

appropriate legislation. That legislation is the Voting Rights Act. To let it die, to stand here and do nothing while it is dismantled from across the street, is not constitutional conservatism. It is constitutional abandonment.

Let me say something about this word that keeps being propped up: "color blindness." They say the Constitution requires color blindness. They say that we must treat all citizens the same regardless of race. They say the Equal Protection Clause demands it, and I want to say yes, I agree. I have always agreed. Every sensible person agrees, but here is what they are leaving out.

Color blindness applied to the remedy while the disease is still active is not justice. It is called "malpractice."

You cannot break a man's legs for 200 years and then hand him a pair of crutches and say now we treat you equally before the law, no special treatment. The legs are still broken. Our democracy is still in its infancy. The crutches are the remedy and the remedy is not the problem. It is the solution.

That is why we need the Voting Rights Act and section 2 for protection.

Notice how the legislator in Tennessee right after this law was passed inaccurately went to the gravesite, went to the balcony of the Lorraine Motel where Reverend Martin Luther King was assassinated and attacked that one district, that African-American district.

When Louisiana drew two majority Black congressional districts to have equal representation, it was not creating racial inequality. The racial inequality was already there. This was the cure, written into 200 years of American history in slavery, a century of Jim Crow, separate but equal unequal laws, decades of deliberate underfunding and exclusion and redlining and deliberate disenfranchisement.

□ 2110

The district was the answer to the inequality, not the cause of it. To call the remedy unconstitutional while the disease runs free, that is not law, Mr. Speaker. That is protection of power by people who benefit from this power and this disaster of a decision.

I will recognize my colleagues who have spoken up, but the silence is deafening. For 250 years, as we celebrate our great country, a country, indeed, in progress of equal justice for all, where just 60 years ago was the starting line of democracy, 60 years ago was my birth and my timeline, and already the forces of regression and those great-grandchildren and grandchildren of the segregationists are now tearing down the guardrails that got us to a more pluralistic America.

The question has not been completed, and it is not complicated. The question is not subtle. The question is not one reasonable people can be on different sides of.

You are either for voting rights or you are against them. You are either

for democracy or you are against it. You are either standing on the side of Selma, or you are standing on the side of the men who swung the clubs on the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

There is no middle ground. There is no procedural abstention. History does not grade on a curve.

Choose your side, colleagues. History will be watching. The future is listening. The people are watching. History will not forget.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT). The gentleman has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we discuss the dismantling of voting rights and how many of my colleagues and I will continue to stand up to defend our most sacred right, I am proud to be joined by my colleagues who have stood up for the right side of history.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say something about what I have heard and what I have not heard from the other side. My colleagues on the other side have had a great deal to say about constitutional principles, but I have not heard a plan to protect the votes for all Americans. I have not heard them say how these congressional maps will be fair for all people. I have heard a great deal about legal frameworks, but I have not heard a single proposal to replace the protection that Callais has taken away.

I have heard about process and procedure through the proper channels, but I have not heard anyone on the other side of the aisle stand up and say in plain language that Black voters deserve full and equal representation and that this Congress will make sure that they get it. Why not? It should not be a complicated sentence.

Let me talk about the history for a moment because one of the things I have heard today is the suggestion that we are living in the past. That is not true. We are relitigating things that have already been solved. It is time to move forward. We want to go forward to make America better and to keep America strong.

Unfortunately, there is an eerie silence. There is a duplicity and a complacency, and trying to rest upon the laurels. There is something to be said by God himself about trying to turn a blind eye toward injustice. It should haunt your conscience.

Your children are watching. The future will be taking note. History shall record us all. What side of history will you stand on? Will you say anything to stand up for justice?

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I thank you for your consideration.

DEBT CLOCK TICKING

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona was recognized until 10 p.m. as the designee of the majority leader.)

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my friend.

HONORING DEANO'S ITALIAN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Deano's Italian on being named the Best Italian Restaurant in the State of Georgia.

Deano's is a beloved family-owned and -operated Italian restaurant in Dublin, Georgia. This great honor highlights how a small town eatery with a deep compassion for its community can compete with restaurants in larger cities across the State.

The restaurant was evaluated on multiple criteria, such as food quality, consistency, atmosphere, and its overall dining experience. Voters noted that what made Deano's stand out was its combination of authentic Italian cuisine and southern hospitality.

