

Opinion

One thing Republicans and Democrats can agree on?

In a long post on X, Marjorie Taylor Greene said that while Israel's war against Hamas was justified, the suffering of civilians was not. "The innocent people in Gaza did not kill and kidnap the innocent people in Israel on Oct 7th. Just as we spoke out and had compassion for the victims and families of Oct 7, how can Americans not speak out and have compassion for the masses of innocent people and children in Gaza?"



JOE ZARANTONE LLO

"I don't know about you, but I don't want to pay for genocide in a foreign country against a foreign people for a foreign war that I had nothing to do with," Greene concluded. "And I will not be silent about it." "Let's be clear: President Trump has the power to end the starvation of the Palestinian people," Vermont's politically independent senator Bernie Sanders posted on X. "Instead, he is doing nothing while watching this famine unfold. Enough is enough. No more American taxpayer dollars to Netanyahu's war machine."

The leading news organization in England, The Guardian, reported this past Sunday: "The declaration on Friday of widespread famine in Gaza by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) should mark a turning point in the war. The IPC, which represents a fastidious survey of avail-

able data, is regarded as the international gold standard in nutritional crises."

"Famine, under the IPC's exacting criteria, requires three critical thresholds to be passed: extreme food deprivation, acute malnutrition and starvation-related deaths, all of which are now visible in Gaza. A quarter of all Palestinians in Gaza are starving — more than 500,000 people — with that number expected to rise to more than 640,000 within six weeks."

As David Miliband, the president and chief executive of the International Rescue Committee, said: "The IPC's confirmation that all famine thresholds have been surpassed in Gaza City is a damning indictment of the failure to protect civilians and uphold humanitarian law. The warning signs have been flashing red for months. The IRC and others have called repeatedly for urgent action."

"The IPC's findings must be a wake-up call for the international community," Miliband continued. "Without immediate, unhindered humanitarian access and a ceasefire, more lives will be lost to starvation and disease. This is not a natural disaster, it is a man-made catastrophe, unfolding in full view of the world and

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Dean suspends campaign for Kentucky's 4th Congressional District, addresses supporters in open letter

On Friday, Aug. 29, Monica Dean announced the suspension of her campaign against Rep. Thomas Massie for Kentucky's 4th Congressional District. She released the following letter to supporters: I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. Every donation, every share, every word of encouragement you've given me has meant more than I can ever put into words. This campaign has always been about the possibility of real change in Kentucky's 4th Congressional District. I am humbled by the trust you placed in me, and I will never forget it.



MONICA DEAN

When I entered this race at the beginning of the year, it was because I saw a need for leadership, and as far as I could tell, no one else seemed ready to step up. I knew I could offer my skills and my passion to fight for a better future. And while I believe we do deserve better than Representative Thomas Massie, a man who has been in Congress for over a decade without passing a single piece of legislation, I've come to realize that the political realities within our own party make this fight nearly impossible right now.

Too often, I was told by members of the Democratic establishment that my race

wasn't worth investing in, that it was a "lost cause." This included longtime party donors and organizations across the country. That kind of thinking has kept this seat in Republican hands since 2012 and has left communities across our district without real representation. Without the resources and infrastructure to compete, new and younger candidates like me are boxed out before we ever get a chance to prove ourselves.

I was uplifted and encouraged daily by passionate people across the Commonwealth and it is that spirit that we can continue to multiply in the days and years to come.

But there is another reason I must step aside, one

even more important. One day, I will have to look my son James in the eyes and explain where I stood on the genocide unfolding in Gaza, paid for with U.S. tax dollars. Earlier this week, the Democratic National Committee voted down a proposal for a ceasefire, an arms embargo, and conditions on aid to Israel. That decision confirmed what I already knew: too many in leadership are on the wrong side of history. I cannot, in good conscience, continue to run under a banner that refuses to stand for human rights, peace, and justice.

Make no mistake: this is not me walking away from the fight. It is me choosing to fight smarter, freer, and

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Editorial board members are:

- Scott Moore, publisher
- Peter W. Zubaty, editor
- Carrie Pride, community news coordinator

How the Opinion page works

The Opinion page of The Kentucky Standard is the space reserved apart from the news for both the newspaper and others to express their opinions. These take several forms.

- **Editorial** — Unsigned editorials represent the consensus of The Kentucky Standard's editorial board. Editorials from other newspapers represent those editorial boards.
- **Viewpoints** — Columns in the Viewpoints section are written generally by regular, volunteer contributors and the opinions expressed are their own. The Standard does not discriminate against columns based on political or ideological grounds.
- **Letters** — Readers' views and letters of thanks are written by readers and submitted per our guidelines.
- **Cartoons** — Cartoons are distributed through a syndication service that offers a limited selection from cartoonists and meant normally as a satirical look on current events. They represent the views of the cartoonist.

