

Devastatingly, I fear there are others, too, who have lost their lives, though we do not publicly know their names.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to observe a moment of silence for those who have died because they were denied essential abortion care.

□ 1730

CALIFORNIA BUDGET

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

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, California is doing it again. They just passed a budget which is raising taxes on healthcare plans and on business software. At a time when Californians and people throughout this Nation are struggling with the high cost of living, California is making it even harder.

I rise to condemn this action that is hurting everyday Californians. What a stark contrast to what we are doing here as House Republicans in Congress.

We are now coming up on the 1-year anniversary of cutting taxes for working people in this country. Now, people are getting the benefits of no tax on tips and no tax on overtime. The average refund is \$3,600, vital money that is needed in this time.

That is the kind of leadership we need, not the kind of leadership that is being shown out of Gavin Newsom in California. We will continue that work here in the House. I am proud to be part of that work, and we have much more to do in the weeks to come.

RECOGNIZING DARRYN PETERSON

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Darryn Peterson as Ohio's 13th Congressional District's Champion of the Week.

This Tuesday, Darryn made his family and our entire district proud when he was selected by the Utah Jazz as the second overall pick in the NBA Draft. This is an extraordinary accomplishment that reflects years of discipline, dedication, and excellence on and off the court.

Born in Canton, Darryn began his high school career at the Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy in Cuyahoga Falls. He eventually rose to become the number one ranked player in the entire country.

He went on to play at the University of Kansas where he averaged more than 20 points per game in his lone season.

As we know, Akron is the birthplace of champions because we have the distinction of being the birthplace of both Steph Curry and LeBron James, who was the first overall pick in the 2003 NBA Draft. Darryn has also helped make our district the birthplace of champions.

Darryn now begins his own journey at the highest level. While the path ahead is challenging, he carries the pride of our entire community. We are incredibly proud of Darryn, and we look forward to watching what he accomplishes in the NBA.

\$1.8 BILLION SLUSH FUND

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the billionaire bonanza bill that I didn't vote for has resulted in the slashing of health insurance for millions of our fellow citizens. Moreover, that bill gave huge new tax breaks to billionaires. Giant corporations are getting huge tax refunds sent out just now. Our middle class is being kneecapped by rising prices on everything. What is going on here?

I must ask President Trump why he unilaterally decided to give \$1.8 billion in reparations to the bullies who attacked the Capitol on January 6. His party did nothing to stop him. I got caught up in that mess. That is a whole other story.

Meanwhile, his Iran war is costing us about a billion dollars a day. It was supposed to be for 4 days. We are now into day 117, and the flimsy Iran deal seems to have fallen apart. Who proposed \$324 billion to Iran? Where are we supposed to get that money? From the American people's health insurance?

I think there is something really wrong here. Congress should end these giveaways to billionaires and give tax refunds to the hardworking people of our country.

To our colleagues across the aisle, come on, help us out a little bit. It would make a difference to the American people.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAYOR RICK STOPFER

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of my good friend, Rick Stopfer, whose more than three decades of dedication to the city of Irving has left a lasting and meaningful impact on the community he proudly serves.

He was elected to the city council in 1998. Rick has demonstrated a steady commitment to public service. He has held so many key leadership roles. In addition to mayor, he served as mayor pro tem for the council. He was re-elected to his third term in May of 2023. He has really helped the city of Irving grow. Anyone who has been to the city and has seen Las Colinas and seen all the Fortune 1500 companies that have decided to make Irving their home over the last decade, it is absolutely amazing.

In addition to everything that he has done for Irving, he has also served on the Dallas Area Rapid Transit board and other regional bodies that reflect a broader vision for the entire Metroplex.

Rick is also a person who is deeply rooted in the Irving community. He is involved in so many different civic organizations, and he is just really a great guy. Alongside with his wife of more than 40 years, Melanie, he has really built an amazing legacy in the city of Irving.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Rick on everything he has done for the city.

BIPARTISAN HOUSING BILL

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

Ms. MEJIA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, lawmakers in this chamber came together to pass a bipartisan housing affordability bill aimed at helping American families struggling with rising rents, rising mortgages, and the cost of living.