The city of Dublin also believes this achievement will bring business to nearby shops, cafes, and local attractions, creating a meaningful impact on their economy.

Deano's has proven just how far commitment to customers can take you. This level of service is a great example of Georgia's growing tourism industry.

RECOGNIZING GUSSIE GAMMON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Augusta "Gussie" Gammon's 100th birthday.

Gussie has dedicated much of her life to public service and an unwavering commitment to the Republican Party.

Born on June 25, 1926, in Philadelphia, Gussie moved to Georgia in 1983, becoming a strong force within Republican politics by founding four women's Republican clubs and serving as a delegate to three Republican Presidential conventions. She also served as Glynn County campaign manager for President George H.W. Bush and Congressman Jack Kingston.

Aside from her work in politics, she founded Johnson Insurance Agency in 1969 in the Florida Keys with her late husband. Together, they raised four daughters and were blessed with eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Gussie later married Don Gammon, with whom she continues her remarkable journey.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to wish Ms. Gammon a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING DR. PAUL BROOKSHER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Paul Brooksher, who retired from the position of superintendent of Bryan County Schools this year.

Paul has faithfully worked in public education for 31 years, serving as superintendent for 14 of them. Bryan County is one of the fastest-growing school systems in Georgia, and Paul has worked tirelessly to lay the foundation necessary to support this growth through effective investment in teachers, facilities, and programs.

After he announced his retirement, his colleagues encouraged him to reconsider, a true testament to how well-

liked and highly regarded he was in his role.

Paul said he was ready to step into a new chapter of his life, one where he could focus on spending time with the ones he loves the most.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Paul for his contribution to the education of young Georgians, and I wish him the very best.

RECOGNIZING DR. RANDY KLUENDER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Randy Kluender for his more than 40 years of experience and service in the field of dentistry.

Randy currently serves as the president and a board of trustees member of the Georgia School of Orthodontics. He has enjoyed a wonderful and fulfilling career, including as administrator at the University of Colorado and leadership roles in the American College of Dentists and Omicron Kappa Upsilon.

Chosen for ADEA's Harry Bruce Legislative Fellowship in Washington, D.C., Randy brought a wealth of experience to legislative issues concerning dentistry. There, he worked to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

Above all, Randy is a man of good character who has spoken with numerous prospective dental students, conveying his passion and the importance of upholding ethical standards in dentistry.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Randy.

□ 2120

HONORING FREDERICK LAWRENCE MULLER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frederick Muller, who passed away on May 19, 2026.

Muller was a UPenn and Georgetown graduate, husband, Navy lieutenant, and successful investment manager.

During the Cuban missile crisis, Muller served to enforce the naval quarantine of Cuba.

After 2 years in the North Atlantic, he served an additional 2 years with the Navy intelligence unit in Washington.

In addition to his military service, Muller was also successful professionally. He founded, grew, and eventually sold his own institutional investment firm.

Outside of work, Muller continued to serve others in new ways. In Georgia, he was a trustee for the Savannah Country Day School, a member of the University of Georgia Library's Board of Visitors, a member of the Trust Committee of Saint John's Episcopal Church, and a trustee of the Mighty Eighth Foundation.

Frederick Muller leaves behind a legacy of family devotion, military service, American entrepreneurship and servant leadership.

CONGRATULATING JERE'S ANTIQUES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jere's Antiques in Savannah on their 50th anniversary.

Since 1796, Jere's Antiques has been a major source of supplies for antique auction houses, designers, and individuals.

Over the years, he has created a destination filled with history, craftsmanship, and timeless beauty.

From sourcing extraordinary pieces across England and Europe to welcoming generations of customers into his Savannah showroom, Jere's passion and dedication have never wavered.

Jere's success is not only measured in business achievement, but in the countless people he has inspired, helped, and connected with over the decades.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Jere for preserving the past, enriching Savannah's homes, and all of his hard work for the past 50 years.

HONORING JAMES G. MINTER, JR.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the legacy of James G. Minter, Jr. of Inman, Georgia, who passed away on May 27, 2026, at the age of 95.

Minter was a proud graduate of Fayette County High School and University of Georgia, where he earned a degree in journalism.

Following his education, he served his country as an infantry training officer during the Korean war before beginning a distinguished journalism career with The Atlanta Journal and The Atlanta Constitution.

Over the course of decades, Minter became the executive editor of the combined Atlanta Journal-Constitution, helping shape one of Georgia's leading newspapers.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, he was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and lifelong member of the Methodist Church.

