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No. 162

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 10, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

### PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, going back to the days of Teddy Roosevelt, it has been a bipartisan principle that protecting the public health in America's environment is the sacred obligation of all of us who have the honor to serve this Nation in elective or appointed office. Unfortunately, the Administrator of the EPA, Mr. Scott Pruitt, didn't get that memo.

Yesterday, Mr. Pruitt announced that he is precipitously going to strike down the Clean Power Plan rule sometime later today, which will turn the clock back in this country in terms of trying to get our arms around the issue of rising carbon emissions that scientists from across all sectors have universally recognized are causing rising sea temperature, rising sea levels, affecting climate, and clearly are linked to manmade carbon emissions that have been tracked for decades going back in time.

Mr. Pruitt's argument is based on the discredited view that carbon pollution does not fall under the Clean Air Act, which is what the last administration was proceeding on when they actually designed the Clean Power Plan rule.

The facts are these:

In 1963, this Congress passed the Clean Air Act. It was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson and has been amended a number of times on a bipartisan basis to strengthen and enhance the protections that were built into that law when it was, again, enacted many years ago. In fact, in 1990, George Herbert Walker Bush signed the last update and upgrade to the Clean Air Act, which is exactly what the prior administration was proceeding under when they designed the rule.

The Supreme Court has weighed in on this question about whether or not greenhouse gases are covered under the Clean Air Act. In 2007, in *Massachusetts v. EPA*, a Republican-majority Court ruled in favor of the fact that greenhouse gases are in fact covered under the statutory umbrella of the Clean Air Act. This is what the Court said:

Because greenhouse gases fit well within the Clean Air Act's capacious definition of "air pollutant," we hold that EPA has the statutory authority to regulate the emission of such gases.

In 2014, the Court reenforced that ruling in a decision written by Antonin

Scalia, the godfather of conservative lawyers all across this country, which reiterated the fact that greenhouse gases emitted from power plants are, in fact, subject to the scope and authority of the Clean Air Act.

Unfortunately, today, the EPA Administrator is completely striking down that important advance in terms of protecting the public health of this country and putting nothing in place. There is no alternative that Mr. Pruitt is putting out there in terms of trying to get this country to move forward on clean power.

It is unfortunate because, as the International Energy Agency announced this morning, for the first time ever, solar energy production now surpasses any other form of power production in the world. The same thing is happening here in the U.S. because of the renewable energy tax credits.

In my State of Connecticut, renewable energy solar panel jobs far exceed any other power production job in the State. We are seeing an incredible proliferation of people installing panels on their homes and businesses.

The U.S. Navy in Groton, Connecticut, now has solar panels on all Navy housing as well as a solar field to power the Nation's oldest submarine base, which is there.

The decision by Mr. Pruitt is not a pro-growth, pro-economic decision. It is simply responding, unfortunately, to political forces that drove this administration to power from the fossil fuel industry.

The only saving grace of Mr. Pruitt's order is that he allows a large and long public comment period for the people of this country who do care about clean air and who do care about our environment to weigh in on this reckless decision that turns the clock back for public health and safety and for our economy. That is where the growth is going to be, in renewables, and not power production of the past.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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It is not a war on coal. Coal production is not singled out in the Clean Power Plan regulations. But what it does say is that any plant, whether it is coal, natural gas, or solar panels, you have got to address the question of carbon emissions. You don't get to produce that power and then leave a mess behind you. That is a very simple principle that I think every American can understand.

Unfortunately, it is about to be torpedoed by the EPA Administrator, who, by the way, was in the courtroom trying to argue against this in the courts back in 2014 and came out on the losing decision. I guess he got his revenge not just on the Court but, unfortunately, all of us who have to live with this terrible rule.

Mr. Speaker, again, let's reverse that decision. Let's move toward the future with a type of power that will protect the environment and grow jobs.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF TROOPER TIMOTHY O'NEILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a fallen hero. Tragically, Michigan State Trooper Timothy O'Neill made the ultimate sacrifice in an on-duty motorcycle accident.

I rise to offer my support and love to Trooper O'Neill's friends, family, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. As the proud parent of a police officer, I can only imagine the pain you must feel. Words are inadequate at such a time of sorrow, but please know you are in my prayers.

Trooper O'Neill was known by his friends, fiancée, and family for his sense of humor, compassion for animals, and deep love for his family. He is also remembered for his commitment to bettering our community and our safety.

I ask my colleagues and all those watching to join me in a prayer for Trooper O'Neill; his fiancée, Carli Hicks; parents, Kristine and Michael O'Neill; siblings, Sara O'Neill and Brian O'Neill; and his entire family.

May God bless them all.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THELONIOUS MONK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the most innovative jazz musicians of all time, the legendary Thelonious Monk.

This legend, Mr. Speaker, was born in my congressional district in the State of North Carolina, and would have turned 100 years old today.

Thelonious Sphere Monk was the second of three children born to Thelonious, Sr., and Barbara Monk on October 10, 1917, in Rocky Mount,

North Carolina. Though Monk and his family left Rocky Mount for New York City when Thelonious was a child, scholars and fellow musicians say Monk's North Carolina roots had an important influence on the man and his music.

Writer Sam Stephenson credited Thelonious Monk's Carolina roots in the "Oxford American," writing that Rocky Mount's flourishing tobacco culture and rail yard was one of the largest in all of the South the year Monk was born. Stephenson speculated those railways may have inspired Monk's composition "Little Rootie Tootie," which features train whistle sounds.

Mr. Speaker, incidentally, the city of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is divided between two counties, Nash County and Edgecombe County. The railroad in that community is the dividing line.

Every day, the CSX and Amtrak trains come through that community. They have been doing that for a very long time. Those train tracks were first established in 1855, even before the Civil War. It was established as the Wilmington to Weldon Railroad. It was the longest railroad in the entire world, consisting of more than 160 miles of track. It came through Mr. Monk's hometown.

Thelonious Monk began studying classical piano at the age of 11 and showed an early aptitude for the instrument. By the time he was 13 years old, he had won the weekly amateur competition at the Apollo Theater so many times that management banned him from reentering the contest there in Harlem.

In 1941, Monk began working at Minton's Playhouse in Harlem, where he joined the house band and helped develop the school of jazz known as bebop.

Alongside fellow jazz greats Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Eubie Blake, and Ruble Blakey, Monk honed his fast and often improvised style that would later become synonymous with modern jazz.

Thelonious Monk's first known recording was made in 1944, when he worked as a member of the Coleman Hawkins Quartet. Monk did not record under his own name, however, until 1947, when he played as the leader of a sextet session for Blue Note.

In 1947, he married Nellie Smith, his longtime sweetheart. Two children were born to the marriage, whom they named after Monk's parents, Thelonious and Barbara.

In 1952, Monk signed a contract with Prestige Records, which produced pieces like "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" and "Bags' Groove," which he recorded with Miles Davis in 1954. In 1956, Mr. Speaker, Monk released his third album, "Brilliant Corners," which is considered by many to be his first true masterpiece.

In 1957, the Thelonious Monk Quartet, which included John Coltrane, began performing regularly, with tours across the United States and Europe.

By 1964, Monk was popular with the mainstream audience and became one of the four jazz musicians ever to grace the cover of Time magazine.

The years that followed included several overseas tours, but by the early 1970s, Monk was ready to give it up. He was ready to retire from the limelight. After battling illnesses for several years, Monk passed away from a stroke in 1982.

Finally, Thelonious Monk, Mr. Speaker, has since been inducted into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame and the Grammy Hall of Fame, added to the Library of Congress' National Recording Registry, awarded a Pulitzer Prize, and featured on a United States postage stamp.

Thelonious Monk left a legacy as one of the originators of modern jazz music. That is why the city of Rocky Mount is so proud of their native son. They celebrated this past weekend in various places throughout the city honoring and celebrating the life of this great musician.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to an outstanding artist, Thelonious Monk, as his family; the residents of Rocky Mount, North Carolina; and the country prepare to celebrate his 100th birthday.

#### BEAU BIDEN FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the formation of a partnership between the Beau Biden Foundation and Doylestown Health, which will clear the way for efforts to prevent, recognize, and react appropriately to child sexual abuse in our community.

This critical program will be funded through the generous support of the Cowhey Family ShopRite in Warminster and will train local medical staff in the Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children course utilizing online education tools.

There is no doubt that because of the compassionate efforts of these organizations, the Beau Biden Foundation, Doylestown Health, and the Cowhey Family ShopRite in Warminster, Bucks County, children will be safer and our community stronger.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of this vital new partnership and all efforts to protect our society's most vulnerable.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER WARD, SR.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong Levittown resident, Christopher Ward, Sr., who passed away suddenly last month.

Born in Bristol, Pennsylvania, Chris became an accomplished businessman and a true pillar of our community. With all his success, he strongly supported local small businesses and always rooted for the underdog.

People in Levittown will remember Chris as the co-owner of Bailey's Bar &

Grille and Bailey's Plaza. But to his friends, employees, family, and all those who had the pleasure of truly knowing him, Chris was a humble, kind, selfless man with a loving, caring heart. He loved to make everyone laugh with his unique sense of humor, but what made him the happiest was being "Chocolate Pop-Pop" and spending time with his family.

Mr. Speaker, Chris strove to be the very best father, son, grandfather, uncle, and brother. He will be sorely missed by our entire community.

□ 1215

#### DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as Dysautonomia Awareness Month. "Dysautonomia" is a general term used to address any disease that aggravates the autonomic nervous system, adversely affecting the body's involuntary functions. There are many types of dysautonomia, which can lead to other devastating illnesses, including Parkinson's disease and lupus.