In most cases, we would celebrate the bipartisanship, a rare event most Americans are desperate for—most Americans except President Donald Trump. Our President would much rather derail the opportunity to make housing more affordable in order to hold his own party hostage for his despotic political agenda.

This is not only unconscionable, but we have to resist. Families are worried about whether or not they can afford a home, and we are living with the highest rates of inflation this Nation has seen in years. Instead of focusing on making life more affordable, this President is choosing to gut voting rights for the American people again.

I see you, Mr. President, petulant and shortsighted, and, yet again, so do the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President and to direct their comments toward the Chair.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF DOBBS DECISION

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. MOORE of Utah was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today marks the fourth anniversary of the Dobbs decision, reaffirming that

the U.S. Constitution does not grant the right to an abortion and rightfully returning the regulatory authority to State legislators.

I am excited to welcome my colleagues to speak on this topic with me. I understand some of my colleagues have commitments. I want to be respectful of the time, so I will have them start us off before I provide my own comments, of course.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague for his distinguished leadership. He has been tenacious.

Mr. Speaker, we have people who will be speaking and some who couldn't be here who have never given up in trying to protect and preserve the lives of women and children from the violence of abortion.

Four years ago today, the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision, brilliantly authored by Justice Sam Alito, who is from my hometown of Hamilton in New Jersey, reversed the infamous holdings of *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. That decision stated the Constitution does not confer a right to abortion, and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected Representatives.

□ 1740

After a half century of death—and it continues, but, hopefully, it will be mitigated and maybe ended in time, but a half century of death, more than 65 million unborn children have been violently killed by either dismemberment, decapitation, or chemical poisoning of some kind through this terrible, terrible policy of abortion on demand.

Thankfully, as a response to this, many States—21 and counting—have responded by passing pro-life laws to protect unborn children and women from the violence of abortion. For example, Georgia, Iowa, Florida, and South Carolina passed laws to protect the unborn child when a heartbeat can be detected at about 6 weeks. Thirteen States, including Texas, protect the lives of unborn children throughout the entirety of pregnancy.

I remind my colleagues that the abortion President, Joe Biden, also acted after *Dobbs* was enacted. In response to the decision, his Food and Drug Administration allowed women to receive mifepristone, the baby poison, through the mail and without any in-person consultation with a healthcare provider.

This dangerous drug is used now to cause at least 6 out of 10 abortions in the United States. How does it operate? It starves the baby to death.

I work on global hunger issues and food insecurity all the time. I find it outrageous that there is a chemical administered that literally causes the baby to die from malnutrition. It also then expels the baby, and what results

is a dead, badly dehydrated and, sadly, hurt, killed baby.

One recent study found that mifepristone is extremely dangerous to women, as well. One in 11 women—10.93 percent to be exact. It was the biggest study ever done on mifepristone—experienced a serious adverse event, sepsis, infection, and hemorrhaging within 45 days of taking the drug. The number of serious adverse events is at least 22 times higher than what the FDA has previously suggested, which was based on egregiously flawed data.

The FDA must now move quickly to investigate the impact of this baby poison not just on the baby but on the mother, as well.

Meanwhile, pro-life lawmakers, including those of us who are pro-life in this Chamber, will continue to write, advocate for, and pass laws to nurture and protect human life.

I suggest to my colleagues that the injustice of abortion violence need not be forever.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is great to be here to rise for this occasion, to recognize the fourth anniversary of *Dobbs v. Jackson*, where the Supreme Court returned the power to protect the unborn to elected officials and not to an appointed court. The Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* was a landmark moment in the effort to protect the most vulnerable and to give those babies the guarantee of right to life and liberty.

Today is really a day of celebration, but this is also a day of remembrance of the countless lives that we also, on the other hand, have to remember. While we celebrate on one hand, we also commemorate all of the lives that were lost during that flawed decision back in 1974 and all those who still need our protection even today.

I am deeply proud of my home State of Alabama. Our policies there are pro-life, but in many States, the lives of the unborn remain vulnerable. As the chairman of the House Values Action Team, I remain committed to fighting and advocating in Congress to expand our efforts and ensure a safe future for our Nation's children, born and unborn.

I have said this before and I will continue to say that I am pro-life, I am pro-family, and I am pro-child.