I extend my deepest condolences to his wife of 70 years, Anne; his family; and all who knew and loved him. We honor his service, his leadership, and his enduring impact on his community.

HONORING MCHUGH "MAC" MAURIN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor McHugh "Mac" Maurin, who will be turning 100 years old on June 4.

Mr. Maurin served our country as a Navy World War II veteran.

He was raised in Reserve, Louisiana, where he attended and graduated from LSU in 1951 following the war.

After graduating, he began to work as a civil engineer in the roofing manufacturing industry.

His successful career took him and his family to New Jersey, Texas, and finally Peachtree City, Georgia, in 1981.

He then retired to Concord, Georgia, before following his youngest daughter to St. Marys.

Mr. Maurin's accomplishments also extended to the home and family he created. He raised six children with his late wife, Peggy, who passed away earlier this year, after more than 72 years of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Maurin for his service and wish him a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING COMMANDER NATHANIEL L. ROBINSON

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commander Nathaniel L. Robinson for his dedication to protecting the American people.

Commander Robinson is the commanding officer of the Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit, where he serves as Captain of the Port, officer in charge of marine inspections, Federal maritime security, and on-scene operations throughout coastal Georgia.

He is a graduate of the University of West Florida, Southern New Hampshire University, and the U.S. Air Force Command and Staff College.

For his esteemed work, Commander Robinson received a certificate in executive leadership from the University of Notre Dame.

Prior to the Coast Guard, he was the director of marketing for the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. He was granted his commission from the United States Coast Guard's Officer Candidate School in 2006.

His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Commander Robinson for his outstanding service.

HONORING O.V. LEWIS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to honor Mr. O.V. Lewis of Blairsville, Georgia, for his upcoming 95th birthday on June 16, 2026.

O.V. joined the Young Harris College faculty in 1952, after teaching high school for 2 years in Wayne and Appling Counties in south Georgia. During his time at Young Harris, he served as an accounting instructor for 48 years and as a registrar for 31 years.

He retired in 2011, with the longest tenure of any previous college employee, but his service in advancing Young Harris College's mission did not end there. Through generous philanthropy and planned giving, he established the O.V. Lewis Endowed Scholarship to advance the education of future generations.

In 2022, O.V. was honored with the Nancy Louise Haynes Stevens Sanderson Robertson Outstanding Friend Award.

O.V. will tell you his fondest memories center around his time with Young Harris College faculty and students. The feeling is reciprocal. Many former students, such as myself, still maintain close relationships with him and credit him with having a significant influence on their success in life and careers, all because of O.V.'s unparalleled commitment to his students in the classroom and beyond their graduations.

Mr. Speaker, I thank O.V. for his outstanding commitment to furthering the education of so many students, and I wish him a very happy 95th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to actually try to do something that is a little complex, so I apologize. I apologize for those trying to keep track.

If I start speaking like a machine gun—once again, I have had a stunning amount of coffee—just wave at me, and I will slow down.

I am going to try to actually explain and walk through what we talk about constantly, and that is waste and fraud. I have got three silos here, and I am going to try to fight for some understanding:

What is real in its fiscal impact.

What is sort of commercial fraud. Hey, we screwed up in the way we wrote a piece of legislation. The administration, the bureaucrats actually have allowed leakage—some of the leakage being hundreds of billions of dollars.

And over here are bad actors, you know, the group from Nigeria that has actually been conning unemployment fraud like we went through during COVID.

I also need to actually try to explain debt and deficits when our borrowing is stunning. So I was going to just start with this article. It is something simple, but I am going to use it as a benchmark.

This convicted felon gets a million dollars a year to sell obsolete internet services. You paid for it. So we have a con artist that set up an internet company, got a government contract. He gets a million dollars a year. It is outrageous. We should actually have the technology, the discipline, the way we write legislation, the way we do our appropriations to stop it. But you have got to understand a million dollars is what we borrow about every 12 to 15 seconds.

I need to put this in perspective, because so often here we get our brothers and sisters, Members of Congress, come behind these microphones, and we talk about what we are going to save on something. They don't seem to understand the burn rate. I think yesterday, we hit \$94,000 a second in borrowing. So often the debate here, more money has been borrowed in the debate than the actual piece of legislation is going to save.

So let's actually try to walk through this and walk through these sorts of silos and then understand the punch line. I am going to do this three or four times.