Dysautonomia afflicts nearly 70 million people of all ages worldwide, including constituents in my district like Liz Kennerley. While there is no cure, there are many treatments to improve quality of life, including medications and lifestyle changes.

This month, we work to spread awareness of dysautonomia through education, community events, and lobbying, and we inspire family, friends, and neighbors to get involved and to take action.

It is necessary that communities hold events for spreading the word about dysautonomia and for funding research to find a cure. It is on us to educate the public about this illness and to race towards a cure.

#### UNFAIRLY WITHHOLDING TEACHERS' SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS EARNED THROUGH SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent thousands of teachers across west Texas who have dedicated their careers to educating and preparing our children for the future.

As a former member of the Midland Independent School Board, I understand the impact these selfless individuals have on our communities. Unfortunately, we honor their service to our communities by unfairly withholding Social Security benefits that they have earned through secondary employment.

While this policy, known as the windfall elimination provision, was well-intended, it has proven to be ill-conceived. Many educators have been harmed by the unintended consequences that have created uncertainty and put a damper on the otherwise joyous occasion of retirement.

It is imperative that we solve this issue and give our Texas teachers the

ability to collect the Social Security benefits that they deserve. I remain committed to working with my colleagues in the House to find a fair and equitable resolution to this issue to ensure that our educators have access to the Social Security benefits and pensions they most certainly have earned.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOHMERT) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

While Members come to the end of a long weekend of constituent visits, bless them and those with whom they consult among those they represent with wisdom, patience, and generosity as they seek law and policy that benefits not only local interests but, where possible, the greater common good of our country.

We again ask You to impel those who possess power here in the Capitol to be mindful of those Americans who possess little or no power, most especially in these days those recovering in Puerto Rico.

Finally, we are mindful of yet another natural disaster unfolding in California, with massive wildfires. We ask You to protect those who combat these fires and comfort those who have or will lose their homes and possessions.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BLUMENAUER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 5, 2017.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Upon further discussion with my family, I have made the decision to resign my position as Member of the House of Representatives for Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District, effective October 21, 2017.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the people of southwestern Pennsylvania and to have worked with the talented and dedicated men and women of the United States Congress.

Sincerely,

TIM MURPHY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 5, 2017.

DEAR GOVERNOR WOLF: This letter serves to inform you I am resigning my position as Member of the House of Representatives for Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District effective October 21, 2017.

Sincerely,

TIM MURPHY.

#### BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many women who have lost their lives to breast cancer and those who have survived.

As you know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In order to prevent additional loss of life, it is essential that women educate themselves on prevention and receive regular screenings.

In 2008, I cosponsored legislation supporting the observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, in part, to help get the message out that this disease can and does kill men and women of all ages.

According to the American Cancer Society, since 2007, death rates in older women with breast cancer are decreasing, yet death rates in women under the age of 50 are steady.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all women watching to get screened regularly for this devastating disease.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is a scourge. Its physical and psychological effects have lifelong consequences for survivors, their families, and their children.

I appreciate South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster and Attorney General Alan Wilson, both of whom who are working hard to stop domestic violence in our State, encouraged by Laura Hudson of the Crime Victims' Council. The Governor issued a statewide proclamation that designates October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Attorney General Wilson's 20th annual Silent Witness ceremony, which he held last week, honored the past year's victims of domestic violence at the statehouse. Specifically, the South Carolina Office of the Attorney General works to combat domestic violence through the STOP Violence Against Women program, dedicated to providing representation to victims of domestic violence and raising awareness of the issue; also, with the Pro Bono program, dedicated to providing pro bono legal representation in prosecution of domestic violence cases.

Eliminating domestic violence should be something we fight for during the month of October and every day of the year.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### TAX REFORM

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

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the last time Congress passed fundamental tax reform, I was 7 years old. It is long past time that our broken Tax Code is fixed and our country gets back on a path to robust and sustained economic growth.

As we consider tax reform legislation, we should look to my home State of Indiana for inspiration. During my time as a State senator, Indiana lowered business taxes by nearly 50 percent, and rates are scheduled to fall even further in the coming years.

By 2022, the Hoosier State will have the third lowest corporate tax rate in the Nation. At the same time, Indiana has removed many special interest loopholes and carve-outs to make the system simple and fair for all Hoosier taxpayers.

According to the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, Indiana has the eighth best business tax climate in the country, a number that will only get better as tax rates continue to go down.

The results speak for themselves: Indiana has an unemployment rate below 4 percent, strong economic growth, a AAA credit rating, and a \$1.8 billion surplus in the bank.

Lower taxes combined with simplicity and fairness—this is the model that we need to embrace if our country is going to return to sustained 3 percent and greater growth.

#### NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tremendous impact forests have on our rural economies and natural environment nationwide. Next week is National Forest Products Week.

In Arkansas, we know that growing and sustaining jobs in forest communities begins with ensuring that working forests continue to thrive. Most working forests—over 70 percent—are privately owned by families, small and large businesses, and an increasingly broad array of Americans who invest in forest ownership.

When forest owners have confidence in their ability to manage and sell their timber productively, they will continue to grow and invest in forests and provide the foundation for the rest of the forest products supply chain. Federal policies have a significant impact on the long-term economic and environmental benefits we derive from these working forests and the livelihoods of those who own and manage them.

The forest products industry represents a key economic driver for rural economies nationwide, totaling nearly \$92.8 billion in GDP. In my home State of Arkansas, environmentally friendly forestry-related businesses support more than 62,000 jobs, with more than \$2.4 billion in annual payroll.

A strong marketplace for forest products helps keep rural America employed and U.S. forests robust. These healthy forests, in turn, provide crucial habitat for species, filter America's drinking water, sequester carbon, and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for the public.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 10, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 10, 2017, at 9:48 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 692.  
That the Senate passed S. 1103.  
That the Senate passed S. 1595.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COMER) at 5 p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTROM POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1858) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1858

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTROM POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1858 introduced by Congressman MARINO from Pennsylvania. The bill names the Liberty, Pennsylvania, Post Office at 4514 Williamson Trail the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office in honor of Staff Sergeant Ostrom, who, in 2005, was killed in the line of duty in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MARINO), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation to rename the Liberty, Pennsylvania, post office after Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom.

Ryan was born on September 23, 1979, in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, where he attended Liberty High School. While in high school, Ryan excelled in soccer, basketball, and baseball—serving as the captain for the soccer and basketball teams.

After graduating from high school, he attended Mansfield University and pursued a degree in education science. Ryan planned to become a teacher and a coach to help young people become successful students, athletes, and leaders within the community.

However, just months before Ryan was set to graduate from college, his National Guard unit was deployed to Iraq. While serving his country in Iraq, Ryan made the ultimate sacrifice, as he was killed in action on August 9, 2005.

Ryan enlisted in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1997, serving with Company B, First Battalion 109th in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Ryan was an accomplished soldier with a bevy of previous accomplishments and commendations.

During his time enlisted, Ryan earned a Purple Heart, Combat Information Badge, Gold Star, Armed Service Ribbon, and numerous other awards that gave Ryan the recognition he deserved for his heroic years of service.

Beyond these awards, Ryan also took advantage of what the military had to offer, graduating from the U.S. Army Europe Primary Leadership Development Course, which furthered his ability to lead both on deployment and in the communities about which he cared so deeply.

While Ryan will always be remembered for his valor and his years of military service, he will also be remembered for what he brought to the communities of which he was a part.

In his free time, Ryan could be found playing Monday night basketball with his friends at home and was an active member of the Eagle Base basketball team during his deployment.

Staff Sergeant Ryan Ostrom prioritized the world around him—his country, his community, his family—all over himself. His years of service and his record speak for themselves, but beyond that, Ryan made a positive impact as a friend and a role model wherever he was.

He was a soldier and leader on his deployments and an active member of the community back home in Wellsboro. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members support this legislation to honor Ryan by renaming the Liberty Post Office as the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1858, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office.

Born in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, in 1979, Mr. Ostrom graduated from high school and then joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard while beginning his studies at Mansfield University. A sports lover, Ryan could frequently be found playing and coaching basketball in his free time.

In 2002, Ryan joined his father, Scott Ostrom, on a peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, and he later deployed to Iraq with the 109th Infantry Regiment.

Staff Sergeant Ryan Ostrom tragically made the ultimate sacrifice in August of 2005, when he sustained fatal wounds from enemy small-arms fire in Iraq. He was, as mentioned, awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and Combat Infantryman Badge from the Department of the Army, as well as the Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize the bravery and selflessness of the honorable service of Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 1858, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of Staff Sergeant Ostrom's sacrifice to our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1858.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### SPECIALIST JEFFREY L. WHITE, JR. POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 452) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 452

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SPECIALIST JEFFREY L. WHITE, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324

West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 452 introduced by Congressman LUETKEMEYER from Missouri. The bill names the Pacific, Missouri, Post Office at 324 West Saint Louis Street the Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office in honor of U.S. Army Specialist White, who, in 2012, was killed in action in an IED attack in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 452, legislation to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office.

U.S. Army Specialist White grew up in Catawissa, Missouri, with his parents, Jeff and Paula White, and his brothers, Michael and Kyle. He graduated from Pacific High School in 2008, and enlisted in the Army in October of 2009.

Specialist White served our country honorably as a member of the First Battalion, 501st Airborne, Fourth Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, unit.

Specialist White deployed for Afghanistan in December 2011, and after serving our country bravely, he gave his life for our country when an IED detonated near his unit on April 3, 2012, roughly one week before he was scheduled to return to the United States.

Specialist White was a highly decorated servicemember. His awards and medals include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army

Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the NATO Medal, among many others.

