

It is a very sad thing when you look at the boundless potential of our State, the unmatched beauty, the incredible people and companies and culture. We have everything. Yet for too many Californians, it has become too difficult to get by in California or it is the crime or it is the homelessness. It is the inability to buy a house. It is the price of gas or electricity or water. It is the fact that our State leads the Nation in unemployment, in homelessness, in poverty, in illiteracy. These are all politically created problems.

The good news is there is a coalition for common sense emerging in California, and we have started to see progress in circumventing our State's political class and bringing real change. For example, we passed a measure in 2024, the voters did, to restore some consequences for criminal activity. It passed with almost 70 percent of the vote, despite the Governor and the State legislature's leaders opposing the measure every step of the way.

We won a decision at the Supreme Court that has restored the ability of our communities to clear homeless encampments and ensure people get into shelters and don't wither on our streets. As a result, we are starting to see some modest improvements in crime and homelessness in California, but unfortunately, we still have a long way to go in order to make sure that next year California does not, once again, for a seventh straight year lead the Nation in outbound U-Haul rentals.

WEALTH TAX IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, there is currently a proposed ballot measure in my State of California to impose the Nation's first-ever wealth tax. In response to this proposal, you are already seeing an exodus from California because, while the measure won't be presented until November and won't take effect until next year, the language of it ensnares anyone who was a resident of California until January 1 of this year. It would actually try to apply itself to former residents.

Now, California already has the highest income tax of any State in the country, the highest gas tax, the highest overall tax burden. However, a wealth tax is something unique because a wealth tax is not merely the taxation of earned income, it is the confiscation of assets.

They are saying it is just for billionaires. Of course, it starts with billionaires and then they continue to lower the threshold, ensnaring more and more people. Even for billionaires, presenting a 5 percent tax on all of your assets is problematic because, number one, it requires actually having liquid assets amounting to 5 percent of one's net worth, but number two, what you are already seeing happen is entrepreneurs and job creators are simply leaving the State to avoid this unique penalty.

Now, we already have the highest unemployment rate of any State in the

country in California, so it really doesn't help that now the State is causing even more job creators to leave the State. But what is especially threatening about this is that our State's tax structure is essentially a house of cards. Even the Governor acknowledged in his state of the State yesterday that we have a system that is incredibly volatile, where the top 1 percent of earners account for 50 percent of the tax revenue.

If you have this wealth tax that is suddenly going to cause the highest earners not to want to have anything to do with California, the State's finances will collapse. The entire house of cards will come tumbling down.

This is not to mention the myriad constitutional problems with this proposal, not the least of which is the idea that they are going to try to apply it to former residents.

It also isn't to mention the problems of administrability, which is why if you look to other countries that have tried to impose some form of a wealth tax, they have quickly rescinded the policy because it turned out to be a disaster.

I will be fighting against this latest, misguided, insane proposal in every way that I can and that includes using the legislative authority that we have here in Congress under clauses such as the Commerce Clause to prevent a renegade proposal like this from, at the very least, ensnaring taxpayers who have already gone to other States.

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Mr. Speaker, California has for too long gone down the road of overtaxing its citizens, overregulating its businesses, and overburdening its citizens. This would simply be a bridge too far.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 224. An act to amend section 102(a)(20) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to require the exclusion of service-connected disability compensation when determining whether a person is a person of low and moderate income, a person of low income, or a person of moderate income, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, January 12, 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-2618. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Fireworks Display, Lower Mississippi River, Natchez, MS [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1062] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2619. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Sandusky Bay, Sandusky, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1039] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2620. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; La Quinta Channel, Ingleside, TX [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1123] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2621. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Fireworks Display, Ohio River Mile Marker 73 to 74, Wellsburg, WV [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1099] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2622. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; West of Cyril E. King Airport, St. Thomas, VI [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1110] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2623. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Coast Guard Base San Juan, San Juan Harbor, Puerto Rico [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0366] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2624. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Port of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1066] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2625. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Patapsco River, Baltimore, MD [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1045] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2626. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Fixed and Moving Safety Zone; Vicinity of the M/V SAMPOGRACHT; Houston Ship Channel and Seabrook, TX [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1052] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2627. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Santa Barbara Harbor, Santa Barbara, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0997] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2628. A letter from the Administrative Assistant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Detroit River, Detroit, MI [Docket Number: USCG-2025-1042] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 7, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. STANTON (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LICCARDO, and Mr. GOODEN):

H.R. 6992. A bill to establish in U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security an EB-5 Regional Center Program Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BERGMAN (for himself, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. KING-HINDS, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. LUTTRELL):

H.R. 6993. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out programs to award grants to eligible entities to conduct research with respect to treatments for traumatic brain injury prospective randomized control trials for neurorehabilitation treatments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DUNN of Florida:

H.R. 6994. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to modify requirements relating to the prescription of controlled substances by means of the Internet, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EZELL (for himself, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 6995. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 825 Highway 198 in Beaumont, Mississippi, as the "Jeremy Malone Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FINE:

H.R. 6996. A bill to facilitate the export of United States artificial intelligence systems,

computing hardware, and standards globally; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 6997. A bill to amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 to authorize certain public libraries to collect and retain a fee for the execution of a passport application; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of Florida (for herself and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 6998. A bill to enhance hiring authorities at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 6999. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on deductions for personal casualty losses and to provide for increased taxpayer relief with respect to theft losses involving fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself, Ms. FEDORCHAK, Mr. RULLI, Mr. HURD of Colorado, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 7000. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to exclude a portable fuel container from the definition of a consumer or commercial product, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PATRONIS:

H.R. 7001. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for an exception to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, with respect to a flight demonstration or training event of the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron near Pensacola, Florida, commonly referred to as the "Blue Angels"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SCHOLTEN (for herself, Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 7002. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for enhanced penalties for child labor violations; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. SHREVE (for himself and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE):

H.R. 7003. A bill to authorize the Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security to appoint certain personnel in order to attract highly qualified experts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MCBRIDE, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. STANTON, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. BELL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. McGARVEY, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. VINDMAN, Ms. MENG, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 7004. A bill to prohibit a covered individual from engaging in covered transactions involving prediction market contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. POCAN, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 7005. A bill to prohibit discrimination in public accommodations on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BIGGS of Arizona:

H.J. Res. 139. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring a balanced budget for the Federal Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOORE of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. KEAN, Mr. EZELL, Mr. WIED, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. RULLI, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. McDOWELL, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. OWENS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BARR, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mrs. KIM, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. BACON, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. FEDORCHAK, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mr. McGuire):

H. Res. 984. A resolution supporting the recognition of January 9, 2026, as "National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. RIVAS, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SOTO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. VINDMAN):

H. Res. 985. A resolution expressing opposition to the use of onychectomy, also known as declawing, for elective surgery in cats; to the Committee on Agriculture.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 6992.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. BERGMAN:

H.R. 6993.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution