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U.S.-Iran ceasefire on tenuous ground

Rescuers search through wreckage in Beirut on April 8 after Israeli strikes killed and injured hundreds.
MOHAMED AZAKIR/REUTERS

Israel continues attacks on Lebanon

Swapna Venugopal Ramaswamy, Christopher Cann, Melina Khan and Michael Loria
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump's ceasefire with Iran was on tenuous ground on April 9 after Israel launched its deadliest day of strikes on Lebanon yet and Tehran vowed not to desert its allies.

A day after announcing the Iran war ceasefire, Trump took to social media to warn the country that if the "REAL AGREEMENT" was not complied with, all U.S. military assets would remain in place ready for a military response.

He warned Iran to keep the Strait of Hormuz open and safe but did not address the strikes in Lebanon in the post.

"If for any reason it is not, which is highly unlikely, then the "Shootin' Starts," bigger, and better, and stronger than anyone has ever seen before," he wrote.

Meanwhile, strikes on Lebanon, which borders Israel came on April 8, a day after United States and Iranian leaders announced a break in hostilities to hold peace talks and for oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz to resume, a key breakthrough in the agreement. But in the wake of Trump's announcement, parties involved were soon at odds over whether the break in fighting included Lebanon.

"The Iran-U.S. Ceasefire terms are clear and explicit: the U.S. must choose – ceasefire or continued war via Israel. It cannot have both," Iran's Foreign Minis-

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People in New York City march April 8 during a demonstration against the war with Iran. ADAM GRAY/REUTERS

Global market affects oil prices

'There's no going back to what we had'

Daniel de Visé
USA TODAY

In a speech to the nation on April 1, President Donald Trump spoke of the Iran war, and the contest for control of the Strait of Hormuz, as if these outcomes had little bearing on the market for oil and gasoline in the United States.

"The United States imports almost no oil through the Hormuz Strait and won't be taking any in the future," Trump said. "We don't need it. We haven't needed it and we don't need it."

It's true that the United States is less reliant on foreign oil now than at times in the past. And of the oil we do import, only 8% comes from the Middle East.

Why, then, have gasoline prices gone through the roof at America's

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Hawkins wants Kelly to veto 'fluff' in budget

Jason Alatidd
Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

After adopting a budget process led by the Legislature instead of the governor, a top Republican lawmaker is now inviting the Democratic governor to cut spending from the Legislature's budget.

House Speaker Dan Hawkins, R-Wichita, encouraged Gov. Laura Kelly to use her line-item veto power to help meet his target for reduced spending.

"Give us a hand governor, take some of that fluff out of there," Hawkins said at an April 8 legislative forum hosted by the Topeka chamber and Greater Topeka Partnership.

The invitation comes as lawmakers — who last year started crafting their

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