As an avid sports fan, White shared my love of the St. Louis Cardinals. He witnessed their 2011 World Series Championship win shortly before his deployment and was planning to attend opening day in 2012. Specialist White was honored by the Cardinals, who invited his family to raise the 2011 World Championship flag on opening day in his memory.

Specialist White was an upstanding citizen and beloved by his family, friends, and community. Hundreds of individuals lined the streets in the pouring rain to honor his final journey home and memorial service.

We can never fully express our thanks to our military and their families. Their service and sacrifice for this country goes beyond a level of bravery most people have never seen. While the naming of this post office is not nearly enough to honor Jeffery White, nor will it heal the pain felt each day and every day by the family he left behind, it is my sincere hope each time the Whites and folks in the Pacific community pass by this building they are reminded of how grateful and how proud we are to call Specialist White one of our own.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Missouri delegation and Pacific community for their support of this designation, and I ask every Member of the House to join us in honoring our hometown hero, Jeffery L. White, Jr.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 452, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office.

A native of Missouri, Jeffrey White, Jr. graduated from Pacific High School in 2008, and joined the United States Army. After graduating from basic and advanced training at Fort Benning, Georgia, Specialist White was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

He deployed to Afghanistan in 2011, and tragically lost his life in April of 2012, after insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Specialist White was just 21 years old.

Specialist White is remembered for his love of the St. Louis Cardinals, as well as his distinguished service, for which he received many awards, including a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

□ 1715

As an avid Dodgers fan, I think Specialist White would get a kick out of the fact that I am here and that the St. Louis Cardinals are still beating the Dodgers.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to commemorate the life of Specialist Jeffrey White, Jr., who selflessly sac-

rificed his life in defense of his country.

I urge the passage of H.R. 452, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of Specialist White's sacrifice to our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 452.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### JANET CAPELLO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2254) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2254

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. JANET CAPELLO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, shall be known and designated as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Janet Capello Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2254, introduced by Congressman MIKE THOMPSON from California.

The bill designates the post office located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the Janet Capello Post Office Building.

Janet Capello was a prominent citizen in her Vallejo, California, community. Born in 1935, she served on the city's Planning Commission, the Civil Service Commission, and the Charter Review Committee, among others. She loved her community, and she gave back in whatever way she could before passing away in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 2254, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the Janet Capello Post Office Building.

H.R. 2254 was introduced this year by my colleague and friend from California, Mr. THOMPSON. Unfortunately, Mr. THOMPSON is unable to be here today, as he has remained in his district in California this evening to assist in wildfire relief and recovery efforts. I am, along with the entire House of Representatives, praying for Mr. THOMPSON and our fellow Americans in this time of need.

A lifelong resident of Vallejo, California, and granddaughter of Italian immigrants, Janet Capello took great pride in her heritage. Her deepest passion was the Sons of Italy, an organization where she served as a dedicated member of Lodge Number 1626 for over 63 years.

She held two of the organization's most prestigious posts—vice president of the Grand Lodge of California, and Secretary of the United Lodges—and led efforts to bring the group's scholarship program to Vallejo. In doing so, she helped hundreds of young men and women attend college.

Ms. Capello oversaw a number of charity efforts, and helped raise thousands of dollars each year for Alzheimer's research in conjunction with the University of California-Davis. Ms. Capello's dedication to these causes earned her the Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award, the highest honor granted by the Sons of Italy.

In addition to these accomplishments, Janet Capello was an active participant in local Vallejo politics, serving on the city's Planning Commission, the Civil Service Commission, and the Charter Review Committee, and others, and was an active member of the St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church until her passing in 2012, at the age of 77.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to commemorate the life of Janet Capello, and recognize the lasting contributions she has made to the Vallejo community.

I urge the passage of H.R. 2254, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.



The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2254.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2464) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2464

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2464, introduced by Congressman STEPHEN LYNCH from Massachusetts. The bill designates the post office located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office.

John F. Kennedy was the 35th President of the United States. During his tenure, he is possibly most famous for his handling of the Cuban missile crisis, preventing a thermonuclear conflict with the former Soviet Union.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of President Kennedy's birth, and we thank him for his service to our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2464, legislation that I introduced back in May of this year to officially designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office.

This bill reflects the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of President John F. Kennedy this year, otherwise known as the JFK Centennial.

I would like to thank our former chairman, Jason Chaffetz of Utah; our current chairman, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GOWDY); the ranking member, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS); the chairman of our Subcommittee on Government Operations, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS); our ranking member, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY); and all of the Subcommittee on Government Operations for their efforts to move this legislation forward.

I would also like to thank the entire Massachusetts House delegation for their effort in sponsoring this measure.

H.R. 2464 honors the life and enduring legacy of our Nation's 35th President, John F. Kennedy, and his impassioned commitment to public service, equality, peace and diplomacy, and ensuring a better quality of life for every American. Our special remembrance of President Kennedy this year also affords us a distinct opportunity to reflect on and appreciate his vision and wisdom in the context of the many challenges we are facing as a nation today both at home and abroad.

As we grapple with difficult issues ranging from healthcare to economic reform, let us recall President Kennedy's understanding that: "For one true measure of a nation is its success in fulfilling the promise of a better life for each of its members."

And in contemplating issues pertaining to equality and civil rights, we would be wise to remember President Kennedy's advancement of the principle that the rights of every person are diminished when the rights of one person are threatened.

As we continue to address matters of contention with adversarial nations, we must bear in mind President Kennedy's admonition and foresight that "civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof."

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to also thank my colleague and friend, Congressman JOSEPH KENNEDY from the Fourth District of Massachusetts, for his work on this legislation as well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2464.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make the gentleman from California aware that I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of President Kennedy's sacrifice for our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2464.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### ENDY NDDIOBONG EKPANYA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 294) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 294

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. ENDY NDDIOBONG EKPANYA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

□ 1730

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 294, introduced by Congressman PETE OLSON of Texas. The bill names the Pearland, Texas, Post Office, located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard, as the Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building in honor of the Pearland police officer who fell in the line of duty in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON), the sponsor of the bill, so that he can explain the bill.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to thank my friend from Montana for bringing this bill forward this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great day back home in Pearland, Texas, because right now this House is about to honor a fallen hero from Pearland, Endy Ekpanya.

Endy was born in Nigeria in 1985, the same year I graduated from college. When he was 11, his family left Nigeria to come to America to provide a better life for them. They moved to Long Island in 1996. He obtained a degree in psychology and sociology from Hofstra University in New York and later earned his MBA and master's degree in criminal justice from the University of Maryland.

The call to serve his country and his community never left Endy, which is why, after moving to Pearland, Texas, he enrolled in the Alvin Community College Police Academy. He graduated with the 105th class in December of 2015, and he was sworn in as a Pearland police officer 6 months later.

In less than 6 months after December of 2015, his time with us was cut short just 2 days before his 31st birthday. At approximately 4 a.m. on the morning of June 12, 2016, Endy was hit head-on by a drunk driver while responding to an emergency call. He was the first officer to die in Pearland while on duty in over 40 years.

Endy's life embodies the selfless dedication of our law enforcement officials back in Pearland. His sacrifice will never ever be forgotten. That is why I am proud that today this House will pass a bill to name the post office at 2700 Cullen Boulevard after Endy. It will be a source of great pride for our local community and will ensure that his sacrifice is remembered for generations to come.

This small gesture can't make up for the loss of Endy's life. The grief his wife, his young son, and his parents have will never go away. The Pearland community has suffered, but this small gesture is a testament to Endy's commitment to protect and serve. It will be an inspiration for future generations to strive to improve their community just like Endy did in his short time with us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this bill.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 294, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office.

Endy Ekpanya reflected the best of America. Born in Nigeria in 1985, Endy immigrated to the United States in 1996. Here, he obtained U.S. citizenship, a college education, and two master's degrees.

Endy's deep love of family and community inspired him to join the police force so he could help those in need. He hoped that his hard work in the classroom and the field would help him be a role model for his young son, Julian.

As a rookie member of the Pearland Police Department, Officer Ekpanya took his duty to protect his community seriously but always found a way to brighten his fellow officers' days. Tragically, on June 1, 2016, Officer Ekpanya was killed when a drunk driver struck his police cruiser as he was responding to a call.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor Officer Endy Ekpanya's dedication to his education, family, and community, and to remember the sacrifices he made while working to protect those he loved.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 294, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of Officer Ekpanya's sacrifice to our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 294.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### JAVIER VEGA, JR. MEMORIAL ACT OF 2017

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1617) to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the "Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1617

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) A native of La Feria, Texas, Border Patrol Agent Javier Vega, Jr., served his country first a member of the United States Marines Corps and then proudly as a border pa-

trol agent in the canine division with his dog, Goldie.

(2) Agent Vega was assigned to the Kingsville, Texas, Border Patrol Station as a canine handler and worked primarily at the Sarita Border Patrol Checkpoint.

(3) On August 3, 2014, Agent Vega was on a fishing trip with his family near Raymondville, Texas, when 2 criminal aliens attempted to rob and attack them.

(4) Agent Vega was shot and killed while attempting to subdue the assailants and protecting his family.

(5) Agent Vega is survived by his wife, parents, 3 sons, brother, sister-in-law, niece, and dog, Goldie.

#### SEC. 3. DESIGNATION.

The checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint".

#### SEC. 4. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the checkpoint described in section 3 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1617.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017 would designate the Border Patrol checkpoint on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint.

After serving his country honorably as a United States Marine, Agent Vega joined the United States Border Patrol in 2008. During his time in the United States Border Patrol, he served as a canine handler and was involved in 42 seizures of narcotics and 38 separate cases involving the apprehension of 238 illegal immigrants. He was a man of honor and duty, a man who loved his family, and a man who would give his life in service to his country.