A number of the things you would consider fraud, I consider fraud. There are lobbyists outside in this hallway, it is their client's business model. That is what makes this so difficult.

□ 2130

When you get groups from even your home district coming and saying, "David, you don't want to reform this. That is our business model. We would have to change things," that is actually the real punch line when we use the term "waste and fraud."

Let's start with the board we often start with just so, once again, we have a benchmark of understanding. Your country is going to borrow about \$2 trillion this year, and there is some noise in that number. It is actually—in some ways, we would score it as more in the Joint Economic Committee because we actually are crediting ourselves back some of the student loan money, but let's just stick with \$2 trillion.

Do you see here in the blue? That is really what we vote on, nondefense, discretionary, and defense. Most of this red, almost all of it, is formulaic, but this is actually where much of the fraud is. Maybe that is the reason we don't touch it enough because the fraud is in Medicare, the fraud is in Medicaid, and the fraud is in other programs that are on autopilot. They are formulaic.

You reached a certain age. You get this benefit.

You have paid into the system. You get this benefit.

You fall under a certain income. You get this benefit, except within there, particularly in the Medicaid system—you have seen the analysis the Joint Economic Committee has done, or my joint economic Republicans have done over the last year on the number of ways States—States—are the driver of the fraud.

So let's actually walk through that.

If I came to you right now and told you that New York, the number of home healthcare aides—this is a Medicaid program where grandma is poor, she needs help, I have someone at home who needs help, and there is a program that came really out of COVID or was expanded out of COVID where I can actually hire my friends, my families, my nieces, my nephews.

What happens, for every 1,000 residents in New York over age 65 in 2024, which is when we have the data, for New York, I have 171 people. So think of that: 1,000 people over age 65, I have 171 people receiving a check for this program. I have shown some charts here in the past that this was the number one job creator, I think, in New York City over the last couple of years.

Is that fraud? I think it is, but it is leakage in the design of the system. We are being cheated by the State of New York, and then you start to take a look. Well, New York is 171, but California, for every 1,000 people over age 65, they have 139 people receiving these checks.

The fascinating thing is that when we first exposed this months ago—and we had Secretary Kennedy in front of us about a month ago and we actually talked about this in the hearing, and he said that it is one of the most outrageous things that he has ever come across in his time at HHS—the month before that, my office was full of people angry at me. There are people buying editorials.

That is one of the great scams right now is to set up AI, you put up an edi-

torial, and there is almost anyone who will publish it because that is actually a lobbyist for this leakage, and this is billions and billions and billions and billions of dollars.

Remember, if New York had the same cost of its Medicaid system—not Medicare—Medicaid—this is healthcare for the poor—and they had the same average cost as the rest of the country, it is \$50 billion a year. It is \$50 billion a year.

So at one point, I showed you the article. It is outrageous. It is \$1 million, about 15 seconds of borrowing. We are going to borrow about \$7 billion today, so \$50 billion starts making an impact. Starting to understand the scale of these numbers, and you start to realize that the top 15 producers by spending per claim, you start to actually look at some of the things.

California actually has some magic. They must have some magic with their Medicaid system because they are able to create their own codes.

Within those codes, we have one that is called Medi-Cal Personal Care Services Program, and this has been around since—2019 to 2024 is my data. On average, that code costs \$876. Most of that money is paid for you by Federal taxpayers.

Is this waste and fraud? Well, it is unlike any other State. It is unlike any other code. This is an example, when you hear the politicians say "I am going to get rid of waste and fraud," and we make it sound like it is somebody snuck across the border and stole money or someone on the internet from the other side of the world stole money, all of those are true, but it is the design of the system that we have developed.

In the end of this stack, I am going to walk through a series of solutions, but understand that when we tried to just trim down some of the growth of Medicaid spending last summer and the left just attacked, attacked, attacked, and we would show, but what about this fraud, what about this fraud, what about this fraud, the discussion goes silent.

It is in the math. This stuff was being audited during the last Democratic nomination. We just never fixed it.

So you start to take a look at "Top 15 Producers by Medicare Claims," and you start to look back to the personal care. It turns out that there were 1,000,257 claims filed under this. The scale—to understand the scale of some of these frauds, this is in the billions, and we allow this.

Does this meet your definition of waste and fraud, because HHS—we are going to walk through a series of things that MedPAC has tried to identify for years that we can't seem to get enough votes here to even run a piece of legislation to try to fix it.

