Tenemos que ayudar a todos durante estos tiempos difíciles y asegurarnos que las comunidades mas afectadas tengan acceso a la vacuna.

El Congreso debe aprobar este paquete legislativo inmediatamente. No hay tiempo que perder.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California will provide a translation of his remarks to the Clerk.

COVID RELIEF

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

Mr. HERN. Mr. Speaker, last year, every single COVID relief package passed with bipartisan support and bipartisan input. This is not happening today because the majority has chosen to abandon their calls for unity without even making an effort. Sadly, it is the American people who will bear the burden of this decision.

Components of this package were shoved through committees on strictly partisan lines. One of my amendments asking that we prohibit taxpayer dollars from going to people illegally in our country passed the Senate with broad bipartisan support, but was rejected without a single Democratic vote in our committee.

I know from experience that a hard-earned paycheck is infinitely more valuable than anything from the unemployment office. We need to put Americans back to work, make America tired again. That means we cannot incentivize workers to stay out of the workforce.

Let's not waste any more taxpayer dollars than we have to.

Getting our students back in the classrooms should be a top priority for everyone here. Not only does this bill not help return students to the classroom, most of the education funds are not even allocated until 2022.

There is a lot we can do together, but I fear a one-sided process will leave millions of Americans unaccounted for in this relief package.

COVID RELIEF

(Mrs. MCBATH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the American Rescue Plan Act. This week, we hit another tragic milestone, and our Nation has now lost over half a million people to this virus. It is difficult to comprehend the sheer magnitude of those we have lost, but we cannot become numb to the sorrow so many now feel. Each person leaves behind their story of life, love, and humanity. Each human being leaves behind a family grieving the loss of a parent, a sibling, or a spouse.

This is why we must pass the American Rescue Plan, a bill that accelerated our ability to deliver lifesaving vaccines and put an end to this pandemic, a bill that invests in our schools allowing our children and teachers to safely return to in-person learning, and a bill that provides vital economic relief to American families who need our support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to vote ''yes.''

COVID RELIEF

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. I am disappointed to say that my Democrat colleagues refuse to negotiate on legislation to provide targeted, temporary COVID–19 relief to the American people.

Let's be clear. Only 9 percent of this $1.9 trillion package being advanced goes toward pandemic-related expenses, and it is riddled with partisan priorities unrelated to the pandemic, including a $15 minimum wage requirement that will destroy 1.4 million starting jobs; $350 billion in blue State bailouts while leaving behind States like Georgia; funding for a Silicon Valley underground tunnel; and much more.

Throughout this whole process, my Democrat colleagues have rejected prioritizing reopening our schools, despite the CDC stating that schools can safely reopen with proper precautions. Some of our students haven't seen the inside of a classroom in a year. But partisan priorities are apparently more important.

Let's not forget that nearly $1 trillion remains unspent from previous relief packages. So let's stop calling it COVID relief when this package is clearly just a payout to Progressive priorities.

It is time to end this nonsense because the American people are no longer fooled.

COVID RELIEF

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of the American Rescue Plan Act, bold and desperately needed legislation to crush the COVID–19 pandemic and bolster our economic recovery.

As our Nation mourns over 500,000 Americans who have lost their lives due to this terrible virus, we must act decisively and with great purpose to support our families and communities that are struggling. The American Rescue Plan delivers on this need, providing $1,400 relief checks to Americans who are hurting financially.

For the nearly 16 million Americans who have lost their jobs during the pandemic, this bill extends critical unemployment benefits so they can get back on their feet.

For our children and families who have been practicing distance learning, this bill provides over $125 billion to safely reopen our schools and protect our teachers and students.

For businesses who have been hit hard, this bill includes increased funding for economic injury disaster loans.

For the one in seven Americans who are struggling with food insecurity, this bill increases monthly SNAP benefits so they do not go hungry. And for the good of the country, this bill ramps up funding for the manufacture and distribution of the vaccine.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

PARTISAN PRIORITIES

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, since the start of the pandemic, the Federal Government has taken historic steps to provide nearly $4 trillion in financial and public health assistance to the American people with one goal in mind: defeating the virus and getting our country back to normal.

Unfortunately, President Biden and Washington Democrats' latest $1.9 trillion stimulus package focuses more on fulfilling partisan priorities than combating COVID–19. Only 9 percent of their legislation goes to public health spending, while the other 91 percent can be tied to political items unrelated to the pandemic.

How can any Member of Congress who calls this legislation COVID relief look their constituents in the eye and justify billions in wasteful spending to foreign governments, bailouts, and liberal pet projects?

Rather than borrowing trillions of dollars to spend on liberal wish list items while more than $1 trillion in previously allocated COVID relief dollars remain unspent, Congress should work on a bill that provides temporary and targeted relief tied to COVID–19.

Mr. Speaker, the latest stimulus package fails on each account, and for that reason, we should all be voting ''no'' on this measure.

COVID RELIEF

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

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the American Rescue Plan. We cannot grow numb to the pain and devastation the COVID pandemic brought this past year.

Mr. Speaker, 500,000 Americans are dead. Millions have lost their jobs and can't find meaningful employment. Children, including my own, have had to adapt to online learning. Millions of small businesses are struggling to keep the lights on.

Folks in Colorado want to get this done. In fact, over 70 percent of Americans want to get this done, and there