On August 3, 2014, in Raymondville, Texas, Agent Vega took his wife, three children, and parents out for a day of fishing. While fishing with his family, two illegal immigrants attempted to rob them.

These illegal immigrants had been deported multiple times for various crimes. Law enforcement believed they had conducted a string of similar robberies at the behest of a Mexican cartel.

Agent Vega sprung into action to defend his family. While drawing his firearm, Agent Vega was shot in the chest.



His father was also shot and wounded. Though his family did everything possible to help, Agent Vega, tragically, passed away.

On September 20, 2016, Border Patrol determined that Agent Vega's actions were instinctive as a result of his law enforcement training. He did what law enforcement in America does: he put himself in harm's way. As a result, his death was determined to have been in the line of duty.

This bill honors the service of Agent Vega. He made the ultimate sacrifice for his family and his country. Today, the House will name the Border Patrol checkpoint after him where he and his service dog, Goldie, served.

Every day, the men and women of the United States Border Patrol put on their uniforms and put their lives on the line to protect America's borders. Tragically, as we see in the case of Agent Vega, even when spending time with family, they may be called to serve.

On Sunday, President Trump unveiled immigration enforcement policies that will ensure other families will not have to face the devastating loss of a loved one at the hands of an illegal immigrant. I hope Congress can work together to make those proposals a reality. I believe it is more than fitting to name this checkpoint after Agent Javier Vega, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of my good friend from Pennsylvania, and I, too, rise in support of S. 1617, a bill to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint.

Javier Vega, Jr., was killed in the line of duty on August 3, 2014, while trying to stop a criminal act and trying to protect his family in Raymondville, Texas. While fishing with his wife, with his children, and with his parents, two men approached him and tried to rob his family.

Agent Vega attempted to stop the robbery by drawing his gun, and we know that Border Patrol agents may carry their guns when they are off duty because they are law enforcement officials. He was shot in the chest. Agent Vega was rushed to the hospital after he was shot but died soon thereafter.

It was determined that Agent Vega was aware of a pattern of robberies in the area due to his role as a Border Patrol agent and that he identified himself as an agent before he was fatally shot. The U.S. Border Patrol considered those facts and later determined that Javier Vega, Jr., was murdered in the line of duty, ensuring that Agent Vega's name was enshrined at the Customs and Border Protection Valor Memorial.

Agent Vega was a U.S. Marine veteran and had served with the United

States Border Patrol for 6 years before his untimely death. He served his country with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation honoring the life and death of Javier Vega, Jr., by naming this checkpoint after him. I urge my colleagues to pass S. 1617, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1617.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

## REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 585, DR. CHRIS KIRKPATRICK WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 16, 2017, THROUGH OCTOBER 20, 2017; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

MR. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-345) on the resolution (H. Res. 562) providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, through October 20, 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1858, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 2464, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

## STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTROM POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1858) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]

YEAS—397

Abraham	Castor (FL)	Dunn
Adams	Castro (TX)	Ellison
Aderholt	Chabot	Emmer
Aguilar	Cheney	Engel
Allen	Chu, Judy	Eshoo
Amash	Cicilline	Estes (KS)
Amodei	Clark (MA)	Esty (CT)
Arrington	Clarke (NY)	Evans
Babin	Clay	Farenthold
Bacon	Clyburn	Faso
Banks (IN)	Coffman	Ferguson
Barletta	Cohen	Fitzpatrick
Barr	Cole	Fleischmann
Barragán	Collins (GA)	Flores
Barton	Collins (NY)	Fortenberry
Bass	Comer	Foster
Bera	Comstock	Fox
Bergman	Conaway	Frankel (FL)
Beyer	Connolly	Franks (AZ)
Biggs	Conyers	Frelinghuysen
Billirakis	Cook	Fudge
Bishop (GA)	Cooper	Gabbard
Bishop (MI)	Correa	Gaetz
Bishop (UT)	Costa	Gallagher
Black	Costello (PA)	Gallego
Blackburn	Courtney	Garamendi
Blum	Cramer	Garrett
Blumenauer	Crawford	Gianforte
Blunt Rochester	Crist	Gibbs
Bonamici	Crowley	Gohmert
Bost	Cuellar	Gomez
Boyle, Brendan	Culberson	Gonzalez (TX)
F.	Cummings	Goodlatte
Brady (PA)	Curbelo (FL)	Gosar
Brady (TX)	Davidson	Gottheimer
Brat	Davis, Danny	Gowdy
Brooks (AL)	Davis, Rodney	Granger
Brooks (IN)	DeFazio	Graves (GA)
Brown (MD)	DeGette	Graves (LA)
Brownley (CA)	Delaney	Graves (MO)
Buchanan	DeLauro	Green, Al
Buck	DelBene	Green, Gene
Bucshon	Demings	Griffith
Budd	Dent	Grothman
Burgess	DeSantis	Guthrie
Bustos	DeSaulnier	Handel
Butterfield	Deutch	Harper
Byrne	Diaz-Balart	Harris
Calvert	Dingell	Hartzler
Capuano	Doggett	Heck
Carbajal	Donovan	Hensarling
Cárdenas	Doyle, Michael	Herrera Beutler
Carson (IN)	F.	Hice, Jody B.
Carter (GA)	Duffy	Higgins (LA)
Carter (TX)	Duncan (SC)	Higgins (NY)
Cartwright	Duncan (TN)	Hill

Himes  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurd  
Issa  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Jenkins (KS)  
Jenkins (WV)  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (LA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kihuen  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Kustoff (TN)  
LaHood  
LaMalfa  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (MN)  
Lieu, Ted  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren  
Loudermilk  
Love  
Lowenthal  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Lujan Grisham,  
M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
MacArthur  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marino  
Marshall  
Massie  
Mast  
Matsui

McCaul  
McClintock  
McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
McSally  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Meeks  
Meng  
Messer  
Mitchell  
Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Moore  
Moulton  
Mullin  
Murphy (FL)  
Murphy (PA)  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Newhouse  
Noem  
Nolan  
Norcross  
Norman  
Nunes  
O'Halleran  
O'Rourke  
Olson  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Palmer  
Panetta  
Pascrell  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Perry  
Peters  
Peterson  
Pittenger  
Pocan  
Poe (TX)  
Poliquin  
Polis  
Posey  
Price (NC)  
Raskin  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reichert  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Roby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rokita  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas  
J.  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rosen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothfus  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce (CA)  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger

Rush  
Russell  
Rutherford  
Ryan (OH)  
Sánchez  
Sanford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Sherman  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Sires  
Slaughter  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Soto  
Speier  
Stefanik  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suozi  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Tiberi  
Tipton  
Tonko  
Torres  
Trott  
Turner  
Upton  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walker  
Walorski  
Walters, Mimi  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Watson Coleman  
Weber (TX)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Williams  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (AK)  
Young (IA)  
Zeldin

## NOT VOTING—36

Beatty  
Bridenstine  
Cleaver  
Davis (CA)  
Denham  
DesJarlais  
Espallat  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Hastings  
Huffman

Johnson (OH)  
Knight  
Labrador  
Long  
McCarthy  
Nadler  
Pingree  
Quigley  
Renacci  
Rohrabacher  
Rouzer  
Shimkus

Smucker  
Thompson (CA)  
Thornberry  
Titus  
Tsongas  
Valadao  
Visclosky  
Walz  
Webster (FL)  
Wilson (FL)  
Yarmuth

□ 1852

Messrs. VARGAS and ELLISON changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 558.

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2464) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”, on which the yeas and nays were ordered. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 0, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—395

Abraham  
Adams  
Aderholt  
Aguilar  
Allen  
Amash  
Amodei  
Arrington  
Babin  
Bacon  
Banks (IN)  
Barletta  
Barr  
Barragán  
Barton  
Bass  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Biggs  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (MI)  
Bishop (UT)  
Black  
Blum  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan  
F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brat  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Budd  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Capuano  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)

Carter (TX)  
Cortwright  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chabot  
Cheney  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Coffman  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (NY)  
Comer  
Comstock  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Conyers  
Cook  
Cooper  
Correa  
Costa  
Costello (PA)  
Courtney  
Cramer  
Crawford  
Crist  
Crowley  
Cuellar  
Culberson  
Cummings  
Curbelo (FL)  
Davidson  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
Davis, Rodney  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Demings  
Dent  
DeSantis  
DeSaulnier  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart

Dingell  
Doggett  
Donovan  
Doyle, Michael  
F.  
Duffy  
Duncan (SC)  
Duncan (TN)  
Dunn  
Ellison  
Emmer  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Estes (KS)  
Esty (CT)  
Evans  
Farenthold  
Faso  
Ferguson  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Flores  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Foxy  
Frankel (FL)  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Garrett  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Gohmert  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Goodlatte  
Gosar  
Gottheimer  
Gowdy  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene  
Griffith  
Grothman

Guthrie  
Handel  
Harper  
Harris  
Hartzler  
Heck  
Hensarling  
Herrera Beutler  
Hice, Jody B.  
Higgins (LA)  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill  
Himes  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurd  
Issa  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Jenkins (KS)  
Jenkins (WV)  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (LA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kihuen  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Kustoff (TN)  
LaHood  
LaMalfa  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (MN)  
Lieu, Ted  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren  
Loudermilk  
Love  
Lowenthal  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Lujan Grisham,  
M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
MacArthur  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marino  
Marshall  
Massie  
Mast  
Matsui

Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marino  
Marshall  
Massie  
Mast  
Matsui  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
McSally  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Meeks  
Meng  
Messer  
Mitchell  
Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Moore  
Moulton  
Mullin  
Murphy (FL)  
Murphy (PA)  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Newhouse  
Noem  
Nolan  
Norcross  
Norman  
Nunes  
O'Halleran  
O'Rourke  
Olson  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Palmer  
Panetta  
Pascrell  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Perry  
Peters  
Peterson  
Pittenger  
Pocan  
Poe (TX)  
Poliquin  
Polis  
Posey  
Price (NC)  
Raskin  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reichert  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Roby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rokita  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas  
J.  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rosen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothfus  
Roybal-Allard

Royce (CA)  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Russell  
Rutherford  
Ryan (OH)  
Sánchez  
Sanford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Sherman  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Sires  
Slaughter  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Soto  
Speier  
Stefanik  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suozi  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Tenney  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Tiberi  
Tipton  
Tonko  
Torres  
Trott  
Turner  
Upton  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walker  
Walorski  
Walters, Mimi  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Watson Coleman  
Weber (TX)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Williams  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (AK)  
Young (IA)  
Zeldin

## NOT VOTING—38

Beatty  
Blackburn  
Bridenstine  
Butterfield  
Denham  
DesJarlais  
Espallat  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Hastings  
Huffman  
Johnson (OH)

Knight  
Labrador  
Lawrence  
Long  
McCarthy  
Nadler  
Pingree  
Quigley  
Renacci  
Rohrabacher  
Rouzer  
Shimkus  
Smucker

Taylor  
Thompson (CA)  
Thornberry  
Titus  
Tsongas  
Valadao  
Visclosky  
Walzen  
Webster (FL)  
Wilson (FL)  
Yarmuth

□ 1901

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall No. 559.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 10, I missed two votes to attend to constituent business in my district. Had I been present for the day's vote series, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 558, the passage of H.R. 1858, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office"; and "yea" on rollcall No. 559, the passage of H.R. 2464, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

#### CELEBRATING THE MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND LEARNING CENTER AND PRE-K PROGRAM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind on its new Lighthouse Learning Center and Pre-K program.

The Miami Lighthouse has served south Florida since 1931, offering life-changing programs and resources for those who have visual impairments. President Virginia Jacko and her staff are making history once again with the Lighthouse Learning Center.

The Miami Lighthouse is partnering with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to provide a comprehensive learning program for pre-K students using an evidence-based curriculum to support and empower visually impaired students to achieve their potential. Children in this program will receive the training they need to perform at the same level as their sighted peers by the time they enroll in school.

Mr. Speaker, it fills me with great pride to recognize Virginia Jacko and the entire staff at the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind for their tireless work in launching this wonderful learning center in the heart of Little Havana, located in my congressional district.

#### CONGRESS NEEDS TO REAUTHORIZE CHIP FUNDING

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, since 1997, the Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, has provided low-cost health insurance for millions of children across the United States of America.

Unfortunately, in another apparent sabotage to our Nation's healthcare system, Congress failed to reauthorize CHIP funding before it expired on September 30. Without immediate action, States will soon have to curtail care for our neediest children.

In my home State of Illinois, alone, over 295,000 children rely on CHIP for everything from routine checkups to immunizations. Congress' continued failure to reauthorize this critical program is jeopardizing the well-being of millions of America's children.

Congress will be going into recess again next week without taking any action to reauthorize this bipartisan and essential program for children. Meanwhile, millions of kids could go without care because of our failure to act. We must do better.

#### MICHIGAN'S UPPER PENINSULA CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 40 years of community revitalization in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

When Kincheloe Air Force Base closed in 1977, a renewal of the Saulte Ste. Marie community began as it transitioned from military to civilian use. These 40 years stand as a testament to the hard work and resilience of the folks of Chippewa County, who have overcome the job loss and revenue loss associated with Kincheloe's closing.

The transition from military to civilian is not always an easy one, but I am proud to represent a region that has remained focused on investing in the future of our communities. On this anniversary, we not only celebrate our current successes, but we also remember the contributions of our past.

Kincheloe Air Force Base played a significant role in shaping our national defense and making our community into what it is today. We are forever grateful to the Chippewa County community for preserving that history throughout these 40 years.

#### TRUMP RAMPS UP DEMANDS FOR NEW DACA DEAL

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleague from Illinois and demand that the Children's Health Insurance Program that will help millions of children have healthcare be re-

authorized now, and certainly it should be done before we leave for the work recess.

I also want to hold up the headline of the Houston Chronicle that says: "Trump Ramps Up Demands for New DACA Deal."

Sometimes we think that these are just statements that don't impact people's lives. The name of the young lady on this front page is Karen, who watches her parents work 17 hours a day, trying to ensure that the children who came here through no fault of their own can be contributing Americans.

We stood together yesterday with 122,000 in the State of Texas. We thought we had a reasonable deal to be able to work together to help these young people. But with the ridiculous demands that have been made by this administration—\$15 billion border wall, cutting legal immigration, sending out the door unaccompanied children—it is absolutely ludicrous.

Does anyone care about human life.

Then we stood together with the chief of police, the sheriff, the constables, and Moms Demand Action and fought against ridiculous nonregulation of guns that can kill people, military guns. We need gun safety legislation, and we need to do it now.

#### THE VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL TRAVELING WALL VISITS CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, I had the opportunity to participate in both the opening and the closing ceremonies for the traveling version of the Vietnam War Memorial Wall. The traveling wall was in State College last Thursday through Sunday, and it was a truly moving experience for all those who visited.

The theme for Centre County was "Welcome Home." We all know that in many instances, our Vietnam veterans did not receive a warm welcome home when they returned from war. This is a scar on our history and one that we are working to heal.

The traveling wall serves as a reminder of the efforts to promote liberty and freedom that our Vietnam veterans put forth. It finally recognizes their struggles and thanks them for their service after years of underappreciation.

Mr. Speaker, the wall tells the story of so many Americans. They were sons and daughters. They were our friends and our neighbors. They are American heroes.

It is never too late to honor our veterans to ensure that they receive the recognition that they deserve.

#### RELIEF EFFORT IN PUERTO RICO AFTER HURRICANE MARIA

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, what a privilege it has been for me to know and do my best to help community leaders in Lorain, Ohio, who have been engaged in the Puerto Rican relief effort following Hurricane Maria.

Lorain Councilman Angel Arroyo, along with many of our constituents, have been organizing local shipments to Puerto Rico. Last week, working with celebrities like Bravo TV star Bethenny Frankel, Councilman Arroyo helped arrange seven truckloads of aid that were flown in on a private charter airplane.

Human stories from relatives across that vast region focused on the tragic lack of aid, especially within the vast interior parts of that island. Our district has the largest concentration of Puerto Ricans in Ohio, and families are very worried. FEMA is not doing its job, and the Trump administration should get an F for all of the citizens of this country that are being left behind.

Victor Leandry of the Lorain-based nonprofit El Centro noted that his sister and brother-in-law live in a smaller city, Ponce, and, as of this weekend, they still had no power.

I include in the RECORD a letter from a constituent's family member detailing the dire situation: no water, no electricity, no radio contact, with families' life savings destroyed, their crops and their land as well.

We need to address the humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico. What is happening there is un-American. The Trump administration better wake up and help the citizens of this country.

Hi

My parents live in Lares Puerto Rico in the Barrio called Palmallanos. November will make two years since they moved back "home". They worked since day one to get their land aka finca to what it was when my grandparents owned the home. They did a great job. They had Banana and Avocado trees. Had just planted roughly 200 coffee trees and couldn't wait to watch them grow. They had planted different herbs as well as squash and beans.

All of that was lost on September 20th when Hurricane Maria ripped straight down the island. I could not get in touch with my parents for two long weeks.

Finally I received the call I had been waiting for. While my parents are safe and their house is intact, they lost everything on their land. They had some flooding in the home and a shed they had their washer and dryer in had its roof ripped off and flooding. The river that runs through their land rose so much that my dad could not sleep concerned that it would rise to their home. Fortunately it did not, however due to the rains and winds the house did get flooded, but they were able to work for hours nonstop to get the water out.

After two weeks they are still without running water, electricity and phone service. They drive 30-40 minutes to get cell Service as well as go get water. They have to take whatever containers they have to fill up. They have received no additional assistance. They went to the market and were lucky enough to get a bag of rice and some canned goods.

They have enough propane to have one warm meal a day and the rest of the time

they eat whatever they have in cans or other non perishable items. They boil water to drink and shower with rain water.

As for eating any dairy or meat, well they haven't in two weeks. They are concerned to eat any meat they could get from the store for fear of getting sick due to no electricity anywhere and the inability to keep anything cold.

When getting gas, they waited in line for 2.5 hours and a letter they had mailed me on 9/24 finally arrived on 10/6. They have not received mail and are not able to get packages.

I asked if they wanted to come and stay with me and my family and they said no. Why? Well, they are afraid of leaving their home due to looting. They want to keep what they have left.

I know my parents are strong people, but honestly, I don't know how much longer anyone in their situation can make it.

Prayers for Puerto Rico.

SENY KERFONTA.

#### NEIL "SUDS" SUTHERLAND, A DEDICATED FIREFIGHTER FOR 53 YEARS

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent and volunteer firefighter from the 22nd District, Neil Sutherland, otherwise known as "Suds."

Neil has been a member of the Stittville Fire Department since 1965 and fire chief since 1998. Throughout his 53 years of dedicated fire service, Chief Sutherland has led the Stittville Fire Department to become one of the most well-respected departments in the State.

Stittville Fire Department is also one of the busiest fire departments in our region, handling over 220 calls a month. Incredibly, Chief Suds Sutherland has responded to 90 percent of those calls.

Chief Sutherland is also an active player on the Stittville Volunteer softball team, the undefeated league champions for the past 3 years.

Recently, Chief Sutherland was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. On Saturday, I had the honor of joining our community and the Sutherland family at a beautiful ceremony benefiting Chief Sutherland and his dedication and service to our community.

