

touched by these individuals. May we honor their memories by remembering their example of service, sacrifice, and community that they leave behind.

HONORING RICHARD F. KERN

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Richard F. Kern, also known as Kerny, of East Bangor.

For nearly six decades, Kerny answered the call to serve his community. He was a 59-year member of East Bangor Volunteer Fire Company, where he served as chief and helped protect generations of families throughout the region.

Throughout his life, he embodied the values that make volunteer first responders so vital to our communities across the country: duty, sacrifice, leadership, and a willingness to put others before himself.

On behalf of the Lehigh Valley and the Poconos, I extend my deepest condolences to Kerny's family, friends, fellow firefighters, and all those whose lives were touched by his extraordinary service.

His legacy will live on through the organization he helped build, the people he mentored, and the community that he faithfully served for nearly 60 years.

□ 1100

RECOGNIZING DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
ORDINATIONS

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the historic milestone of the Diocese of Allentown and the communities it serves throughout the Lehigh Valley.

This past weekend, six men were ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Allentown, marking the largest ordination class in the diocese in four decades. Several of those ordained have deep ties to the Lehigh Valley, including Dominic Civitella of Easton; Tyler Davis of Coopersburg; Tyler Loch of Ironton; and Hy James Gia Ngo, who served communities in Northampton during his formation.

Priests, pastors, and other faith leaders are essential leaders in our communities. They provide spiritual guidance, support families, care for those in need, and bring people together in service to their neighbors.

As these men begin their ministries, I congratulate them, their families, and the Diocese of Allentown on this historic occasion and wish them all the best in the years ahead.

TRANSPARENCY IN ELECTIONS

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

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, Americans are fed up with this government. They are fed up with money in politics. They are fed up with not knowing who they can trust.

Corporations and billionaires are spending more than ever in an effort to influence our elections, and we are see-

ing more and more campaigns paying social media influencers to promote their candidates.

Voters deserve to know who is getting paid. They deserve to know where corporations are spending their money and which billionaires are buying elections and how. When someone sees a video or endorsement, they should know whether it is actually an advertisement and who is paying for it.

In recent years, we are seeing social media influencers with hundreds of thousands and sometimes even millions of followers promoting campaigns and candidates. Now, everyone has a right to their opinions, but if they are being paid to create this content and promote a candidate, then they should be disclosing it to their viewers.

A semi-famous influencer with even a modest following can have an enormous impact on a close election that is decided, in some cases, by a few thousand votes. A social media personality with a large following can drive a campaign narrative sometimes more effectively than TV, radio, or any other media. They can do it all without ever disclosing their connection to the campaign or candidate they are supporting or even if they are being paid by the campaign itself.

This is wrong. Voters deserve to have basic information about the conflicts of interest, incentives, and who is paying for political ads. Social media influencers must be required to disclose their paid affiliations with a candidate or campaign.

In the California State Assembly, where I served as speaker pro tempore, I was proud to author the first-in-the-Nation DISCLOSE Act to require candidates, campaigns, and super-PACs to publicly disclose their largest donors in political ads. That is now law in the largest State in the land.

Now, in Congress, I am working on ways to address this now and for future elections. Congress has tools to ensure transparency in our elections—who is paying for what and who is getting paid.

Transparency is the least, the very least, we can do to safeguard our elections. We can and must do better.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 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 (Mrs. FEDORCHAK) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Eternal Lord, satisfy our deepest desires with Your love. Quench our thirst for understanding with Your wisdom, for You alone can provide for our need for discernment. Only You can appease our appetite for truth.

Help us to see how futile it is to think that we can be contented with wealth, power, and position.

Help us to understand the vanity of clinging to today's worries and pursuing fleeting successes.

Turn our eyes from the pursuit of vainglory and fix them upon Your glory, the glory of Your eternity.

In our time, in this place, may we instead pursue a lifelong response of obedience to Your guidance and direction.

On this day, in every moment, may we instead follow in faith Your perfect will, for in You alone do we find all that we seek.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.

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 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
PRO TEMPORE

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

TRUMP SECURES AMERICAN
BORDERS

(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. Madam Speaker, with blatant complicity by Democrats, America had open-border policies, millions of illegal aliens crossing, human trafficking of children, and fentanyl trafficking, killing tens of thousands of young Americans.

House Republicans are funding law enforcement to secure the border. Yesterday, Republicans passed the Secure America Act, funding Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs. Key components include Border Patrol agents, surveillance technology, and child exploitation investigators.

Under the leadership of President Donald Trump, Border Patrol has released zero illegal aliens this year, using current laws, not needing immigration reform.

Yesterday, in the South Carolina Republican primary, I am grateful that my son, Alan Wilson, the longest serving attorney general in America, achieved the runoff on June 23 to serve the people of South Carolina.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as Donald Trump is reinstating peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump, as war criminal Putin provides targeting information to Iran to murder Americans.