Since the *Dobbs* decision in 2022, I have introduced the Protect Funding for Women's Healthcare Act to continue standing for life by ensuring that Federal tax dollars are not used to fund organizations such as Planned Parenthood.

I will continue to work with my colleagues to defend the sanctity of life, to protect the unborn, and ensure a safer future for our Nation's children. Let me be clear. Our work is not fin-

ished, and this week's recognition for the *Dobbs* anniversary is a good time to reaffirm our unyielding commitment to standing up for the importance of every single human life.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alabama for his comments, he is a leader on this issue and always a good voice.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN).

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Utah for hosting this Special Order hour. I thank him for his leadership as the vice chair of our Conference. This is important.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fourth anniversary of the *Dobbs* Supreme Court decision. *Dobbs* was a historic and long-overdue victory for life. It corrected the great mistake of *Roe v. Wade* and returned the question of abortion policy to the American people and their elected representatives. For nearly 50 years, *Roe* distorted our Constitution and denied States the ability to enact laws that reflect the will of the people and protect the most vulnerable among us.

Thankfully, *Dobbs* restored that authority. In the years since, legislators across the country have acted to defend unborn children, support mothers, and affirm the dignity of human life.

Now, 4 years later, the work is far from finished. Far too many unborn children are still lost to abortion each year, and dangerous abortion drugs are being pushed across State lines, often without a doctor's visit, undermining the laws of pro-life States and putting women and unborn children at risk.

America was founded on the self-evident truth that every person is created equal and endowed by our creator with inherent dignity and the right to life. That right is the foundation of every other right that we enjoy. If we fail to protect life at its earliest and most vulnerable stage, we weaken the very principles that this great Nation was built upon.

As a father and person of faith, I believe that every child is fearfully and wonderfully made by God, every life has value, every child has purpose, and no child is a mistake.

Congress must continue advancing life-affirming policies, supporting mothers and families, defending longstanding protections like the Hyde amendment, strengthening adoption and foster care, and standing with the pregnancy centers and community organizations that serve women in need every day.

Dobbs was the new beginning in our pro-life movement. We must continue working, praying, and building a culture where every life is welcomed, valued, and protected.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Vice Chair MOORE for

hosting this important Special Order commemorating one of the greatest triumphs in our pursuit to protect the lives of the unborn.

June 24, 2022, will forever be one of the greatest days in American history. After 50 years of peacefully praying outside clinics and marching in Washington, *Roe v. Wade* is no more. While the *Dobbs* decision was a monumental victory, the fight for life has only just begun.

Many States have stepped up to the plate, with over half of them enacting laws protecting the unborn. However, blue States have doubled down on the murderous assault of the unborn.

Sadly, my home State of Illinois, is one of those States and has become the destination State of the Midwest for abortions. In 2023 we recorded the most abortions ever in our State's history, and Illinois' Governor proudly signed legislation allowing abortions through 9 months of pregnancy.

Since the Biden administration rescinded safety regulations for chemical abortions, women are being harmed, and our water supply is being severely contaminated.

Democrats oppose safety regulations. They oppose information on the development of the baby. They are not pro-choice. They are pro-abortion. They don't want the mother to know that there are two humans involved, different blood types, different sex, different heart rates, and ultimately, within months, two distinct human beings.

Republicans are the party of life, and we must protect both mom and baby. That is why I have introduced legislation like H.R. 796, the Second Chance for Moms Act, which would require the FDA to place a warning label on chemical abortion drugs so that women can reverse the chemical abortion before it is too late.

I have also introduced H.R. 797, the Ultrasounds Save Lives Act, which would mandate an ultrasound be performed before an abortion can take place. The ultrasound is a window to the womb. Up to 80 percent of women who get an ultrasound before attempting an abortion change their minds and choose life.

□ 1750

The *Dobbs* decision ended the greatest human rights violation of our time, but the work has just begun.

Republicans stand ready to support women facing crisis pregnancies, not just with words but with actions.

I again thank Vice Chair MOORE for commemorating this important anniversary.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois. I appreciate her message of women and babies and the support that she has put forth in actual legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER).

