

Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Neal, and Members of the Committee, thank you for hosting this member day and allowing me to speak on this incredibly important piece of legislation.

Let me be clear: President Trump is counting on us to deliver the certainty and economic relief that comes from extending his historic tax cuts—cuts that fueled one of the strongest economies in modern history.

By locking in these tax policies now, we can give working families, small businesses, and manufacturers the confidence to invest, grow, and prosper.

This bill must also go beyond the basics and address the challenges everyday Americans face.

First, tax relief for working families must remain front and center.

Let's expand the Child Tax Credit and ensure families keep more of what they earn.

Working parents shouldn't have to choose between paying their bills and investing in their children's futures, and the child tax credit should continue to be a tool for helping Americans to start and raise their families.

But let me be clear: The Child Tax Credit should NOT go towards the families of illegal immigrants.

That is why I introduced legislation to cut this provision from the Child Tax Credit and hope to see similar action taken in the bill we are discussing today.

We can no longer offer incentives that drive people to come to our borders illegally, and we can no longer afford to keep paying the billions it costs to provide for them.

In addition, the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) also plays a crucial role in helping parents afford the high cost of child care so they can work.

This is the only provision of the tax code specifically designed to assist working parents with child care expenses, allowing them to claim a percentage of these costs for children under the age of 13 or adult dependents.

Expanding the CDCTC would provide families with much-needed relief, offset the cost of going to work, and ensure that parents can continue to provide for their families.

Next, it's past time we get our border under control.

We need robust funding in this bill to secure our borders, hire more border agents and enforce our immigration laws.

A secure border isn't just about safety—it's about protecting American workers and the integrity of our immigration system.

We must also unleash American energy.

We've been blessed with the resources to power both our nation and much of the world, yet we're watching energy costs skyrocket because of failed policies that tie our hands and empower our adversaries.

This bill should advance energy independence by unlocking domestic oil and gas production, while also empowering proven renewable energy sources like nuclear power.

Maintaining the 45U tax credit for existing nuclear plants is essential to preserving and strengthening this clean, reliable energy source, which already supplies nearly 20% of the nation's electricity and more than half of our carbon-free energy.

This mechanism ensures nuclear facilities can confidently plan significant investments, such as the ~\$1 billion planned at the Salem Nuclear Power Plant in my district in New Jersey, securing their role as a cornerstone of the nation's clean energy future.

Additionally, we need to strike a balance when addressing the SALT deduction cap.

While I agree that we cannot have a system offering tax deductions in the hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, we can adjust the current caps to a more reasonable level.

This adjustment should aim to provide relief to the vast majority of middle-class Americans who are facing high property taxes in certain states.

As a Congress, we routinely subsidize programs and industries to support specific districts and states.

A reasonable increase in the SALT deduction cap would follow this principle, helping millions of Americans free up resources to better provide for themselves and their families.

To balance these investments, it is critical that we cut wasteful funding that provide little or no benefit to Americans.

We need to cut wasteful foreign aid programs.

We need to cut funding for certain international organizations that continue to attempt to undermine U.S. sovereignty, like the UN.

We need to cut subsidies for the green new deal.

Cut the bureaucratic waste in our federal agencies.

And we need to cut federal grants to partisan research projects.

More money spent for the American family, less money spent on researching Russian cat's ability to run on a treadmill.

This moment is bigger than tax policy. It's about reestablishing America's strength and confidence. By extending tax cuts, securing our border, bolstering energy independence, and putting America first in every aspect of this bill, we can usher in a new golden age of American prosperity.

The stakes could not be higher. Every day, families see their paychecks stretched thin by rising costs.

This reconciliation bill represents an opportunity to deliver real relief and to make America the best place to live, work, and build for generations to come.

Thank you, and I yield back.