South Carolina mourns the passing yesterday of Butch Wallace, who will always be cherished as a civic leader and an American patriot.

RECOGNIZING PRIDE MONTH AND RADIANT HEALTH CENTERS

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

Mr. MIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pride Month and to honor Radiant Health Centers, an Irvine-based nonprofit that has been serving Orange County's LGBTQ+ communities, underserved residents, and people living with or affected by HIV for nearly four decades.

Founded in 1985 as AIDS Services Foundation Orange County, Radiant began as a volunteer-led response to the HIV/AIDS crisis, providing dignity and support at a time when too many people were being denied the care they deserved.

Today, Radiant is the largest and most comprehensive nonprofit HIV service provider in Orange County, touching thousands of lives.

Radiant began as an act of courage. The founding volunteers stood up for the most vulnerable amid devastating stigmatization, which saved lives.

This Pride Month, I hope their courage will inspire us all. Amid rising hate and discrimination, let us recommit ourselves to defending dignity and equality for all. I am proud to recognize Radiant Health Centers for their lifesaving work and their deep commitment to the people of Orange County.

RECOGNIZING PATRIOT INDUSTRIES

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

Mr. MCGUIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patriot Industries of Louisa County, Virginia, for being named the Small Business Administration's Virginia Manufacturer of the Year.

Founded in 2010 by Tom and Sarah Click in a modest 1,000-square-foot facility, Patriot Industries has grown

into a leading manufacturer of electrical infrastructure products, operating three U.S.-based facilities and employing nearly 100 Americans.

Their conduit, fittings, and other critical components help support construction, energy systems, and infrastructure projects across the country.

Through continuous investment in manufacturing, innovation, and workforce development, Patriot has strengthened domestic supply chains while creating jobs in Virginia.

I congratulate Tom, Sarah, and the entire Patriot team on this well-deserved recognition and thank them for representing the very best of American manufacturing.

PRIORITIES

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

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, UFOs; the Gulf of America; water pressure in your shower; shrimp farms; pardoning insurrectionist rioters and providing a way for them to be paid for their behavior; the blue water color of the reflecting pool on The Mall; and building an MMA stadium on the lawn of the White House and a big, beautiful ballroom, too, that America doesn't need—these aren't topics of bizarre nightmares. They are some of the things that the White House and the congressional majority have prioritized in the last 18 months.

What should we be doing? We should be ending a war of choice that triggered skyrocketing gas prices and eliminating unnecessary tariffs that increased the costs of groceries and consumer products.

This morning, the news told us that inflation rose to 4.2 percent, the highest level in 3 years, way more important than the name on The Kennedy Center or building a triumphal arch.

This Congress is the least productive Congress ever, having passed an anemic number of laws—mostly messaging bills to rally the majority's MAGA base.

For those who are feeling the unbearable pressure on their paychecks because of rising costs on everyday necessities, help is on the way in 146 days, just less than 21 weeks.

□ 1210

DISASTER RECOVERY GAPS

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

Mr. BELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all of those impacted by last year's devastating tornado. People deserve a recovery process that is prompt, transparent, and responsive to their community's actual needs.

However, time and time again, President Trump and his administration

have failed to meet those needs. Sadly, those impacted by last year's tornado have joined a long line of communities around the country pleading with this administration to do its fair share in their recovery process.

This is unacceptable, which is why yesterday I introduced my CDBG-DR AAA legislation, the first in a series of bills to reform and overhaul the disaster relief system in this country.

This bill helps ensure recovery gaps are identified early and continuously assessed after a major disaster declaration is declared by the President. This will help communities access the resources needed to rebuild stronger and faster.

We can and we must do better for those who need us most, and I remain committed to fighting on their behalf in Congress.

FRAUD PREVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1345, I call up the bill (H.R. 8312) to establish fraud prevention and program integrity functions within the Department of Treasury and a permanent governmentwide Inspector General for Fraud, Accountability, and Recovery, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1345, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 8312

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fraud Prevention and Accountability Act".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAUD PREVENTION AND FINANCIAL INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 306 of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 306. Fiscal Service

"(a) *The Bureau of the Fiscal Service is a service in the Department of the Treasury.*

"(b) *The head of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service is the Fiscal Assistant Secretary appointed under section 301(d).*

"(c) *The Bureau of the Fiscal Service, having as its head a Commissioner, shall maintain the following functions related to financial integrity, spending transparency, and preventing improper payments resulting in financial loss to the government, and does not include any investigative or law enforcement function, which, in addition to any other duty the Secretary of the Treasury assigns—*

"(1) *shall administer and operate the Do Not Pay system required under section 3354 in a manner that ensures that any data provided to the Secretary is used only for the purposes set*