

This recognition is not just about one moment or one case. It reflects a pattern of service, compassion, and integrity that defines Officer Torres' work every single day. She embodies the values that make eastern Washington so special: hard work, humility, and a deep commitment to helping neighbors in need. Her dedication reminds us that public service is about people and showing up, lending a hand, and treating every person with dignity and respect while protecting us.

It is officers like Kellsey Torres who strengthen the trust between law enforcement and our communities and give us pride in the place we call home.

Today, we honor her not only for her outstanding service but for embodying the very best of the eastern Washington spirit. We honor all of our Nation's law enforcement officers, and may this body back the blue.

#### CELEBRATING NORTH COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate the North County Food Pantry in rural Elk, Washington.

Nestled between the pristine forests and recovering farmland, this small 1982 mobile home has nourished hundreds of families in body and soul for decades.

The pantry does far more than provide food. It offers connection, dignity, and a true sense of community.

At the heart of the community is the director, Lora Benzinger, who has led the pantry for a little over a year after years and years of service. Drawing on her background in social services, she has made it her mission to ensure the pantry nourishes not only families' tables but also a sense of belonging.

Families come not just for groceries but for fellowship, encouragement, and a place to be seen and valued.

The pantry brings in volunteers from every walk of life. The North County Food Pantry stands as a powerful reminder that fighting hunger is about more than filling plates. It is about nurturing the human spirit. It reflects the compassion and resilience that define eastern Washington.

#### CELEBRATING 2025 WINS FOR CALIFORNIA—21

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California, Mr. COSTA, for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the dedicated work of my team, our efforts, and the results of the work we have done for the people of the 21st Congressional District of California, encompassing Fresno and Tulare Counties.

We call it the breadbasket of not only California but our Nation. The incredible cornucopia of over 400 commodities we grow is put on America's dinner table every night.

Though last year brought significant challenges to our country and to our valley, which I represent, my commitment and the commitment of my office

never wavered to serve the people of Fresno and Tulare Counties with focus, urgency, and results.

Throughout 2025, I listened closely to the priorities of my constituents. Valley families told me the relief they needed from rising costs and affordability. Farmers and farmworkers called for a stronger agricultural economy and better labor conditions, dealing with comprehensive immigration reform.

Communities demanded access to healthcare, safe infrastructure, reliable water, and the resources necessary to thrive. In 2025, our office secured \$31 million in Federal funding for communities across the San Joaquin Valley.

□ 1045

Throughout our constituent case-work, which I think is the meat and potatoes of any congressional office, we returned \$74 million directly to residents of the 21st Congressional District. We helped more than 1,200 constituent cases and responded to over 11,000 calls, letters, and requests for assistance from the people whom we serve. That is our job, to serve the people and to get things done.

We invested in our children and working families. That is critical. My team helped secure \$35 million for Head Start programs in Fresno and Tulare Counties. We strengthened critical infrastructure, which is necessary not only in our valley but throughout the country.

We secured \$31 million for Fresno Yosemite International Airport to improve infrastructure upgrades, and also deal with the growing demands for the valley and regional economic growth, and expanding the international terminal.

We secured \$3.5 million for the Kaweah River Siphon Project to improve water reliability while supporting valley agriculture and local jobs. As we know, where water flows, food grows. That is critical to our valley's economy.

In addition to that, we provided \$1 million to the city of Kingsburg to establish a new city hall; another \$1 million to relocate the Orange Cove Police Department to make a more functional facility; and another \$1 million dollars for the Parlier Police Department.

Thanks to the bipartisan infrastructure law, we secured \$254 million in Federal investments to strengthen our water supply for the long term. That includes \$125 million to advance the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project. We provided another 130,000 acre-feet of new water storage to the people of our valley, and \$129 million to support the construction of Sites Reservoir, which will provide 1.5 million acre-feet of additional water for the people of California, which is critically important to our long-term water supply.

Mr. Speaker, the San Joaquin Valley is the breadbasket of our Nation, supporting farmers, farmworkers, ranch-

ers, dairymen and -women. It remains, obviously, as their Representative, my highest priority to advocate on their behalf.

When the avian influenza swept the valley and the country, it threatened the livelihoods of those who put food on America's dinner tables. I introduced the Healthy Poultry Assistance and Indemnification Act to ensure growers are fairly compensated and our food supply remains strong and safe. That is what Americans want.

We also honored, separately, those who have served our country and their families. We recognized 20 men and women from the Fresno Veterans Home who served our Nation during World War II and the Korean war to ensure their contributions are never forgotten, they are remembered, and they are celebrated. We should never forget those men and women currently in harm's way serving our country or those and their families who have served.

Beyond our district, we have worked to support the United States' leadership abroad by advocating for humanitarian assistance, accountability, and diplomacy in global conflicts, while upholding America's values on the world stage, that beacon of life that President Reagan used to speak of and that other countries look for.

In closing, I will continue to work with my Democratic and Republican colleagues to deliver results and strengthen our communities for a better future. More work needs to be done.