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Utah for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the fourth anniversary of one of the most consequential decisions in the history of our Supreme Court, and that is *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, the Supreme Court corrected a 50-year wrong and returned the question of life back to where it has always belonged, and that is to the American people and to their elected representatives. This was a historic victory for life and the rule of law.

But today is not just a day to celebrate a court decision. It is a day to recommit ourselves to the work that remains, and there is still a lot of work to do.

As a mother, a grandmother, and a lifelong advocate for life, I have always believed that the pro-life movement is fundamentally a movement of deep affection and love: love for mothers facing impossible choices, love for families navigating the unexpected, and love for the most vulnerable among us—the unborn, who have no voice.

That love is showing up in communities across the country. In 2024 alone, pregnancy centers provided over 1 million women with services valued at more than \$452 million. That is free ultrasounds, free natal care, diapers, car seats, and so much more. And for every Planned Parenthood, there are 15 pregnancy resource centers ready to serve women with real support and real choices.

That is the true face of the pro-life movement.

Here in Congress we have continued to act. Earlier this year, the House passed the Supporting Pregnancy and Parenting Women and Families Act and Pregnant Students' Rights Act because we know that protecting life means supporting mothers before, during, and after pregnancy.

President Trump's HHS stood up for moms.gov, and that was inspired by my Pregnancy.Gov Act to connect expecting mothers with the resources they truly need.

These are the kinds of life-affirming policies we should be building on.

But I want to be direct about where we still fall short. Since *Dobbs*, abortions in this country have actually increased by nearly 400,000 a year.

Why is that?

It is because the Biden-Harris administration spent 4 years dismantling every commonsense safeguard around chemical abortion drugs. They allowed mifepristone to be ordered online, shipped through the mail, and dispensed without a doctor ever seeing the patient.

As a pharmacist for almost 40 years, that is not patient care. That is recklessness.

Democrats have made their agenda very clear. Nearly every House Democrat has signed on to legislation that would impose abortion on demand until birth wiping out every pro-life protection at the State and Federal level, and we cannot let that stand.

Dobbs gave us the tools. Now it is our job to use them. I will not stop fighting for life in every form at every stage.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Tennessee for her voice on this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH), my good friend.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the vice chair for putting together this important Special Order to commemorate the historic *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision.

I also thank the other Members, the pro-life Members who took the time tonight to come here and talk about this incredibly critical issue of making sure that we are taking care of mothers and children.

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court ruled: "The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion. *Roe* and *Casey* are overruled; and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives."

That decision was a tremendous step to protect the valuable right to life. It overturned the unconstitutional *Roe v. Wade*, which created a false right to abortion for almost 50 years.

This decision was a victory for the unborn, a victory for families, and a victory for our entire Nation. Most importantly, *Dobbs* has been a victory for life itself.

In the 4 years since that landmark day, countless children are alive today who might not otherwise be. Families have been made whole, and the beating hearts of ultrasounds are now running, laughing, and bringing joy to households across America.

For me, the pro-life movement is personal. As a mother and a grandmother, I have been blessed to see the miracles of life at every stage. Those personal milestones drive my work in the pro-life movement because I believe every woman in this country should be allowed to experience those same miracles with confidence and support.

To be truly pro-life means so much more than just being opposed to abortion. It means being prowoman and profamily. When a woman faces an unexpected pregnancy, our response as a community must be to surround her with hope. We must be able to look at every mother and say: You are not alone.

We continue to build on this culture of life through meaningful action. Months ago, this House took a step forward by passing the Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act to protect the pregnancy resource centers that serve on the front lines.

I have also reintroduced the MOMS Act to provide comprehensive critical support to new mothers during and after pregnancy, ensuring that they have medical, financial, and the emotional tools to raise happy, healthy babies.

As we reflect on the momentous *Dobbs* decision, I hope that we can take

inspiration from the dedication of the pro-life community and support mothers with love, hope, and the right to choose life.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Minnesota for her remarks.

I yield to the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Mrs. BIGGS), one of our couple of remaining speakers, who I like to refer to these two new awesome Members as “the dynamic duo” from North and South Carolina.

Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for leading on this important topic. As a child of God, as a mother, and as a healthcare provider, this topic is very personal to me.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, the Supreme Court made the right decision in Dobbs and returned the issue of abortion to the American people and their elected representatives.