Tragically, medical research shows that firefighters have a much greater risk of contracting cancer due to increased exposure to smoke and toxins.

Chief Sutherland's enduring spirit and unwavering commitment to community is an inspiration to us all. I ask everyone to join me in sending our thoughts and our prayers to Chief Sutherland, otherwise lovingly known as "Suds," and his family during his courageous battle to beat cancer.

□ 1915

#### PRESIDENT TRUMP IS PLAYING A DANGEROUS GAME

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, \$15 billion for a wall. I thought Mexico was going to pay for it. Mr. Speaker, President Trump is playing a dangerous game with North Korea. He is playing a dangerous game with American lives.

The President probably thinks he is being clever when he taunts Kim Jong-un and calls him "little rocket man." The President probably thinks he is a tough guy when he threatens to rain down fire and fury on North Korea. But the President is not clever, and he is not tough.

A clever President would know that peace is preferable to war. A tough President would understand that threatening war with a highly armed, petty dictator makes the United States look weak and risks American lives.

President Trump's saber-rattling could draw the country into nuclear war that no one wants. If the United States is drawn into a war for the President's ego, people will die, Americans will die, and thousands, if not millions, of North Koreans will die.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF ALTO "BUD" ADAMS, JR.

(Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bud Adams, who passed away at his home on Adams Ranch in Fort Pierce, Florida, on September 22. He was 91 years old.

Mr. Adams was a larger-than-life cowboy. He was a fixture in Florida's agriculture community, and the patriarch of Adams Ranch, a 4-generation family operation that spans 80 years and spreads across 50,000 acres in Florida in four counties.

After serving in the Navy in World War II, Bud began managing Adams Ranch with his father and quickly became a legend among Florida cattlemen for innovations like the development of the Braford breed of beef cattle, a breed capable of withstanding Florida's hot and rainy summers.

He has also served as the president of the Florida Cattlemen's Association and is a member of Florida's Agricultural Hall of Fame.

He was an avid outdoor photographer and award-winning conservationist. He has shown a generation of farmers and ranchers and admirers like me that it is possible to work the land while still preserving God's beauty.

Bud is survived by his loving wife, Dot, of 67 years, his three sons, his 14 grandchildren, and his nine great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Florida has lost one of its greatest sons, and it was an honor for me to serve him here in the House.

# FAA REAUTHORIZATION IS CRITICAL

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

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the 21st Century AIRR Act. This critical FAA reauthorization offers the best possible plan to finally modernize our antiquated air traffic control system.

I recently traveled to Ottawa, Canada, with congressional colleagues to learn firsthand how Canada's private air navigation service provider has been efficiently and safely moving 12 million aircraft each year since 1996.

This model consistently upgrades and improves air traffic control technology and isn't subject, as it is in the United States, to onerous government procurement rules. It is clear that this system works far better than its U.S. counterpart.

These reforms would also benefit the environment, as the updated technology allows for more direct routes. For instance, in Canada, over the last 20 years, this has resulted in 1.4 billion fewer gallons of fuel that have been used just in the last 10 years, and twice that amount in the last 20 years.

This needed change has widespread bipartisan support, and it would guarantee consistent funding for modernizing our air traffic safety system.

# WE CANNOT REST UNTIL CAITLAN COLEMAN AND HER FAMILY ARE FREE

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago today, Caitlan Coleman, an American citizen from York County, Pennsylvania, which I am privileged to represent, was taken hostage by the Haqqani Network, an offshoot of the Taliban, while hiking near the Pakistan and Afghanistan border.

Caitlan has given birth to two boys while in captivity, boys whose only life experience has been that of a hostage and surrounded by violence and fear. I speak with Caitlan's mom and dad regularly. While my heart breaks for them, as fellow Americans, as a father with children of my own, I am crestfallen and horrified for them.

Caitlan and her family are Americans. We cannot rest until they are released and returned safely to the arms of the United States. I urge my colleagues to join me in praying for the safe return of Caitlan, her husband, and her two children, but also for her family and loved ones for whom time stopped 5 years ago.

I implore the U.S. State Department to use every resource at our disposal to bring our American citizens home.

# RECENT DISASTERS THAT HAVE BEFALLEN OUR AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, there are so many things that we need to talk about. Important events are spilling upon Americans, just cascading upon us. We could spend hours and, indeed, should spend hours talking about North Korea. We should and will spend hours talking about tax reform, or tax reductions, or serious benefits for the superwealthy in America, and we will talk about that. We will debate that.

But what is on my mind right now are the disasters that have befallen our American people. We think about what has happened over the last 11 months—floods on the East Coast, people forced out of their homes as the rivers rose in the Carolinas.

We think about California, and the massive floods, and the 200,000 people who were evacuated from their homes in my district.

We think about the recent hurricanes as they slammed into Houston, Florida, the Keys; and Hurricane Maria, as that hurricane devastated Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These traumatic disasters are now in our memory, but they are also our reality.

In California today, in my district, and in my colleague MIKE THOMPSON's district, thousands of homes have been burned to the ground and people have died.

These disasters are not new to America, and, over the years, we have set up a mechanism to deal with them. That mechanism is the firefighters across this Nation who respond, the emergency plans that have been put in place.

I know during my period as insurance commissioner in California, I would often arrive at these disasters, some of which go back more than 30 or 40 years, and console people who will have lost their home and attempt to deal with their insurance issues. And I would always remind those who were in the path of these flames, or hurricanes, or tornadoes, to be prepared; that Boy Scout motto: Be Prepared.

And now, in California, the same message goes out by the first responders and, indeed, by myself here on the floor of the House of Representatives: Be prepared. Be prepared to evacuate. Think about what it is you need to take ahead of time, those important papers, those scrapbooks, those photo albums, the dog, the cat; and when the time to go arrives, when that message arrives on your cell phone, or on the loud speaker from the police car out in front, obey it. Get out. Get out because you have already prepared.

Yes, you should have had that insurance policy that you forgot, that flood

insurance program. Yes, you should have had it. And all too often, we have to rely upon the generosity of charities, and, thankfully, they are there. And we also rely upon the Federal, State and county governments.

Today, here in the House of Representatives, and in the Senate, as well as in the administration, we are beginning to gear up for yet another emergency appropriation to pay for the relief efforts that are underway. It is not going to be enough. It may take care of part of what occurred in Houston, or in Florida, or in the Keys. It is certainly not going to be enough to take care of the devastation in Puerto Rico.

And I know, as the fires continue to rage in California, the appropriations that are being discussed, the emergency money for FEMA, will not be enough.

While we are looking at these disasters and the billions upon billions of dollars that will be needed to rebuild the infrastructure, to rebuild the schools and hospitals, to pay the bills for the emergency work that is going on, this House of Representatives, this week, is in the process of trying to figure out how to pass a massive tax cut that will take trillions of dollars of revenue away from the Federal Government.

It is estimated anywhere from \$2 trillion to \$5 trillion, depending upon the details, over the next decade, will not be available for the next disaster.

Will it be added to the deficit? Possibly.

Will those revenue reductions be balanced by cuts to Medicare? Yes. It is already being discussed. It is in the Republican budget.

Will those \$2 trillion to \$5 trillion reductions in revenue be added to the deficit, or will we cut Medicare? They tried to do it in the Affordable Care Act, now they are coming back with a budget bill that would cause it to happen again—more than \$1.5 trillion pulled out of the Medicaid program. And so there will be another disaster, a slow-building disaster of millions of Americans who will not be able to get healthcare.

So, added on top of the burden of rebuilding America, the emergency appropriations to pay for the ongoing and past disasters, we need to be aware of the inconsistency of thought that is going on here.

We are looking at an appropriation bill to pass something in the range of \$15 billion, in addition to the previous \$12 billion, which we know will not be sufficient to deal with the existing disasters; to say nothing of the billions of dollars that are owed to the counties and States for disasters going back, at least in California, 10 years, where the Federal Government has yet to reimburse the counties and State for the obligations that the Federal Government accepted, in some cases, a decade ago.

□ 1930

In the face of all of that, we are going to reduce revenues to the Federal Government.

Who gets the tax breaks?

Well, here is a fact that the Vice President—excuse me, Mr. Speaker, if I might—has suggested in California: that it is the poor that will get the tax break.

Not so. They will get a little, to be sure. The middle class is likely to get a tax increase.

But the real tax break, the top 1 percent get 80 percent of those revenue reductions. Eighty percent will flow to the top 1 percent of America's wealthy. So if you are concerned about income inequality, you better be paying attention.

One must wonder: What is the logic of what is happening here? What is the logic?

In the face of disasters that have occurred, historically, but more recently within the last year—floods in California, floods in the Carolinas, hurricanes, fires, tornados in the Midwest—in the face of all of that, we are going to massively reduce the ability of the Federal Government to respond. It doesn't make much sense to me, particularly when the beneficiaries of those tax reductions are the super-wealthy.

I think it is 2,500 families in America that would benefit from the elimination of the estate tax—2,000-plus families. It is some \$6 billion to \$9 billion of revenue lost every year so that 2,000 superwealthy families don't have to pay an estate tax.

What is going on here?

600,000 low-income housing vouchers gone so that they can pass on their wealth to the next generation. Income inequality.

In the face of the disasters, we need to stop for a moment as we begin the appropriations process for the FEMA emergency appropriations. We need to stop for a moment and consider the way these two things work together.

I was in my district, Davis, California, for an event on Sunday, and I had several students—some of whom are my interns—come to me and say: What are you going to do about the student loans? There is a lot of happy talk around here that we are going to make higher education free. It is a great idea.