The Kentucky Standard

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Biometric privacy laws must evolve with the times

GUEST EDITORIAL BY THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD

Who should be held liable when a person's biometric data — their facial features, voice or fingerprints — is misused?

Illinois is home to some of the strongest consumer privacy regulations in the country, including its rules governing the use of biometric data.

Perhaps you were one of the folks who got a check from Facebook after a class-action lawsuit alleging violations of Illinois' 2008 Biometric Information Privacy Act. Facebook's "Tag Suggestions" feature used facial recognition to scan users' uploaded photos, creating "face templates" or biometric identifiers.

Plaintiffs said this happened without the required written consent or publicly available retention/destruction policy. In February 2021, the case was resolved with a court-approved \$650 million class-action settlement — widely described by the judge as a landmark in consumer privacy law.

Facebook isn't the only company dealing with these lawsuits. A Chicago man sued Home Depot this month, alleging the retailer used facial recognition at self-checkouts without consent or required policies — a potential violation of BIPA.

One could argue that our biometric privacy rules are a very important tool in protecting personal privacy. Indeed, we are grateful for barriers to widespread misuse of such personal information. On the other hand, you could also argue that Illinois' biometric data laws are responsible for regulating a marketplace that is changing by the second — and they're not keeping up. There's truth to that, too.

Take this question, for example:

Should digital infrastructure providers like data centers or cloud platforms be held liable when someone's biometric data is misused?

Legal minds are actively debating this question. And many in the industry — including those who lobby on its behalf — are concerned their network could be in the legal crosshairs

unfairly if the rules aren't updated.

Illinois' biometric rules apply to any "private entity" that collects, captures, purchases, receives through trade or otherwise obtains a person's biometric identifiers or information. That means if a company is in possession of, or is making use of, biometric data, it has duties such as proper informed consent before collection and written, publicly available retention and destruction policies.

So far, most high-profile cases have focused on end-user firms such as employers, retailers and social-media platforms. But there's no explicit carve-out in BIPA for data centers or cloud providers. If they merely store encrypted information, they can argue they're not "collecting" or "using" biometrics. But if a provider offers biometric processing services — or fails to safeguard the data in its possession — plaintiffs could test the boundaries of liability.

There's a lot to gripe about when it comes to data centers — their reliance on our natural resources, or

their debatable claims of being long-term job creators. This won't be the last thing we write about the industry. But in this case, we think there's room for improvement — and clarification.

It's important to keep laws up to date with fast-moving technology. It's also important that our state remains competitive as a tech hub.

The state has done this before. Just last year, lawmakers approved, and Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed, changes to BIPA that limited potential damages and broadened the definition of "written release" to cover electronic signatures.

Legislating is a slow process, but when you're regulating something so big and fast-changing, you have to be nimble. If data centers played — or could play — an active role in policing use of biometrics, they would be fair game as potential defendants. But they don't.

The data-center industry has a solid argument here, we believe, that they shouldn't be liable under BIPA for misuse of people's likenesses or identities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GOOD SENSE

The illegal alien deportee did not use due process to get here, so why should he get it when told to get out?

As for USAID, it is the church's job to help the poor, not the government, and the church would do more if the members would give the 10% that God asks for!

As for taxes, even JFK lowered taxes and the economy improves when taxes are lowered.

The recent two cartoons in The Standard are very wrong in trying to equate the Jan. 6 occurrence lasted only minutes long with no property damaged, whereas the L.A. riots have gone for days

with much property destroyed besides looting!

The powers-that-be knew there would be a protest coming and did nothing about in order to have a mob scene to hang over Republicans' head for years to come — it worked!

JOSEPH ARMSTRONG
Bardstown

GO CENTER THANKFUL FOR SUPPORT

The Guthrie Opportunity Center Foundation would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Bardstown community for the tremendous support shown at our recent Farm to Table event. It was one of the hottest

evenings of the summer, yet our friends and neighbors still gathered in our garden to share a meal and stand with us in support of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. That kind of commitment reflects the spirit of inclusion we strive for every day.

This event came together because of so many people. Our staff and board members worked tirelessly (thank you Juli and Rose Ann for co-chairing!), the individuals we support pitched in with energy and pride, and dozens of volunteers gave their time to help make the evening run smoothly. We are especially grateful to Chef Newman

Miller for creating such a memorable meal, and to his wife Rachel for taking on countless details to bring everything together.

Most of all, we are grateful to those who attended. In choosing to come out, despite the heat, you reminded us that Bardstown believes in creating opportunities where everyone can belong and contribute.

Your support keeps this mission alive. If you have feedback about the event or ideas for future gatherings, please reach me at lee.look@gocenter.org.

LEE LOOK

CEO, Guthrie Opportunity Center Foundation