Look, a couple more of these boards, and then we are going to have some fun

with some headlines, which is something I almost never do, but I am trying to find a way to explain most of the leakage in this government.

It isn't some dodgy person in a dark room. It is actually how we are administering our programs and how poorly we are doing our jobs.

All right. "Top 15 Producers by Medicaid Spending."

Personal care services. Think of this: \$139 billion from 2019 to 2024. It is \$139 billion. That starts to add up to be real money. Maybe instead of screwing around this place where we are trying to do rounding errors or covering seconds of borrowing—which even in some of the debates earlier today, that is what we were doing—how about we start going after the things that have b's in front of it. I am going to show you a couple where there are t's in front of it, trillions in front of it.

If we are going to actually try to convince the brothers and sisters, the taxpayers, the voters, and the American citizenry of what is going on—debt and deficits and demographics in this State—that in a little over 6 years, Medicare trust fund is empty, and hospitals, those that get their Medicare part A money, are going to take a 12 percent cut, and guess what is also happening around this same time. The Social Security trust fund is empty, and people on Social Security, under the current law, are going to take a 24 percent cut, and we are going to double poverty.

How are we going to turn to people and say that this is over \$630 billion to fix it in just a single year, and the next year is more and the next year is more? How many people are going to look at us and say that you have not taken care of the waste and fraud problem. How am I going to trust you to actually make me take a cut or make me pay more taxes or redesign the systems or do other things? We have to build some trust, and you build the trust by stopping this insanity.

Let's actually have a little bit more fun here. The New York Post headline, "Notoriously Fraudulent New York Health Program Lost \$1.2 Billion to Scammers and Middlemen." It was ten times—ten times—the money stolen in Minnesota.

Why haven't you heard about this? If scammers are bleeding our Medicaid systems around the State, why is it so hard to actually say—we hold hearings on this. We have discussions about it, and then we produce a piece of legislation, and it is almost impossible to get sponsors on it because the next moment, it turns out that some of these middlemen that you and I would consider fraudsters hire lobbyists or actually bring groups of people here saying "But that is our business model."

You start to look at other things.

□ 2140

You start to look at other things, City Journal, "Gavin Newsom's Empire of Fraud: California has lost at least

\$180 billion to fraud, according to officials and experts." It is program after program after program after program. \$180 billion is real money.

Is the California delegation willing to help us fix this?

Here is your problem. You start to look at some of these things: unemployment fraud, \$32.6 billion; Medicaid fraud, that one was only \$178 million; homeless spending, let's see, billions and billions, doesn't actually give me a number.

You start to look at these things, and the waste and fraud are in the design of our programs. There is the fraud where somebody stole your Social Security number and did this, but the real money is how poorly we designed the programs that are meant to help our brothers and sisters, particularly those in poverty.

Let's have some more fun with this, if you call this fun. CalMatters, sham hospice scheme—remember, this is something my team—I chair the Oversight Subcommittee in the Ways and Means Committee. We have been now working on this for months and months and months. "Sham hospice schemes are bilking Medicare," and some Medicaid, "and harming California seniors."

We actually believe this scheme—if you have been reading the papers, L.A. Times and I believe The Wall Street Journal have done stories on this. The amount of fraud, particularly in L.A. County, on hospice—these are some of the most frail in our society. These are supposed to be the brothers and sisters we are loving as they are near ending life, except there is an entire fraud network.

I am going to actually show you—let's just talk about it before I try to show you. Someone finally did a little bit of data and found there are hospices where there are half a dozen, a dozen, two dozen at the same P.O. Box, and it went on for years.

Are we really that moronic to not run a simple data system and say: Wait, does this make sense? I have multiple hospices billing from the same P.O. Box. Does this make any sense?

Let's take a look at some more headlines: HHS Office of Inspector General report highlights CMS potentially overpaid Medicare Advantage organizations \$462 million based on current unreported—I want to explain this one. Let's get a little complicated.

This is what they call MedPAC. This is the group of experts and auditors that look mostly at Medicare Advantage. Medicare Advantage is now 55 percent of all of our seniors who choose Medicare. They choose not part A, part B, but they go on what is called Medicare part C. That is Medicare Advantage.

In here, the latest report says, it comes in about 114 percent higher than fee-for-service. Medicare Advantage was supposed to come in at 95 percent of the cost. That difference, about \$1.6

to \$2 trillion over 10 years, it turns out it is real money.

