

So, part of the nightmare has been the very things used to try to erase the legacy of Jim Crow and slavery have now been weaponized against that progress. When you see the President of the United States deride the very things used to try to eradicate the legacy of Jim Crow and slavery to divide again, to wedge, to sow division, it is as old as time.

The history of this country has been every time we make progress towards the ideal, there is backlash, and it involves three things: violence, propaganda, and voter suppression.

My great-grandfather lived through the first backlash. He was a man born on a plantation. His parents were enslaved. He exercised his right to vote after he was given a literacy test. He got all the questions right, and he heard the registrar say—and this is the only time you will hear me use this word is in a direct quote—“I need more questions because this nigger got them all right.” He was on a list, do not register this man to vote.

□ 2000

My parents saw the second backlash to the civil rights movement. We are in the third backlash now.

What the backlash involves is propaganda that breaks up coalitions, whether it was a coalition of previously enslaved Black men and poor nonlandowning Whites who came together during Reconstruction to rebuild this Nation, the backlash to that involved racial terror lynching, or the lie of white supremacy and a rash of voter suppression laws that completely ignored the 14th and 15th Amendments.

The backlash in the civil rights movement of Dr. King was a Southern strategy that intentionally carved a wedge between Black and White communities—it was intentional in order to suppress the vote—and the murder of our leaders who fought to change those laws and to change the system.

We are in that backlash right now. We have a choice, and Dr. King spelled it out. We decide where we go from here.

We decide: Is it more chaos, division, hatred, propaganda, violence, voter suppression, and tyranny where we pit one group against another to stay in power?

That is one choice.

Dr. King gave his life for community where we come together, where we work together, and where we uplift each other. We care for one another, we love one another, and we live up to the ideal upon which this country was founded.

He died for that because it meant some people found that idea dangerous.

We, the Congressional Black Caucus, stand here today recommitted to making his dream a reality. We won't give in to the nightmare. We will not give in to the chaos. Not only will we fight the chaos, we will fight for community. We can't do it alone.

Just like the civil rights movement during Reconstruction and just like

the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s, it required people coming together from all walks of life putting aside hatred and division and loving their neighbor and their enemy. We can do that. We need a little love today. We need a little light in the darkness. We need community in the midst of the chaos.

We have to do it because while we are fighting the same fights that our parents, our grandparents, and our great-grandparents fought, we cannot leave those fights to our children, our grandchildren, or our great-grandchildren if we expect this country to survive.

That is because what Dr. King also recognized was that now human beings hold the power to destroy each other and to destroy this planet. If we don't get ahold of our hatred, then a lot of lives will be destroyed.

That is not what Dr. King wanted. That is not what people elect us to do. They elect us to help people and solve problems. They elect us to focus on community. Let's not give into the chaos.

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. 6938. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 10 a.m. 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-2704. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Lieutenant General Thomas M. Carden, Jr., Army National Guard of the United States, to wear the insignia of the grade of general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4209); ; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2705. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with respect to transactions involving exports to Ethiopia, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2706. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications

Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule— Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Advance the Low Power Television, TV Translator and Class A Television Service [MB Docket No.: 24-148] received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2707. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Report Number: 007067, “U.S. Compliance with the Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq”, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 107-243, Sec. 4(a); (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2708. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the International Criminal Court that was declared in Executive Order 14203 of February 6, 2025, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2709. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan that was declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2710. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT case 25-11179, pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2711. A letter from the Office Manager, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report titled: “ANC 8C Funds Used for Political Activity”, pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 455(d); (87 Stat. 803); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2712. A letter from the Associate Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, transmitting a notification of a vacancy and change in previously submitted reported information, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2713. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting notification of an action on nomination and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2714. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, General Law and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting fourteen (14) notifications of a vacancy, designation of acting officer, nomination, action on nomination, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2715. A letter from the Commissioner, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2025 Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities Inventory report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2716. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the

Commission's semiannual report for the period April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, pursuant to section 5(b) of the Inspector General Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2717. A letter from the Chair of the Board, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Secretary of Labor, transmitting the Corporation's Semiannual Report to Congress by the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2718. A letter from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's determination that certain aspects of the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program violate the Constitution, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D(a)(1); Public Law 107-273, Sec. 202(a); (116 Stat. 1771); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2719. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Secretary's response to the Office of the Ombudsman's 2024 Annual Report, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7385s-15(e)(1); Public Law 106-398, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 108-375, Sec. 3161); (118 Stat. 2185); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2720. A letter from the Assistant for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reissuance and Modification of Nationwide Permits [Docket Number: COE-2025-0002] (RIN: 0710-AB56) received January 14, 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-2721. A letter from the Paralegal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Pipeline Safety: Class Location Change Requirements [Docket No.: PHMSA-2017-0151; Amdt. No.: 192-155] (RIN: 2137-AF29) received January 14, 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-2722. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Oversight and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program Amendments [Docket No.: VA-2024-VBA-0014] (RIN: 2900-AS12) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2723. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Oversight and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Apportionments [Docket No.: VA-2021-VBA-0025] (RIN: 2900-AP67) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2724. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Oversight and Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reproductive Health Services [Docket No.: VA-2025-VHA-0073] (RIN: 2900-AS31) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2725. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the

Service's IRB only rule — Exempt Organizations Rulings and Determination Letters Procedures (Rev. Proc. 2026-5) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-2726. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Extension of Transition Period to Calendar Year 2026 for Certain Requirements in Revenue Ruling 2025-4 (Notice 2026-6) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-2727. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Safe Harbor for the Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration under Section 45Q for Qualified Carbon Oxide Disposed of in Secure Geological Storage in Calendar Year 2025 (Notice 2026-1) (NOT-118817-25) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-2728. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Section 1295 Retroactive QEF election PLR Revenue Procedure (Rev. Proc. 2026-10) received January 15, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-2729. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Providing Accountable Care Organizations the Ability to Expand the Use of Telehealth Report to Congress, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395jij note; Public Law 115-123, Sec. 50324(b)(2); (132 Stat. 203); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

EC-2730. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Report on Unobligated Balances for Appropriations Relating to Quality Measurement, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395aaa(f)(1); Public Law 116-94, div. N, title I, Sec. 102(a) (as amended by Public Law 116-260, Sec. 102(b)(2)); (134 Stat. 2941); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 1009. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6945) to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to clarify the authority of States to use funds for pregnancy centers, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6359) to require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 140) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to Public Land Order No. 7917 for Withdrawal of Federal Lands; Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, MN (Rept. 119-459). Referred to the House Calendar.

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. COLE:

H.R. 7147. A bill making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. COLE:

H.R. 7148. A bill making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Ways and Means, 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. RILEY of New York:

H.R. 7149. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the maximum authorizations of appropriations for certain benefits for homeless veterans administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and to make permanent the authority of the Secretary to carry out certain programs for homeless veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WHITESIDES:

H.R. 7150. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a quarterly report on housing loans insured, guaranteed, or under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself and Mr. OBERNOLTE):

H.R. 7151. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a public awareness and education campaign to provide information regarding the benefits of, risks relating to, and the prevalence of artificial intelligence in the daily lives of individuals in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. ANSARI):

H.R. 7152. A bill to provide technical assistance and grants for faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and local governments to increase the supply of affordable rental housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. SHREVE):

H.R. 7153. A bill to improve connections between the Department of Agriculture and national and homeland security agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CISNEROS (for himself and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 7154. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify the dollar threshold for certain sole source contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 7155. A bill to amend the title 18, United States Code, to increase the penalties for theft or bribery concerning programs receiving Federal funds and to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require audits under the summer food