It used to be that way when we were building the economy, when we knew, if we educated people, we would have a strong, growing economy. But tell me, in the face of a \$2 trillion to \$5 trillion reduction in the revenues to the Federal Government so that the wealthy can get wealthier, how are we going to ever reduce the cost of education to Americans?

I don't know. Maybe somebody has the answer here. It doesn't seem clear to me that that could be happening.

I am going to introduce a bill again this week—one that I introduced in the last session—that is kind of based upon

the fact that Americans across this Nation are able to refinance their homes at a lower interest rate. It is a great idea. I have done it. I suspect many of the people who are listening, and certainly many of the Members of Congress, have refinanced their home to get a lower interest rate.

But if you have a student loan that may have been from 5 or 8 years ago, or you are about to sign a document this fall for a Federally financed student loan, you cannot refinance that.

Why?

The Federal Government—there is \$1.3 trillion of student loans out there. Nearly \$900 billion of that \$1.3 trillion is owed to the Federal Government.

Why don't we refinance those loans? What if we were to do that? What would it mean to the students out there who are paying 5, 6, 7, 8 percent interest to the Federal Government that is able to go out and borrow money for 10 years at 2 percent?

That is a pretty good margin.

Even the fat cats on Wall Street can't have a margin that big, but the Federal Government does. So these students are paying these high interest rates so that the Federal Government can literally profit on their backs. That is a fact. Let's allow those students to refinance those student loans. Let's just see what happens.

The Federal Government can borrow money at less than right around 2 percent—maybe a little less right now; add a percent for management fees, 3 percent; reduce all of the student loans, \$800 billion, \$900 billion of student loans. The government would go out and borrow it at 2 percent for 10 years and tell the students and those who are no longer in school: We are going to allow you to refinance. Take an interest rate that may be half of what you are getting now.

By the way, why are we charging a fee to these students so that they could borrow money? Don't we want them to get an education? Don't we want them to be able to improve themselves?

Yet we require a fee. So let's eliminate the origination fees.

It is as though the Federal Government were some sharks out there dealing with home mortgages. No. We are dealing with students and their lives. If we can do this, maybe it is a couple of thousand dollars over the life of that loan that that student can then invest in their life and in their family.

These are things that are possible. These are things that we ought to be doing. There is just a lot of happy talk around here: Oh, we are going to make education free.

It would be good if we could. We could if we don't cut the Federal revenues by \$2 trillion to \$5 trillion over the next decade. Eliminate origination fees. Save low-income borrowing. It is all possible. The art of the possible ought to be what we are doing, not the art of enhancing those who are so wealthy already.

I am going to paraphrase a fellow that is pretty important in American

history. FDR said something like this: The measure of our success is not that we do more for those who have much, but, rather, that we do for those who have little.

So what of this tax cut that we are going to spend this week and next week, this next month, and, according to our Treasury Secretary, we will be done by the end of the year? So what does it mean?

It means maybe a small tax break for the working men and women of America. It means a huge tax benefit for those who are already wealthy; the elimination of the estate tax.

It has been estimated by The New York Times that based upon our President's tax returns of a decade ago—by the way, he won't show us his present tax returns—that he could benefit to the tune of \$1 billion with his proposed tax program.

Not bad if you can have it. But is that good public policy?

I don't think so. I don't think so; not in the face of the needs of America. We have enormous defense needs. We have been fighting wars in the Middle East for almost three decades now. There are other needs that we have for our military.

You only need to listen to the Secretary of Defense and others as they talk about the need to rebuild much of the American military. The admiral responsible for the Pacific Theater says that he needs something rather important: munitions.

Munitions. Wow.

Yes, we have needs. We have students who are paying interest rates far higher than is necessary, unable to refinance their Federal student loans because the law doesn't allow it. But it is possible. In fact, it would make a lot of economic sense. These young men and women might actually start a family; might actually be able to buy a home or a car, start a new business, start a small business. There are a lot of possibilities.

But the superwealthy need another tax break?

I don't think so. I don't think so at all. And I don't quite understand the happy talk by our leaders of this administration who like to say: Not to worry. You are going to get to deduct the first \$25,000.

Well, yes. And then what?

Oh, by the way, there is this 20 percent increase in the bottom tax rate, from 10 percent to 12 percent. That is a 20 percent increase. At the top tax rate, it goes from 35, unless you are able to maneuver into their little scheme where you can actually reduce your tax rate to 15 percent by being an LLC—a limited liability corporation—or a subchapter S corporation.

Well, if you have the money to hire a good accountant and a lawyer, there are a lot of ways you can scheme and scam. And if you are a corporation, some of our largest corporations are able to hire the lawyers and the accountants and duck their taxes entirely.



The list is long. The list is actually rather maddening. Apple, GE, AT&T, and others, the big ones, their tax rates are down in the zero or in the less than 10 percent range, and they want more.

So Puerto Rico is devastated. My counties in California are facing rampaging fires, and perhaps as many as 2,000 homes have already burned. There will be another tornado and another hurricane.

The question for us is: Will there be the money for the Federal Government to provide the support that we should do to help Americans rebuild?

That is a fundamental question.

I know that there is a better way. I know that in the proposal that our Republicans have put forth there will be less money for infrastructure. I know that if you want good-paying jobs, the construction industry has good-paying jobs. I know that for every dollar we spend on infrastructure, the economy will grow by \$2 or more and have a foundation for future economic growth.

I know that when we rebuild the infrastructure of our communities that have been devastated by hurricanes, tornados, floods, and fires, that the communities can come back strong and the economies for those communities can flourish. I know that it takes a strong American Government to make that happen.

Mr. Speaker, as we enter this week, my heart and thoughts go out to those millions of Americans who have been devastated by the hurricanes, floods, and fires; those people in my district who have lost their homes, and those who have lost their lives.

I come here to the floor to say: Let us think seriously about what our obligation is to Americans, to those who have little, to those who have lost everything. What is our obligation to them?

FDR was correct: The measure of our success is not that we do more for those who have much, but, rather, that we do for those who have little.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1945

#### THE RULE OF LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to be recognized to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives and to discuss the topics that are on my mind. Hopefully, you will consider these arguments as well, Mr. Speaker. I know that people across this floor and across the country have a lot of these same considerations in mind.

I want to come to the floor and address the DACA situation and take you through a little bit of the history of the Deferred Action for Childhood Ar-

rivals which was implemented by Barack Obama in an unconstitutional fashion. He knew it, and all of America knew it. We know that Barack Obama, 22 times, said that he didn't have the constitutional authority to implement a program that granted the equivalent of amnesty—at least temporary amnesty—let alone a work permit which he added to the program by executive edict, fiat, or order. Instead, it requires legislation in order to enable such a policy.

A President can't grant amnesty. A President can have prosecutorial discretion. Prosecutorial discretion is a legal term for what the Justice Department does when they are determining whether the resources they have to prosecute crimes are adequate to enforce against the most serious offenders. Barack Obama, President Obama, did implement some of those relatively prudent policies with prosecutorial discretion. He prioritized the most violent and evil criminals that he could identify, at least by policy. He turned a lot of them loose too, by the way, onto the streets of America in the course of all that. So it was a very confusing policy that emerged without consistency under President Obama. However, he exercised a legal prosecutorial discretion when they looked at each case on an individual basis.

But I recall when his Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, came before the Judiciary Committee to testify about this program on DACA, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—or some might say the deferred action for children of aliens. Her testimony and the memos that came down, the Morton memos, set up four different categories of people who would be granted a quasi-amnesty underneath the President's policy.

There, Secretary Napolitano testified over and over again, and it reflected the document itself which, seven times, referenced on an individual basis only—on an individual basis only—seven times. I can repeat it for the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, but that is what was going on, which told me, as I listened to her testimony and had read the documents prior to the testimony, that they knew what the law said. They knew it required—that it required—an individual basis only and a prioritization of applying the law to bring about the best effect of the utilization of the resources of the Justice Department.

Yet Barack Obama, President Obama, around the country multiple times, in the 1½ or 2 years building up to his implementation of the DACA policy, multiple times he said that he didn't have the constitutional authority to implement the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Multiple times. It turned out to be at least 22 that we have a videotape on.

The most recent that I recall was in a high school just outside of the Capitol here in Washington, D.C., where he was speaking to a high school group.

He said: You are smart students. You know that there is a separation of powers. I don't have the authority to grant this legal status to people who are here illegally even if their parents did bring them in or even if they came in on their own under the age of 18. I don't have the authority to do that. That is Congress that has the authority.

I should remind everyone, Mr. Speaker, that President Obama taught constitutional law. He was an adjunct professor teaching constitutional law at the University of Chicago. The University of Chicago has a good reputation for understanding the Constitution, and Barack Obama demonstrated that when he said: You are smart students, and you know that we have three branches of government, a separation of powers. Congress is Article I. They make the laws.

He said: I am Article II, the executive branch. My job is to enforce the laws. And Article III is the judicial branch of government. They interpret the laws.

So when the courts interpret the laws that Congress writes, the executive's job is to carry them out. He knew he was violating the separation of powers because he defined that to America multiple times. But he did anyway.

I believe that President Obama made a calculation, a political calculation. The political calculation, in my estimation, was that he could get away with it. He wanted the policy, but Congress wouldn't pass the policy because we have great respect for the rule of law, and we don't want to reward lawbreakers. That happened in 1986, and we are paying the price for that amnesty act of 1986. He couldn't get the DREAMers legislation through Congress, so he calculated that he could get away with implementing that as a policy even though he knew it was unconstitutional.