For nearly 50 years, Roe v. Wade prevented States from protecting unborn children and advancing policies that reflected the values of their citizens.

Dobbs changed that.

Since then, millions of Americans have had a voice in this debate once again, and countless lives have been protected.

But our work is not finished.

Today, abortion pills account for the majority of abortions in America, and women are increasingly being prescribed these drugs without an in-person medical examination and with little accountability.

That is why I am introducing legislation to strengthen safeguards surrounding the dispensing of abortion drugs and to ensure that women receive the care and protections they deserve.

As we mark this anniversary, I remain committed to defending the unborn, to supporting mothers, and building a culture that values every human life.

□ 1800

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield to Mr. HARRIS from North Carolina, the second half of the dynamic duo from the Carolinas.

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Vice Chairman MOORE so much for being willing to host this very Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today on this very special anniversary, the fourth anniversary of the Supreme Court’s decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization.

As has already been stated, 4 years ago, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and returned the issue of abortion to the American people and their elected representatives. For nearly 50 years, Roe kept States and citizens from fully using their laws to protect unborn children.

Today, we celebrate Dobbs as a victory for the God-given right to life and for the pro-life laws that have protected hundreds of thousands of unborn children since that decision.

Next week, our Nation will celebrate 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. At our very founding, America declared that every person is endowed by our creator with a right to life. That right belongs to the unborn as surely as it belongs to any one of us.

Every child, born and unborn, is made in the image of God. That gives every child a dignity that no court can create, and no government can deny. Long before a child is seen by the world, that child is seen and known by God and is worthy of protection.

As a father of 3 and a grandfather of 11, I have seen the blessings of children being brought into this world. Through my own family, I know they are among the greatest gifts the Lord gives. Each one deserves the opportunity to be born.

The work of protecting life is far from over, especially as chemical abortion by mail continues to expand across this country. Today, women can order chemical abortion drugs online and receive them at home without ever seeing a doctor in person.

Under the Biden administration, the FDA recklessly removed the in-person dispensing requirement for mifepristone, opening the door for abortion drugs to be sent by mail without direct medical oversight.

These drugs end the life of an unborn child. When they are distributed this way, mothers can be left to face the risks alone. Without an in-person visit, a woman may not receive proper screening for complications. No woman should be sent abortion drugs through the mail and left to face the pain and the aftermath by herself.

My bill that I have introduced, the Teleabortion Prevention Act of 2025, would make it a Federal offense for doctors to send chemical abortion drugs through the mail without providing in-person care before, during, and after the abortion.

As we continue toward the day when every unborn child is protected in law, this bill is a necessary step. It puts essential safeguards back in place and holds providers accountable.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years after Dobbs, the fight for life is not finished. Congress must continue to defend the sanctity of every human life.

On this anniversary, we remember the children who were never given the chance to live; we fight for the children still at risk; and we stand with the mothers who deserve to know that life is still possible.

Again, I thank Vice Chairman MOORE for leading this Special Order.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, that was a great message from the gentleman from North Carolina, and I appreciate his voice on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON), the current Speaker of the House, who is taking time out of his very busy schedule to share some remarks on this most important topic and anniversary of the Dobbs decision.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BLAKE MOORE, a great champion and great vice chairman of the House Republican Conference, for yielding. I am so delighted with what he has done with the office. I thank him for hosting this Special Order hour. It is very appropriate and a historic moment that we are in.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join all of my colleagues in celebrating the fourth anniversary of the lifesaving Dobbs decision.

As we know, and I know it has been discussed tonight, that decision reversed five decades of inhuman social engineering, the murder of tens of millions of unborn children. Ultimately, it returned the question of regulating abortion to the people’s elected representatives, where it should have remained the whole time.

I was born 1 year before Roe v. Wade, almost exactly to the day. I was born in January 1972. Roe was decided in January 1973, as we know. In my 54 years of life, I will say the Dobbs decision represents the most consequential and lifesaving decision of my lifetime.

I used to go into the courts, for almost 20 years, as a constitutional law litigator to defend the sanctity of human life, but Dobbs was the big one.

