

been sorely lacking. But what is needed is a comprehensive picture of just how large the scale of this fraud might be.

That is why I am requesting that the Government Accountability Office conduct a study on the scale of fraud in California. I will read, for the record, my letter to Comptroller General Brown, Acting Comptroller General of the GAO, requesting this study.

It says:

One of Congress' most crucial duties is to steward public funds by assuring they are spent in accordance with the law and not siphoned off by criminals. Unfortunately, several high-profile incidents of fraud in recent years have shown the inability of some States to adequately protect public money. In particular, California has had difficulty stopping fraudsters who steal benefits destined for the most vulnerable among us. To gain a greater understanding of the impact this theft has on Californians and the Nation, I am asking that the GAO conduct a study on the amount of waste, fraud, and abuse California has fallen victim to.

While fraud amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars in Minneapolis has recently garnered public attention, it still pales in comparison to the fraud perpetrated in California.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, LexisNexis estimated State unemployment fraud reached \$32.6 billion. Unemployed Californians had their benefits stolen, and taxpayers were taxed to fund criminals. The State's effort to aid the homeless is also riddled with waste and fraud. The State auditor examined spending on programs to reduce homelessness between 2019 and 2024. Despite \$24 billion in spending, homelessness increased by 30,000 during that period, and no grant recipients provided metrics that demonstrated any sort of progress. This prevents the State government and the public from knowing how money is being spent and if specific programs are effective and worthy of continued funding.

San Francisco nonprofit workers have been charged with theft of public funds intended for homeless seniors, and real estate executives in Los Angeles have been charged with stealing \$50 million from a variety of homeless programs. Theft of public money is not just confined to nonprofits in California. Even an Orange County judge was convicted of mail fraud for stealing from a workers' compensation program.

The letter concludes:

Due to the widespread nature of theft involving public money in California, we urgently need more information to develop an effective antifraud strategy.

To accomplish this, I ask the GAO to provide:

1, how much money in total was publicly reported as lost to waste, fraud, and abuse in California since 2016;

2, a breakdown of fraud by economic sector such as transportation, healthcare, housing, law enforcement;

3, who the perpetrators of fraud are;

4, what stolen funds are spent on; and,

5, using California as a case study, what steps can the Federal Government take to reduce the most common frauds perpetrated against taxpayers?

This study, Mr. Speaker, will provide information that we very much need in order to exercise the full range of oversight and accountability tools we have here in Congress to protect the tax dollars of hardworking California residents.

□ 2050

RECOGNIZING ROBIN TRIMBLE ON HER RETIREMENT

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Robin Trimble, who is retiring as the chief executive officer of the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce, for her 20 years of dedicated service to the Rocklin community.

For two decades, Robin has led the chamber with enthusiasm, strength, and resilience. Through Robin's expertise, the Rocklin chamber was guided through a period of growth and prosperity. She helped the chamber expand its membership, started important community programs, forged strong partnerships that support Rocklin's local businesses and economy, and built a legacy that will continue to shape the Rocklin community for many years to come.

Like any 20-year period, her tenure as CEO came with its fair share of unique challenges. One example is the important role that she played in minimizing the impact of the extraordinary challenges that arose as a result of the restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 era.

Throughout her tenure, Robin has worked tirelessly to make the dream of business ownership a reality and a successful path for many in the Rocklin area. Her ongoing advocacy for Rocklin businesses has left a meaningful mark on our local economy.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Robin since my time in the State legislature. I have always appreciated her professionalism, wisdom, kindness, and generosity that she brought to her role as the chamber's chief executive officer. Robin's visionary leadership has made a lasting impact on the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce and the Rocklin community at large.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I join the Rocklin community in wishing Robin Trimble a very happy retirement and thanking her for her 20 years of contributions to the Rocklin business community.

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

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 282. An act to provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 51 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, February 3, 2026, at 10 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 119th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

CHRISTIAN D. MENEFE, Eighteenth District of Texas.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2774. A letter from the Comptroller, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Office's 2025 Annual Report to Congress, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 14; Feb. 18, 1875, ch. 80, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 106-569, Sec. 1103(c)); (114 Stat. 3031); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2775. A letter from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Interior, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's FY 2025 Agency Financial Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-2776. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the report titled "Calendar Years 2023-2024 Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership Biennial Report to Congress", pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7c(a)(6)(F); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, Sec. 1128C (as added by Public Law 116-260, Sec. 124(a)); (134 Stat. 2959); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

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. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 6536. A bill to require