforce needs, invests in immigration courts, and creates clear, enforceable rules that reflect our values as a Nation.

America has always been strongest when we lead with both compassion and the rule of law. As a Member of Congress, I will never vote to sacrifice one for the other.

RECOGNIZING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF OHIO'S 13th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the courage, dedication, and sacrifice of the law enforcement officers serving in Ohio's 13th Congressional District and to honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Being a police officer is never easy. It is one of the most difficult and dangerous jobs in our society. In recent years, it has only gotten harder.

As I have met with law enforcement agencies across northeast Ohio, I continue to hear the same concerns: officers are overworked, stretched thin, and in need of better support and training to meet the demands of the job and the needs of our community and those that they are sworn to protect and serve.

That is why since coming to Congress, I have made it a priority to fight for legislation that gives officers the tools that they need to do their jobs, while also demanding accountability on behalf of the communities they serve.

After the horrific shooting of Jayland Walker in Akron, I spoke with members of our community and law enforcement. I then introduced the Law Enforcement Scenario-Based Training for Safety and De-Escalation Act.

This bipartisan legislation ensures law enforcement officers have the proper de-escalation training needed to handle complex situations that they often face in the field because, no matter what, we all want everyone to make it home safely at the end of the night.

□ 1045

This year, after the killings of Alex Pretti and Renee Nicole Good, I intro-

duced the COOL IT Act, which would require similar de-escalation training for ICE officers. We cannot ignore these tragedies. We must respond with solutions that promote safety, accountability, and, most importantly, trust. That is exactly what this legislation is designed to do.

These bills support law enforcement by helping departments build trust with the communities they serve, and this makes our community safer for both the officers and the public. Again, these are people whom they are sworn to protect and serve.

Certainly, these are not bills that will solve every single problem, but it is a piece of the puzzle ensuring safety and accountability. In fact, the law enforcement scenario-based training for Safety and De-Escalation Act is supported by the National Fraternal Order of Police and the Akron NAACP because we all share the goal of making sure everyone goes home safely at the end of the day.

Further, I introduced the Supporting Women with Career Opportunities in Policing Services Act. This is legislation to establish a Federal task force focused on improving recruitment, retention, and advancement of opportunities for women in law enforcement. This bill takes an important step toward building a stronger, more inclusive public safety workforce by helping departments recruit talented women, support them throughout their careers, and create pathways into leadership. When law enforcement agencies better reflect the communities they serve, our communities are stronger and safer.

When I came to Congress, I promised to put the people of Ohio's 13th Congressional District first. That means supporting our officers, rebuilding trust and public safety, and working across the aisle to get things done. That is exactly what I have worked to do and exactly what I will continue to do.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

O Lord, our guardian, guide, and stay, transform the thoughts of our minds, that what comes from our

mouths will reflect our love for You and our desire to serve You well in this place.

Guide our thinking throughout the day, in our comings and goings, our interviews, and exchanges, that what we perceive in these encounters would be seasoned with Your grace and that how we choose to respond would be leavened with Your mercy.

Stay our tongues, that we would not be quick to retort with unwholesome talk, but harness our passions, that they would be governed with kindness, directed toward the building up of others, according to their needs, and offered for the benefit of all those who bear witness to our words.

Lord, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Your sight. We pray this day in the strength of Your name, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South 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

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

RECOGNIZING TODD WARNER

(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 Todd Warner, who will be retiring as the Clinton County Director of Veterans Affairs in June.

Todd, of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania, graduated from Penn State in 1986. Following graduation, he was commissioned as an Army Reserve Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps. Todd was assigned to the 442nd Field Service Company in Bellefonte from 1986 to 1992.

Todd led as a platoon leader with a joint task force in Honduras and, a few years later, went on to lead Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Through the 1990s and the early 2000s, Todd drew up the ranks as captain, major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel.

Following assignments across Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and most recently at the Pentagon, Todd retired in 2016 after 30 years of service.

Todd assumed his current role with the Clinton County VA in 2023 and has supported hundreds of veterans across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Todd for his commitment to service and State. I thank him for his selflessness in helping other veterans across Clinton County. I congratulate Todd on this milestone. I salute him. May God bless him and his family.

SUPREME COURT ENGAGED IN UGLY RECIDIVISM

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court is engaged in an ugly recidivism to deny Black political representation in the South.

Not since 1877, when Rutherford Hayes ended Reconstruction, have we seen as fast a rollback of political rights for Black Americans.

The moral light has been extinguished from the Supreme Court. That is why we need term limits for Supreme Court Justices. Eighteen years, and you are out. That is why we need to expand the Court from 9 Justices to 13 Justices, like we have 13 circuits.

The next time the Democrats have power, we need to actually take action, not just appoint commissions.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 250th anniversary of our Nation, we need a modern Supreme Court to uphold our Nation's principles.

APPRECIATING POLICE

(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, in recognition of National Police Week, Americans appreciate all officers while honoring those who were wounded or lost their lives in the line of duty.

This year, we honor the following officers of South Carolina, who were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial wall: F. Devin Mason, Nathaniel M. Ansay, Will G. Durant, Michael Charles Wood, Dennis D. Ricks, Jr., and Mark S. Reynolds. They all served in the tradition of the late Greg Alia of Forest Acres.

House Republicans stand alongside these courageous heroes. This week, there is legislation of commitment to those who serve our country, and we must restore law and order.

Mr. Speaker, I respect my hometown police chief, Andrew "Bear" Richbourg of Springdale.

God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstating peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, in-

sulting Trump and mocking Trump, shamefully breaking the victory day cease-fire.

As war criminal Putin bombs civilian homes, Ukrainian parents provide their children at night with whistles to assist in recovery as Putin attacks their homes and murders children.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND HONORING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise during National Police Week to honor the men and women who put their lives on the line every day to keep our community safe.

In 2016, Palm Springs Police Officers Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega were killed in the line of duty. Because of their tragedy, I introduced the Heroes Lesley Zerebny and Gilbert Vega First Responders Survivors Support Act to strengthen the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program and make sure the families of fallen officers receive the support they deserve. With today's cost of living, they are struggling to make ends meet.

This bill will increase death benefits, so surviving families can pay off most of their debt, if not all of it. It will increase education benefits to cover the rising cost of an education. It will help officers' widows and children get on a stable footing.

Mr. Speaker, we can honor the sacrifice that families of fallen officers have made by passing this legislation, and we must.

□ 1210

CELEBRATING SLEEPY EYE ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an extraordinary achievement, the first-ever State championship for the Sleepy Eye St. Mary's Knights girls' basketball team. In an unforgettable performance, the Knights battled past top-seeded Mountain Iron-Buhl in an impressive 83-63 victory.

Appearing at the Class A title game for the second straight year, the Knight's relentless defense and explosive offense brought home this year's win.

Morgan Mathiowetz scored early three-pointers and finished the tournament with a remarkable 100 total points, including 27 in the championship matchup.

Olivia Schieffert followed with 25 points of her own, showcasing the teamwork and confidence that define this historic run.

The Knights capped off their 2026 season with a 32-1 record. All of us across the First Congressional District are incredibly proud to call them our own.

I congratulate the legend, Coach Bruce Voitast and his team on bringing home the first State title. They earned every moment of this championship. Way to go, Knights.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION VANITY PROJECTS

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, President Trump is demanding \$1 billion of taxpayer money for his ballroom, while Americans struggle to put food on the table.

He wants to spend millions more to build an arch as a monument to himself, while parents can't afford childcare for their children.

He is spending millions on a no-bid contract to repaint the reflecting pool, while small businesses are closing down because of the high costs of energy caused by his unnecessary Iran war.

This is all taxpayer money we are talking about, by the way, and the Rhode Islanders whom I speak to don't understand why our colleagues in Congress are putting more energy into trying to use their taxpayer money to lavish the President with gifts and monuments instead of making healthcare more affordable for the American people, along with housing, food, and childcare.

We need to get our priorities straight as a Congress and as a country.

HONORING THE ANNAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, this Police Week, I rise to honor the 20 members of the Annapolis Police Department who received the Life Saving Award and the Meritorious Service Award for their heroism on June 11, 2023.

On that afternoon, Paddington Place in Annapolis experienced a heart-breaking mass shooting at a birthday party that took the lives of three of our neighbors and injured three others.

In the face of an unfolding tragedy, these officers worked quickly to stabilize the scene and provide lifesaving aid to the gunshot victims.

The officers met the families and victims with extreme professionalism, compassion, and composure—working with extraordinary teamwork under challenging circumstances.

That night was just one example of how first responders rush to the scene and show up for our loved ones on their hardest days.