Mr. Speaker, think about how many innocent, unborn children have been lost to the hands of Big Abortion. Estimates suggest it is somewhere above 65 million lives. I have always believed that is a low estimate because we know many States do not accurately report abortion numbers. It is probably much higher than that. That is just the number since Roe was decided in 1973.

It is just an unconscionable thing. It is an unspeakable evil. Thankfully, by the grace of God, the Supreme Court finally righted that egregious wrong.

The conditions that led to that decision did not materialize overnight. It took a long, long time. From the moment Roe was decided in 1973, pro-life advocates went to work to pray, organize, build faithful and effective coalitions, and educate the public on the scourge of abortion. They did not do that with hate. They were motivated by love. That is what this has always been about.

We know that mere words of support are not enough. As advocates for life, we must continue to advocate for and support the heroic mission of things like the pregnancy resource centers around the country. They do vital work that is so important. Those centers don’t just provide lifesaving and practical care. They empower women to choose life.

We know the statistics. When a woman sees her unborn child on an ultrasound, she has about an 86-percent chance of going through with the pregnancy, to understand that is a child there. No matter how small, it is a person.

Of course, this anniversary and this year are particularly important. Next

Friday, we celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, our 250th anniversary as a nation.

The Declaration is our Nation's birth certificate. That is how we describe it all the time, because it is. In that certificate, we boldly proclaim the self-evident truths that all people are created equally by God, and all people are endowed by Him, God, our creator, with their inalienable rights. Of course, that begins, as articulated in the Declaration, with the right to life, logically.

We still have work to do to continue building a culture of life. We still have work to ensure that we are living up to the ideals espoused in the Declaration. Tonight, we should let these anniversaries serve as calls to action, to continue building a culture of life and to advance policies that protect the sanctity and the dignity of every human life.

I again thank my good friend, a great champion for the rights of the unborn, Vice Chairman BLAKE MOORE, for organizing this Special Order.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana, the Speaker, more aptly known by the more prominent title of former vice chair.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate his voice. It is such an important, unique voice, from a law background to legislative on this very important topic.

I am very much looking forward to hearing from our last speaker this evening, the gentlewoman from Florida, who has a very unique experience, being able to talk about this, having just had a child herself. I couldn't think of a better way to end.

I thank all of my colleagues for being willing to come down and carve out extra time from our busy schedules to come talk about this very important issue. I am looking forward to hearing her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from the great State of Utah, the very esteemed and important vice chair, the most important title for hosting this Special Order, marking an incredible and important anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs returned one of the most important questions in our society to the American people and their elected representatives.

Since then, there has been a lot of rhetoric, a lot of fear, and a lot of misinformation. In fact, we have heard some of it tonight.

I know this all too well because I have lived it personally. See, 2 years after Dobbs, I experienced one of the most dangerous pregnancy complications a woman can face, an ectopic pregnancy. My baby had no heartbeat. Without treatment, I could have lost my life.

Doctors warned that if the pregnancy ruptured, the window to save me could

be measured in minutes—not hours, not days, minutes.

I was accused of a number of things, things like special treatment and calling in favors. The truth is, it is a lie. I had no special treatment. There were no favors to call in.

Instead, I fought and advocated. I sat in the ER and read the doctors the law right from my phone. They had hesitated due to confusion.

□ 1810

What shocked me most was the confusion surrounding my care. It was not because Florida's law had been presented a particular way. It expressly protected women like me. It expressly said in statute that ectopic pregnancies are medical emergencies. The confusion, in fact, came from misinformation from pro-abortion activists who had geofenced hospitals with digital ads convincing healthcare providers that they would face consequences for providing lifesaving care and convincing them that treating miscarriages and ectopics is an abortion.

It is not. It never has been, not in Florida, not in any State, not by the medical establishment, and, heck, not even by Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood has even stated this.

This is an uncomfortable fact that the pro-abortion lobby is fighting like hell to change.

While my husband and I were going through this hell, I kept asking: What happens to the woman who doesn't know the law? What happens to her if she is scared, alone, or too sick to fight for herself?

What if she doesn't have a doctor? What if she doesn't have a car to get to help?

Four years after Dobbs, it is clear that we need a whole heck of a lot less political theater and a whole heck of a lot more honest conversations. We need to support women who face miscarriages, stillbirths, and ectopic pregnancies, and we dang sure need better maternal healthcare.