How many Members of Congress have bothered to actually break this binder and read these MedPAC reports?

I introduced a piece of legislation a year ago to not cut services but to get rid of the risk scoring and the star rating, all the ways it was being defrauded, and that is what this board is about.

What happens when you have people in Medicare Advantage is that the insurer is going out and saying an acute stroke diagnosis code, except the data says it is a fake code. It is not something anyone has. That is how they are defrauding Medicare Advantage.

It is not a cut of services we are talking about. Yet, the number of lobbyists and the number of social media platforms that are somehow paid by those PR firms beat the crap out of those of us who have been trying to fix it.

Is this what you consider waste and fraud? Of course, it is. The difference is, those of us trying to fix it have to take on an army of people who make their money from it. That is actually, if you want to start to stabilize, even demonstrate to bond markets we are starting to take serious our leakage, our bleeding, our borrowing—remember, we are going to borrow \$7 billion to \$8 billion just today.

Where are my brothers and sisters here who will tell you how conservative they are, how tough they are, how truth-teller they are? How many of them are going to sponsor the legislation to help me fix this? So far, for almost 1 year, not a single sponsor other than myself.

Let's actually go through some more. Let's go through my home. Actually, no, let's do Minnesota first. Minnesota is always fun to go through. All right, 5 Eyewitness News: "Audits—Lack of security reviews left Minnesota's SNAP system vulnerable to breaches, fraud."

If you have read the story of nutrition support, we are trying to help the most vulnerable in our society, and it is full of fraudsters and fraudsters and fraudsters. How does someone not catch it when the same Social Security number is used over and over, when there is no Social Security number, when the same location has more people signed up for a benefit than there are people in that immediate area?

Keep that in mind because I am going to walk you through some of the solutions, but this stuff is absolutely outrageous, and then you start to take a look. Channel 7 Eyewitness News: "Ghost students' can steal your identity, enroll you in school, and take loans out in your name."

We had people getting student loans who don't exist. Many of them had been buying your personal ID, your personal information, on the dark web, signing you up, putting you in debt. Then, you get to figure out how to unwind it as they are walking away with the money. This is another sense of the incompetent design in these programs.

All right, a little bit more, and this one, I happen to actually have had a fascinating experience with: “Arizona sober living crisis: 140 indicted in billion-dollar Medicaid scheme.” We think it is \$2.8 billion.

Let me walk you through this. We call this the sober living home scam in Arizona.

Two Christmases ago, this last Christmas—we have sort of a family tradition. We go up to the Navajo Nation. We will call it the Nation. My parents used to do some work up there more as part of a church group. We have actually been up there and installed Starlink satellite dishes so that some of what we call chapter houses actually could have broadband, so they could have telehealth. My little girl has actually helped to do sheep herding.

It is a fascinating place. It is monstrous. I have had friends on the Navajo Nation come up to me and say: David, you realize my uncle disappeared 7 years ago? A van showed up here in Kayenta. They were recruiting people who might have had a drinking problem. They put them in the van, and they disappeared.

It turns out, they were being driven down to Phoenix, being stuck in a sober living home, being billed to the Medicaid system, which we call AHCCCS, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. Then, when the benefit was over, they were thrown out and rolled to another sober living home.

I had multiple acquaintances, friends from the Navajo Nation, say they have family members they can't find. They have disappeared. This is beyond the fraud of stealing \$2.8 billion. Most of it actually isn't State money. It is also Federal money because of the way the match works.

There are people who have died. People have lost their lives because of how criminal this was, and it went on for a decade.

Then, our model is, we are going to indict a bunch of people. We are never going to get the money back. Almost none of these people will ever really go to jail or prison.

Have we lost our minds? Yes, we have.

DOJ announces a record-breaking take down of healthcare fraud schemes—okay, let's actually walk through a couple. The Justice Department has cracked down on a Pakistani national who allegedly orchestrated a \$650 million fraud scheme in Arizona's Medicaid system.

□ 2150

How does this happen? How many times have you actually heard the attorney general, the county attorneys, these things, get up and say: We finally busted a fraud scheme that has been going on for years and years, and there is this much money missing. Now, all the money got shipped overseas, so we are not going to get any of it back, but

we are going to file indictments on people who are not in the country anymore or were never in the country.

Have we lost our minds?

