



Washington, D.C. – Congresswoman Harriet Hageman commemorated America’s 250th anniversary on the House floor last week with a special order to reinspire nationwide patriotism.

Watch the speech [here](#), or read the full transcript below:

I rise today to speak about something spectacular, something worthy of a year-long celebration, and something that will shortly be lighting up the skies from sea to shining sea: the 250th Anniversary of the creation of the greatest country that has ever existed.

On July 4th, we will be celebrating our collective birthday, and I am honored to stand on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, in this beautiful Capitol, in this glorious and dynamic city, to describe what that means to me, the lone Representative of the least populated state in our country.

Our experimental Republic, having been born from the ashes of a Middle Ages monarchy, has survived two-and-a-half centuries and is today stronger than ever, with all of us being a testament to what our forefathers envisioned – being a free people, participating in self-governance, with an understanding of the vision and divine intervention that created this country 250 years ago.

250 years that at times has involved struggle, hardship, discrimination, and war, while also yielding 250 years of freedom, opportunity, respect, compassion, and unprecedented prosperity.

250 years of building a truly inspirational legacy that warrants a generational celebration to confirm that Americans have the right to be proud of our country, to celebrate what it means to be an American.

Now this right to celebrate our 250th milestone does not mean that we should ignore or rewrite our history, but that we should look upon that history with a full and accurate understanding of what it means both in terms of our dark periods and our incredible accomplishments.

I will say it again because it bears repeating: America is the greatest country in the history of the world.

Despite that fact, there are many individuals, including some who serve in this very body and who are running for office, who claim otherwise, and who seek to tear us apart from within so that they can replace this Republic with the same type of failed states that exist elsewhere in the world.

They claim that we have no American culture. They argue that slavery is our original sin, and that we should be forever and only defined by that history. They claim that our forefathers, the founders of this country, are not worth honoring, but should instead be excised from our collective consciousness.

So, while American pride has historically been part of the fabric of our society, there has been an organized move afoot since at least the 1960's to undermine our reverence for this great country. Those actions have taken several forms, such as with claims that America was never great; with the rewriting of our history; or with slanderous accusations about who we are, what we believe in, and the contributions that we have made to the world.

Considering the fact that we are celebrating 2 ½ centuries of America’s existence this year, I think it is high time that we confront those sentiments head on and expose such narratives for what they are – an effort to destroy our Republican form of government to make way for the implementation of the failed philosophies, moral bankruptcies, and human suffering found in socialism and Marxism.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to remind everyone as to what has made us such a great country, why our history is worth defending, and to emphasize that the future of America is bright indeed.

It is time that we celebrate America, and everything that it means to be American.

Just this past summer we learned that the number of American adults who claimed to be “very proud” of their country reached another record low.

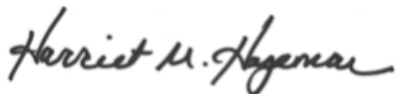
In Gallup’s 25-year patriotism [survey](#), just 17 percent, or less than 1 in 5 American adults reported that they were “very proud” of being an American.

The number of adults who claimed to be “extremely proud” reached a 25-year low, and has now fallen to below 60 percent.

I hope that by focusing on America’s 250th anniversary – and looking back over our history with honesty and accuracy -- we will reverse these declines.

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Sincerely,



**Rep. Harriet Hageman**

**Member of Congress**