We need facts instead of fear. The pro-abortion lobby would love for Americans to believe that a "wanted pregnancy" is a precious baby worthy of protection and love while simultaneously labeling an "unwanted pregnancy" merely a clump of cells that does not deserve love or protection.

Both cannot be true at the same time. That is not a political opinion. That is the most basic principle in all of human reasoning. Aristotle called this the principle of noncontradiction. A thing cannot both be and not be the same thing simultaneously.

It is the pro-abortion lobby's position that they are hoping Americans abandon logic in order to accept a narrative that is false.

Calling it out is the least that we can do. Pushing back and having this national conversation about how we protect women is long overdue, and we need to remember that behind every statistic is a family, a baby who was loved, and a mother whose life matters.

Recently, I introduced the Bereaved Parents Rights Act. This bill would allow the parents to collect their children's remains so they can properly grieve their lost children. We must remember that these are children. They are worthy of life, protection, and love, and we must fight for them every single day along with their parents. That is the work that is ahead of us. It is a conversation that is not just worth having, it is an issue worth fighting for.

Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate 4 years of saving lives and many more to come.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman and my colleague from Florida. I appreciate her words.

I wanted to just end with a few remarks myself, Mr. Speaker, as we wrap up this evening's Special Order on this very important topic.

Today is an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come to protect the right to life and supporting children, women, and families.

Today marks the fourth anniversary of the Dobbs decision reaffirming that the U.S. Constitution does not grant the right to an abortion and rightfully returns regulatory authority to State legislators. It is very plain, and it is very simple. That is what took place 4 years ago.

This decision provided the ability for more comprehensive care, representation, and opportunity for life, and it ensured that States like Utah can make decisions that align with our pro-life and pro-family values.

As a husband and father of four young boys, this is personal. Children are our future, and we must work harder to ensure every child and their mothers have the opportunity and resources to thrive and succeed.

At the end of my first year in office, my youngest son, Franklin, was born. Frankie had an H-type fistula that conjoined his trachea and his esophagus. It is a very rare disease, and he is fortunate to have amazing healthcare. Utah's Primary Children's Hospital is one of the foremost advanced places that actually does this surgery quite a bit.

I will never forget that holding him in the hospital just reminded me of our responsibility in Congress to value and protect the miracle of life and come alongside women who are also in difficult circumstances.

Since then, I have worked hard to pass pro-family legislation making life for working parents easier so no one has to choose between keeping their child and maintaining a livelihood.

I championed legislation to increase and make permanent the child tax credit, to make adoption much more affordable, and to create investment accounts for children providing them a financial launchpad to ease the burden of tuition, internship housing, transportation, and so much more.

By means of investment accounts for kids, they are going to start saving for

their retirement at the age of zero as opposed to typically at the age of 30 when we finally get around to doing that.

No one has given credit to our bill last year that literally established investment accounts for children, for babies, for babies born in the next 4 years to get a seeded \$1,000 to start an investment account to give them opportunities to help them along the path of life.

Of course, people aren't drawing that correlation. They are not making that connection. We are not hearing from my colleagues on the left that we are doing things that are actually pro-family and actually pro-life. This particular issue just becomes a very toxic and horrible debate back and forth. However, when we actually look at what we have done, we are trying to focus on that next generation.

Sincerely, giving investment accounts to children, Trump accounts, starting them off on the path towards accruing something that they would have otherwise maybe never even invested in, they are going to start that when they are zero. All they have to do is sign up for it.

We are focused on life, and we are focused on improving families. There is no question about it. Our policies are directly related towards it.

As a member of both the House Values Action Team and Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, I have stood up to attempts to increase access to abortion, advocated for language restricting Federal funding for abortion, and signed legal briefs opposing mail-order abortion pills and requirements for employers to give time off for abortions.

Our focus in Congress should be focused on ensuring that every child has opportunities, no matter the circumstances of their conception or birth, and that pregnant women and mothers have the resources they need to be supported throughout pregnancy and postpartum.

I am proud of the progress we have made since that decision 4 years ago. We have passed legislation to support critical, comprehensive services for women in need, make it easier for working-class families to earn money and raise children, and support the rights and dignity of our most vulnerable.