So here are a couple more of these because I am under a clock here. “DOJ and CMS healthcare 2025 fraud crackdown.” If you take a look at—and you have got to give the Trump administration, you have got to give Kennedy, you have got to give Dr. Oz credit because they are trying. Look at the chart. \$1.3 billion and trying to crack down and stop some of the fraud.

But here is your problem: Just Medicare will spend \$1.1 trillion this year.

So you have got to understand the scale. \$1 billion is a stunning amount of money. A trillion is a thousand billion dollars. So start to look at these.

Now, this one I wanted to use as an example of how perverse Washington, D.C., and Congress have become. Let's look at this headline: “Duplication of radiology imaging studies . . .”

What is the cost? My economists last year, we did—and it is a rough estimate—we were coming up with \$25 billion to \$35 billion in duplicative scans. You bust up your knee. You are out snow skiing. You get an MRI on your knee. Then you go to your hometown, and what is the first thing that happens? They redo the scan. CTs, MRIs, ultrasounds, X-rays. We have been proposing a simple idea. Take the scan when you get it. Attach it to your smartphone, and it travels with you. When you get to your doctor or your next appointment, they hit a button, and, boom, it is up on the big screen, and they can see, oh, yes, you have a fracture or you don't have a fracture.

Let's say at the top end my economist came up with \$35 billion. I have already had multiple lobbyists in my office doing everything they can to stop that piece of legislation from ever getting a hearing because it turns out the duplicate scans are their business model.

So the point I am trying to sell here is: You and I, we go out on the stump, and we say we are going to go after waste and fraud, except the lobbyist in the back of the room is pissed at us because that fraud that you and I know does not make you healthier, does not make society better, does not provide an actual service is their business model.

“South Florida man sentenced in \$2.2 million Medicare fraud and money laundering scheme . . .” How many times have you picked up a newspaper publication or gone online and heard the stories about durable medical equipment fraud in South Florida. How is it possible it still goes on in a time with the technology we have.

Let's see, what else do I have on this one. “Pasadena clinic receives \$34 million in Medicare skin graft scam . . .” Oh, this one was fun. It turns out we spend about 4, 5 years here trying to stop this, and they lobbied. It was one of the craziest things ever. Companies that ended up getting indicted were

here with their CEOs lobbying us not to reform the system. This is where they would grow skin—diabetic retinopathy, these things, you know, skin patches, and all the sudden the price skyrocketed because the way the codes and the billing worked.

Eventually CMS had to come in and do Congress' job for them because Congress was so incompetent we couldn't actually do it. CMS came in and said we are just stopping it. We are going to allow this handful of companies to do it because at least they have some trusted history, and they were screaming at us.

It turns out when we did the research on them, the number that were absolute fraudsters—billions and billions of dollars were stolen. Once again, the Medicare trust fund is gone in 6 years, and we are not fixing these things.

Look, I am going to do a little skipping to the end because we are running out of time. Please, give CMS some love and support because working with my office we are finally starting to act like professionals and do things that the private sector has been doing for 20 years.

Here is a simple example. How many of you have a credit card? How many of you have ever used your credit card in a spot you are not normally at? How many of you, the moment you start using the credit card you start getting text messages and phone calls saying: Hey, is this actually you? That is a data system from 20 years ago. You are telling me that as we start to protect consumers and strengthen the programs, as we are starting to actually build models to start to protect and stop some of the bad payments, we don't have the technology? Of course, we have the technology. It is off-the-shelf technology.

We have a data person who has come to our office multiple times who is an expert in stopping fraud in healthcare. He said: Do you realize that there is a package that is \$1,500 a month that would have stopped that sober living home fraud in Arizona? We would have seen that things don't match. The addresses don't match. The Social Security numbers don't match. There are multiple billings that roll and roll and roll.

When you have \$11.7 billion saved just by the Treasury Department building a system that is sort of a do not pay list—let me give you an example that is from 20-plus years ago. Twenty-plus years ago I was the Maricopa County treasurer. We did this thing called positive pay, and it wasn't new technology. Here are our payees, the people we are going to pay checks to, we owe, because as the county treasurer you are the guy issuing the checks to pay for things. And over here is the list. When they didn't match, we didn't pay. That is 20-plus-year-old technology. Treasury has started to do a version of that, and it has already saved over \$11 billion stopping fraudulent checks going out the door.