#### RECOGNIZING INDIANA UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana, Ms. HOUCHIN, for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 15-0 Indiana University football team for their historic season, winning the Rose Bowl, then the Peach Bowl, and now advancing to the College Football Playoff National Championship.

This team rose to the occasion when few expected it. Without a roster full of five-star recruits, they were often underestimated, but they responded again and again with discipline and toughness. Week after week, they proved that hard work and preparation still matter.

Under the leadership of Coach Curt Cignetti, this team has put Indiana football on the map. A perfect regular season, a Big Ten Championship victory over Ohio State for the program's first conference title since 1967, and Indiana's first Heisman Trophy reflect what can be accomplished when a team fully commits to the standard set before them.

On behalf of Indiana's Ninth District, the home of our Indiana University Hoosiers, I commend Coach Cignetti, quarterback Fernando Mendoza, and players on the team like Charlie Becker, D'Angelo Ponds, Pat Coogan, Elijah

Sarratt, and the entire Indiana football program for the achievement that has made our State so proud.

I am rooting for the Indiana Hoosiers in the national championship this weekend. I hope they bring it home from Miami, and I have no doubt they will.

As Coach Cignetti has said himself: This would make one heck of a movie. Good luck to the Hoosiers on Monday.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA STATE FAIR QUEEN  
PRESLEY HAMPTON

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Presley Hampton of Jackson County on being named the Indiana State Fair Queen.

Presley represents the very best of Indiana. She has shown dedication to agriculture, leadership in her community, and a strong work ethic that reflects the values so many young people across our State are raised with.

The Indiana State Fair is more than a tradition. It is a celebration of farming, youth leadership, and the families who work every day to feed our country. Presley's achievements highlight the importance of programs like 4-H and FFA that prepare young leaders for the future.

I know Presley will represent Indiana with integrity and pride. I congratulate her family, mentors, and everyone who helped support her along the way.

Southern Indiana is immensely proud of Presley, and we wish her all the best as she takes on this role.

RECOGNIZING STARLIGHT DISTILLERY

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Starlight Distillery, an outstanding family-owned business in southern Indiana.

Operated by the seventh generation of the Huber family, Starlight earned global recognition when its Japanese Mizunara Reserve finished bourbon was named the best overall bourbon at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition.

That is right, Kentucky, Indiana's bourbon is the world's best.

This prestigious award reflects the family's dedication to hard work and a commitment to quality that has guided their business for generations.

Starlight is more than just a distillery. It has put southern Indiana on the map. The Huber family has built a business that supports local agriculture, creates jobs, and showcases what family-run enterprises in rural Indiana can achieve on the world stage.

I am proud to represent the Huber family and the many hardworking people behind Starlight Distillery. Their success is a testament to the strength of family businesses and the communities that support them.

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 10 o'clock and 52 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. BOST) at noon.

PRAYER

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

By Your grace, O Lord, and the example of those who have gone before us as paragons of faith and righteousness, You have shown us what is true, what is noble, what is right, what is pure and lovely, what is worth admiration, what is excellent and praiseworthy.

You set a high bar for how we are to live, and we are tempted to assume that the paradigms from the past did not face the same challenges we face today. Maybe their situations were different, maybe less complex; but if we are honest with ourselves, we must admit that our predecessors faced their own trials and yet held fast to their faith in You.

Lord, be near us this day in the midst of the adversities and the asperities unique to our present circumstances. Show us again how to be gentle so that in us Your gentleness is evident to all. Assure us that You hear our prayers and petitions, our Thanksgivings and our requests, that we would have no need to be anxious, but could be a source of reassurance for those in need.

Guard our hearts and minds in all we do, that even when we do not understand why things are the way they are, we may experience Your peace which transcends our comprehension.

This day, may we put our faith in You and in the peace we have received from You into practice.

Lord, be with us, 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 gentlewoman from New York (Ms. GILLEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GILLEN 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.

REPUBLICANS SAVE FAMILIES  
MONEY

(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. Mr. Speaker, to cancel tax increases, President Donald Trump signed the Working Families Tax Cuts law into effect on July 4, coordinating with Speaker MIKE JOHNSON.

The law limits government, expands freedom, and provides progrowth policies, creating jobs. As the April tax deadline approaches, the law allows Americans to keep more money, led by Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent of Charleston, South Carolina.

"... people are going to get massive refund checks," said White House National Economic Director Kevin Hassett.

Chief of the IRS, Frank Bisignano, said: "... 94 percent-plus of middle-class Americans..." benefit.

Working Families Tax Cuts boost refunds, providing permanency to lower tax rates from the 2017 tax cuts, no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, no tax on Social Security.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstating peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump, as Putin supports Khomeini murdering innocent protestors calling for freedom for Iran, courageously encouraged by President Donald Trump.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Randall Holstead, one of his secretaries.

IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Secretary Kennedy's recent assault on children's health.

Last week, against universally recommended guidelines, the Department of Health and Human Services slashed the childhood immunization schedule from 17 vaccines to 11. Among those removed are vaccines to protect against RSV, COVID-19, and hepatitis B.

Americans deserve accurate information that is based on established science to make decisions about our children's health. I am perplexed by this latest ambush on the lives and future of our children. What is the crisis