

home because the work is hard and because an election is on the way. The American people are entitled to notice the difference. We can do better than this.

#### PRICE GOUGING BY BIG OIL COMPANIES

(Mr. BURCHETT of Tennessee was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns on the rising price of diesel fuel. Price gouging by greedy oil companies is causing hardworking Americans to struggle to fill their tanks. President Trump has already called on the Department of Justice to open an investigation into this abuse.

Behind me, to my left, you will see a chart explaining just how dire this situation is for consumers. Refiners typically make a profit of around \$15 per barrel, or roughly 35 cents per gallon. Today, the refiners are making \$117 per barrel, or \$2.78 per gallon. That is nearly an 800 percent increase. Mr. Speaker, an 800 percent increase they are making on the backs of hardworking Americans—our farmers, truck drivers, and ultimately us, the consumers. Every day we go to the market and pay more.

That is why I am introducing legislation to implement export control measures on American diesel. Export controls drive down prices while also helping farmers and keeping more money in the pockets of consumers.

That is affordability, Mr. Speaker. That is what America wants. That is what they are asking for, and dadgummit we ought to deliver it.

These companies know they can make more money selling at higher prices abroad. American companies should prioritize American consumers and keep American diesel in America.

I ask the President to please call on Congress to pass this vital piece of legislation. I don't believe Congress has the guts or the willpower to do it. But the President has proven time and time again that he and Vice President VANCE do have the guts to do what is right for this country. I call on the President—I implore the President—please, to call on Congress to pass this vital piece of legislation.

#### CENSURED BUT NOT SILENCED

(Mr. GREEN of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise unbought, unbossed, a liberated, unelected Democrat.

I rise notwithstanding the fact that I have been censured but not silenced. I rise because as a person who has been censured and not silenced, I understand the value and the worth in having the opportunity to speak.

I continue to speak because I made a commitment to my constituents that I would work hard as long as I am in the Congress, and I will work for them to

make sure that they achieve affordability for food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, the necessities of life. That is what affordability is all about.

I also, Mr. Speaker, have been a proponent of impeachment. For years, I have talked about it. As of late, I have indicated that we are in a countdown to impeachment, a countdown. The countdown continues.

□ 1145

Mr. Speaker, I have an official notice in my hand indicating that there will be a Republican motion to table H. Res. 1486, impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States for high crimes and misdemeanors.

This will take place today sometime after 1 p.m. This is the resolution that I have presented to this House. I have presented it, Mr. Speaker, because we have a President who has condoned and supported the killings of innocent people. These were people who were committing no crimes.

Let us start with Renee Good. On January 7, 2026, she lost her life. We have heard little or nothing about an investigation at the Federal level, and the Federal officers do all that they can to prevent the local prosecutors from moving forward with the case.

The same thing has happened with Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, and Johan Sebastian Duran Guerrero. These four persons have lost their lives. Alex Pretti was on the ground, hands out, and he was shot nine times. He was shot more than nine times while he was on the ground unarmed. He was unarmed.

There has not been an indication of any type of investigation that would lead to an indictment. I am here today to say that I will be voting to impeach the President of the United States. I will vote to impeach him, and I understand that anything other than a vote to impeach him is going to be a vote to support him. It will be a vote to support him.

I will not vote to support a person who has, under his operation of ICE and CBP, caused four persons to lose their lives and says ugly things about them. He has called them terrorists and other ugly names. He has said that the victims were persons who were somehow at fault for the demise that they have suffered, for the death that was brought upon them.

I believe that I have a duty, a responsibility, and an obligation as a sworn Member of Congress, sworn in to support and defend the Constitution. I will be voting to defend the Constitution and support it today when I vote to impeach the President.

Here is one thing that I will call to everyone's attention: The families of these persons are still suffering. They expect us to do something. I do believe that we have this obligation to impeach. This is why these articles were brought. I have been saying this for some time, long before this last election wherein I was not re-elected to Congress.

Those who question my motives, I didn't question your motives until you questioned mine. When you do that, you can expect me to question yours.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, how many more will have to die before we will take up this cause seriously? How many more? It is hard for me to believe that we have Democrats who are going to vote to maintain the President in office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMUCKER). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. JOSE L. DOTRES

(Mr. GIMENEZ of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jose L. Dotres, superintendent of Miami-Dade Public Schools, following a distinguished career dedicated to education and public service.

Dr. Dotres arrived in Miami at 5 years old as an immigrant. He graduated from Miami-Dade County Public Schools and ultimately dedicated his career to serving the same school community that welcomed him.

Dr. Dotres has served as a teacher, reading coach, principal, district administrator, and senior leader. As superintendent, he led the third-largest school district in our Nation, serving more than 300,000 students and 34,000 employees.

His accomplishments include induction into the Miami Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame, Barry University's Distinguished Alumni Award, and service as president of the Florida Association of District Superintendents.

As Dr. Dotres begins this new chapter, I congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his decades of service to the students, teachers, and families of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, I wish him and his family all the best.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 50 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 (Mr. MEUSER) at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

This is the day that You, O Lord, have made, and we are graced to receive it. Your gift is beyond measure, and our hearts are filled with gratitude for Your loving-kindness today and always.

Grant then that we use this day meaningfully, rejoicing in the opportunities You set before us, glad in the knowledge that You have entrusted us with the stewardship of the gift of life and offered us the privilege of serving You in the work we do here in this United States House of Representatives.

Let us then consider the time we are given to be not our own, but Yours. Make every minute serve as our response to You. Ensure that every conversation we have reflects our love for You. May every task completed glorify You that all may see that what is marvelous in our eyes is, in fact, what You, O Lord, have accomplished in the generosity of the grace and mercy You have shown to us.

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.

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I seek recognition to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Impeaching Peter Brian Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved, that Peter Brian Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, also referred to as "Secretary of War" by the administration, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Articles of Impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America against Peter Brian

Hegseth, Secretary of Defense, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article I: Waging War in Contravention of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Section 2(c): The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment and that civil officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Defense, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

In his conduct while Secretary of Defense, Peter Brian Hegseth, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, especially with regard to the commission of war, has abused the powers of the Department of Defense in that:

The Declare War Clause of the United States Constitution—Article I, Section 8, Clause 11—vests in Congress the exclusive initiatory powers of war, while the military, administrative, and clemency clause of the United States Constitution—Article II, Section 2, Clause 1—establishes the President as the Commander in Chief of the armed forces, and vests in him operational control over wars lawfully authorized by Congress.

In an effort to statutorily delineate the circumstances under which the President may introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities absent congressional authorization, the 93rd Congress of the United States enacted into law H.J. Res. 542, the War Powers Resolution of 1973, Public Law 93-148, by overriding the veto of President Richard Nixon.

Peter Brian Hegseth, in his capacity as Secretary of Defense, has executed unlawful orders in contravention of section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Section 2(c) provides that "the constitutional powers of the President as Commander-in-Chief to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities, or into situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, are exercised only pursuant to one, a declaration of war; two, specific statutory authorization; or three, a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces."

The War Powers Resolution further expressly provides that nothing contained therein shall be construed as granting any authority to the President to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities which the President would not otherwise possess in the absence of the resolution.

Accordingly, the reporting and termination procedures subsequently established by the resolution do not themselves constitute affirmative stat-

utory authorization to commence hostilities. Rather, the introduction of the United States Armed Forces into hostilities must rest upon one of the authorities or circumstances identified in section 2(c) in order for a conflict to be considered lawful.

With respect to United States Armed Forces being entered into hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran on February 28, 2026, Secretary Hegseth directed and caused United States Armed Forces to be introduced into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran, notwithstanding that one, Congress had not declared war against the Islamic Republic of Iran; two, Congress had not enacted any specific statutory authorization for the introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran; and three, no national emergency had been created by an attack by the Islamic Republic of Iran upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces.

Furthermore, no imminent attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces existed, as affirmed in the March 17, 2026, resignation letter of Joe Kent, then-Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, in which he stated: "I cannot in good conscience support the ongoing war in Iran. Iran posed no imminent threat to our Nation."

The introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran, therefore, satisfied none of the circumstances expressly identified in section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution and was undertaken, from its inception, without congressional authorization or independent Article II authority, thereby rendering both the initial introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities, and all subsequent actions taken thereafter, unlawful.

□ 1210

Secretary Hegseth, nevertheless, knowingly executed and implemented the unlawful order to commence such hostilities, employing powers, personnel, weapons, and resources of the Department of Defense to initiate military action against another sovereign nation, in violation of section 1541(c) of title 50, United States Code.

Secretary Hegseth abused the powers of his high office through the following means:

One, executing an unlawful order to commence hostilities, despite the absence of a declaration of war; specific statutory authorization; or a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces.

Two, continuing to employ the personnel and resources of the Department of Defense in these hostilities after their unlawful initiation and in the continued absence of any subsequent declaration of war or specific statutory authorization by Congress.

Through these actions, Secretary Hegseth knowingly executed and implemented unlawful orders to initiate