I want to make an argument in my last couple minutes before I hit the end of my time. What we do in government is insane. How many of you would build a business model where I am going to pay 6 percent, 7 percent of my payments are going to be fraud, but don't worry about that. Eventually we are going to hire a bunch of auditors. Then we will hire some lawyers. And then we will hire some law enforcement. And then we will try to go recover the money. Of course, we never actually recover the money. And most of the time we never get to put someone in prison, but we will get to do great press releases.

The age of hiring buildings full of auditors and lawyers is over. We live in the time of technology where these checks should never, ever, ever—the fraudulent checks should never get out the door. If you read any of the data magazines or articles or talk to some of the experts we are starting to develop here, we can catch this and stop it.

Mr. Speaker, the argument I am trying to make here, and if I haven't done it particularly elegantly, I am trying, is we need the public to believe we have finally woken up and become great stewards of their money. The reality of the waste and fraud is huge, but the scale of our borrowing, the scale of our debt, which is driven by our demographics—next year, we are going to have fewer under 18 than we had 20 years ago and double the number of 65 and up. In 28 months, over half of Federal spending will go to our brothers and sisters who are 65 and up.

We are going to have to deal with the reality of our demographics and our math. Maybe the public will believe us when we can also say we stopped the scam artists. We stopped the missed design. We stopped the way we have screwed up the model on Medicare, Medicaid, and so many of the programs which were designed to help people and not enrich fraudsters.

Mr. Speaker, I think we are up against time, so I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 8, 2026, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3697. A letter from the Director, Regulations Development Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of Standard of Identity for

Canned "Tripe With Milk" [Docket No.: FSIS-2025-0016] (RIN: 0583-AE06) received May 21, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3698. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Onions Grown in South Texas; Temporary Suspension of Continuance Referendum [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-25-0815] received May 27, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3699. A letter from the Counsel, Bank Advisory Group, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rescission of OCC Guidelines Establishing Standards for Recovery Planning by Certain Large Insured National Banks, Insured Federal Savings Associations, and Insured Federal Branches [Docket ID: OCC-2025-0339] (RIN: 1557-AF40) received June 3, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3700. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Regulatory Capital Rule: Community Bank Leverage Ratio Framework (RIN: 3064-AG17) received May 26, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3701. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major interim final rule — Control of Communicable Diseases; Foreign Quarantine [Docket No.: CDC-2026-0991] (RIN: 0920-AA88) received June 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3702. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Clean Data Determination for the Cleveland, Ohio Area for the 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2026-0562; FRL-13213-02-R5] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3703. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Delegation of Authority for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Washington; Northwest Clean Air Agency [EPA-R10-OAR-2026-0694; FRL-13223-01-R10] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3704. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oxirane, 2-phenyl-, polymer With oxirane, mono(hydrogen 2-sulfobutanedioate), octyl ether, sodium salt (1:2) in Pesticide Formulations; Exemption From the Requirement for a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2025-3360; FRL-13301-01-OCSPP] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3705. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmit-

ting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Indiana NOX Emissions Monitoring [EPA-R05-OAR-2021-0761; FRL-12258-02-R5] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3706. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS; Michigan State Board Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2019-0215; FRL-13010-04-R5] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3707. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Moderate Attainment Plan Elements for the Chicago and Metro East Areas for the 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2024-0617; EPA-R05-OAR-2024-0618; FRL-13163-02-R5] received May 12, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3708. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permit Program Revision; District of Columbia [EPA-R03-OAR-2025-1614; FRL-13044-02-R3] received June 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3709. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions of the Nonattainment Designation for the 2008 and 2015 Ozone Standards and Clean Data Determinations for the 2008 and 2015 Ozone Standards; Cecil County, MD and New Castle County, DE [EPA-R03-OAR-2025-1872; FRL-12994-02-R3] received June 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3710. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Conditional Approval; Contingency Measure State Implementation Plan for the 2008 Ozone Standards; San Joaquin Valley, California [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0338; FRL-12118-04-R9] received June 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3711. A letter from the Acting Branch Chief, Regulatory Management Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants From Hazardous Waste Combustors; Residual Risk and Technology Review [EPA-HQ-OAR-2004-0022; FRL-10654-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV96) received June 2, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3712. A letter from the Supervisory, Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Parts 1, 73, 74 and 76 of the Commission's Rules to Update Rules Applicable to Broadcast Stations [MB Docket No. 24-626]; Delete, Delete, Delete [GN Docket No. 25-133] received May 4, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.