Yes, we have much more work to do. The right to life is paramount, and I am eager to continue our work on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues who have all shared messages tonight, and I yield back the balance of my time.

THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTS HOPEFUL NEW BEGINNINGS

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mrs. RAMIREZ of Illinois was recognized for 60 minutes.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I am proudly on this House floor going to talk about what brings me to this place.

Yes, I am the Congresswoman of Illinois' Third Congressional District. I am also the proud daughter of Guatemalan immigrants. I am a citizen by birthright. I am the wife of an incredible man who until recently was a DACA recipient, a Dreamer, and Congressista from a welcoming city, State, and district.

We know the story of our Nation wouldn't be complete without the joy, without the sweat, and without the struggles and resilience of those who, whether a couple of generations ago or 1 year ago, came to this country in search of safety, security, and opportunity.

□ 1820

Whether arriving through the southern border like my mother did 43 years ago or welcomed by the Mother of Exiles, the Statue of Liberty, like the ancestors of so many Members of Congress that I serve with, including the man in the Oval Office, our country has represented hopeful new beginnings for so many. Yet, too many have forgotten these histories.

As this country approaches the 250th anniversary of its founding, I rise during Immigrant Heritage Month asking us to reflect on this country's history, on this country's story, our progress and our failures, and our enduring but not yet fulfilled commitment to the principles of liberty and justice for all.

When a government fails to secure these rights and liberties for all people, regardless of legal status, origin, nationality, religion, or economic condition, it is, in fact, the responsibility of Members of Congress to challenge and transform systems that deny our communities dignity and justice.

I am clear that we have not yet fully realized our country's founding ideals.

The policies passed by this body and the powers seized by Trump's administration have created barriers and hardships for asylum seekers, for refugees, and all immigrant communities, including conditions that undermine internationally recognized human rights and constitutional protections.

When the administration is unwilling to uphold our commitments to human rights and obligations under the Constitution, Members of Congress in this body must act. We must meet the moment, and we must legislate. Because we know that immigrant communities make significant social, cultural, economic, and civic contributions to our country, strengthening and enriching our collective future.

The 250th anniversary of America serves not only as a commemoration but also as a choice point. We can choose to honor the contributions of immigrants by bringing 11 million people out of the shadows. We can choose to recognize our shared commitment to never again turn our backs on those seeking refuge and safety. We can choose to create pathways to citizenship for DACA recipients, who have been in this country since the age of 2 who know no other country other than this one as their own, and those that are TPS holders and in mixed-status families.

We can choose to renew our commitment to building a more inclusive, equitable, and united future for all who call the United States home, or we can allow Trump and this administration to continue terrorizing our communities, denying relief, violating protections, and certainly separating the families that my colleague just a moment ago bragged about being the party of families.

Here is the thing: I know where I stand, and I know where Trump, Noem, and now Markwayne, Homan, Miller, and Republicans in Congress stand. Trump and his cronies want to define who gets to be American and who is not American enough for them. He wants to define who is worthy of stability, of safety, of security, of opportunity, and who gets to be included in our Nation's founding ideals.

I, on this House floor, reject his white supremacist, xenophobic, bigoted agenda. It is important for us as Members of Congress to continue to fight for the opportunity that this Nation represents for so many of us like the opportunity to buy the first pair of shoes for your children, the opportunity to receive an education, to get a family-sustaining job, to establish a small business, and, for me, to become the very first Latina in the entire Midwest to serve in Congress.

I am the daughter of Maria Elvira Ramirez Guerra, a "powerful"; "poderosa" woman "that fought for me"; "que lucho por mi," and carried that legacy that I get to carry now every single day in these Halls of Congress.

For us on Immigrant Heritage Month and in this Special Order hour, it is important as Members of Congress, those of us who are unapologetically children of immigrants, to remind everyone that our experiences, that the experience of refugees, that the experience of immigrants are also part of this Nation.

We belong, and we will not let anyone tell us that we are not the inheritors of the promise of America, just like so many of my colleagues' ancestors were for them.

Today, I say no bans, no walls, no raids, no kidnappings, no masked agents terrorizing our communities, no military attacking our neighbors, and no authoritarians in the Oval Office. "Period"; "Punto."