So some of us went to work to initiate lawsuits to have the courts strike down the executive edicts of Barack Obama that was the foundation for DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

As it wandered through the courts. The lead in the primary case was Chris Crane, the president of the ICE, Immigration Custom Enforcement, union. His name was on the case first. It was Crane, et al. v. Napolitano, et al. in the beginning. It went through the courts, and by the time you follow it through a circuitous route, you find out that Crane, et al. v. Napolitano, et al. got shifted off to the side. It was declared to be a decision that had to do with the administrative rules that if he had a grievance, he had to take that grievance through the administrative rules process rather than through the courts to address the policy itself. So it got parked off on a side rail, so to speak.

Then we saw a parallel case come forward, the DAPA case, the Deferred Action on Parents of Americans was how the President described it. I would have said parents of aliens myself. But that

case was found by Judge Andrew Hanen down in Texas to be unconstitutional. It was a very similar and parallel case. The President couldn't grant amnesty to parents of children who were here, and the President couldn't grant amnesty to children who came here. That same constitutional principle applies to both.

We know that Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, and others with about 9, 10, or 11 other State attorneys general, had prepared to file a suit to litigate the DACA case in parallel fashion that DAPA was litigated successfully. They set a date of September 5 and said to the President: If you don't end DACA by September 5, we are filing this case.

So that is about the day and probably exactly the day that President Trump came out with his decision on DACA.

I moved too fast forward, Mr. Speaker, and I need to back up to what happened. Barack Obama, President Obama, finished out his term while growing the DACA recipients by hundreds of thousands. By the time he finished his term, that number was estimated to be over 700,000 recipients who get a little card that says: You get to stay in America for 2 years, and there won't be any immigration law enforced against you as long as you don't commit any of these serious crimes, felonies, or a nasty combination of three different misdemeanors.

Then also he created out of thin air a work permit. Now, Congress isn't going to grant work permits to illegal aliens, but Barack Obama did. Congress isn't going to grant a "come out of the shadows and stay on the streets of America" permit for DACA recipients, but President Obama did. He went outside.

This Congress should have had its back up. I am frustrated. I am frustrated with the lack of conviction on the part of the Members of this Congress. Mr. Speaker, you stand in here once every 2 years, and you take an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. That includes acknowledging that the Constitution is the supreme law of the land. It includes the requirement that you understand the difference between Article I, Article II, and Article III.

Article I writes the laws—that is all of us here and over in the Senate. We write all of the laws for the United States of America. That is how the Constitution starts out: The legislative powers shall be reserved for we here that are the Representatives in this Republic of the American people.

We are as close to the people as anybody who is elected in the Federal Government right here in this House of Representatives—435 of us. That is what you take an oath to is that you are going to protect the Constitution of the United States. You should at least be able to defend Article I, the very authority that is the reason that you are here serving in the first place, Mr. Speaker.

Then we have an obligation also to look over the shoulder of the executive

branch and have oversight over the function of the executive branch and conduct hearings and bring witnesses and dig into the methods and the effectiveness of the President of the United States, our Chief Executive Officer, in carrying out the execution of our laws.

The President of the United States takes an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. But also it requires that he takes care that the laws be faithfully executed. Now, that means carry them out, not kill them off. It looks like he was trying to kill off the Constitution rather than carry out the laws that are described by this Article I, Congress.

By the way, some of the laws that President Obama defied and gave orders to defy and to ignore were signed into law by Bill Clinton. So the legitimacy of the United States Congress and our effectiveness has been diminished by President Obama who went outside the bounds, the lines that are drawn between legislative authority, executive authority, and judicial authority.

Now, our Founding Fathers set that up to be a static relationship. They expected and believed that the courts would be the weakest of the three branches of government. They expected also that since you always have ambitious people reaching for more power, they wanted to divide that power, and they wanted to restrain the power.

That is why we have the system that we have today. That is why we redistrict every decade. That is why they called for a census so we can count all the people of America and set up congressional district so that there is a proportional representation in each of the 435 seats here offset by two Senators from every State so that we have a geographical representation—a small population State with a big voice or maybe a big population State with the same kind of voice—over in the United States Senate.

But here in this Congress, in this House, everyone has roughly the proportional same number of constituents, and your vote means the same amount here that it does for each one of us, whatever your particular role is.

So this was set up to have this balance of power. What our Founding Fathers envisioned was each branch of government would jealously protect the power vested in it through the Constitution. They didn't imagine that there would be a Congress that would be in opposite—they actually didn't imagine the two-party system, as I understand some of the history that I read, but they didn't envision that there would be a Republican majority in the House, a Republican majority in the Senate, and a Democrat President who clearly, openly, and blatantly defined it in advance and then violated the Constitution.

Our Founding Fathers never expected that this House of Representatives would sit on its hands and simply let that Constitution be violated for 2

years or longer just on DACA alone. But that happened. I brought amendments to the floor time after time after time that cut off the Federal funding that supported the unconstitutional acts of the President of the United States. Those amendments passed off the floor of the House of Representatives, and they were killed off over in the Senate.

□ 2000

Our Founding Fathers did not imagine that the Constitution could be openly, defiantly, and blatantly violated and not have this Congress hold together and shut off the funding. The power of the purse is the power of bringing that President back in line and making him keep his constitutional oath.

The will wasn't there.

As I went before a committee to present an amendment to get Rules Committee consent to an amendment, I reminded everybody on that panel: You all took an oath to support and defend the Constitution. If you meant it, if you take your word seriously, if your oath to the Constitution means anything, then not only do you have to open the door so that my amendment comes to the floor and we have an opportunity to debate it and force a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives, not only is that the case, if you don't support this, then your own oath to the Constitution is called into question.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, I just remind people that I chair the Constitution and Civil Justice Subcommittee. There are a couple of reasons for that—more than a couple—and I have defended this Constitution every day that I have been here in this United States Congress, and I take it seriously.

My father used to lecture the Constitution to me at the supper table. He would bring out the Constitution, set it down at the table. He would bring the Code of Iowa and set it down at the table. The Bible would be on the end table. The Constitution and the Code of Iowa would be on the kitchen table, and he would open it up and say: Now, we are going to trace back for you how "pick your law out of this book" gets back to the Constitution. Where is the authority for "pick your law out of this book?"

He would debate that and discuss it with me. That is where I learned that I shouldn't ever utter an opinion that hasn't been thoroughly thought out. He was the most effective critical thinker I ever met in my life. But he steeped me in the great respect for the rule of law and a great respect for the supreme law of the land, our Constitution, and the structure that is guaranteed in the Constitution: a republican form of government.

That, Mr. Speaker, means a representative form of government, where the people select their Representatives and send them off to be their voice here in this Congress.

It was a fantastic piece of wisdom and historical knowledge that put this together in the fashion that it did. Now we have not just the oldest constitution on record, but we have the most successful constitution on record.

You can put this altogether. I believe that our Founding Fathers, as they put this together, were inspired by God to write the Declaration, to fight the war, to shape the Constitution. I think that our Founding Fathers were moved around like men on a chessboard to bring about this fantastic country that we have.

A big part of this fantastic country is the rule of law. When I write "rule of law," for years, I capitalized the word "rule." I capitalized "rule" with an "R" and "law" with an "L" so that it stands out on the page, so that it looks as important as it is when you read the phrase: rule of law.

Rule of law is an essential component of American exceptionalism. It is a pillar of American exceptionalism. If you think about what went together to make this great country that we have, I would add up a whole series of things.

I would trace our American exceptionalism back all the way to Mosaic Law. The Mosaic Law was borrowed by the Greeks. The Greeks kind of teased each other: Well, that isn't your original law. You borrowed that from Moses.

Well, they had great philosophers and they added to the culture, but the law came out of Moses from the Greeks to the Romans. The Romans set up republican forms of government. They also had a very good and healthy rule of law so that, at least in theory, they applied that to everybody.

That rule of law spread across Western Europe by the Romans all the way to Ireland. When the Dark Ages came—the Visigoths sacked Rome in 410 A.D. When that happened, historians, more or less, called that the signal of the world falling into the Dark Ages.

For several hundred years, not much happened that was reported to us. People lost the ability to think and reason in the fashion that they had from among the Greeks and among the Romans.

Christianity had to get itself spread into all of that and then emerge. It did emerge. It emerged sometime shortly before the end of the first millennium. It became the Age of Enlightenment and the industrial revolution.

We know, Mr. Speaker, these courses of history that have followed, but I would just point out what happened in America.

In America, we are about ready to celebrate—we did it on Monday, because it was a Federal holiday—Columbus Day on October 12, the day after tomorrow. It happens to also be my wife's birthday, Mr. Speaker. There are a couple of reasons we should celebrate Columbus Day.

He discovered the Western Hemisphere. He did so because he had a vision that the Earth was round and not

flat. He was able to convince Ferdinand and Isabella that they should invest their capital in three ships to send him across the seas in the hopes that they would circle all the way around to India and maybe find a passage to come back. They could trade and be an even richer nation than Spain was.

By the way, that was the same year that the Spanish threw the Moors out. That is when the kingdom of Ferdinand and Queen Isabella was established in a more stable fashion than it had been prior to that.

They found the money for Christopher Columbus. He discovered the hemisphere. After that, we saw a lot of Spaniards emerge. They focused down in the south, in the Central American region, in the Caribbean, and settled in that area going south and north from the isthmus. They brought with them Christianity. They were driven by the idea of spreading Christianity around the world.

That went on through the 1500s, where they were settling and developing in that part of the world, and conducting some atrocities as well, Mr. Speaker—just to address what otherwise somebody would ask me to yield and listen to. Yes, they had some atrocities. They began to develop and bring Western civilization, though, to the New World.

The other end of this thing, in 1607, the first people who settled and built a permanent settlement in the North American continent were there at Jamestown, just down the road from us a little ways. It was 1607.

The Christians who landed there came for religious freedom. They sat across there on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and they knelt at that cross and prayed. The prayer was: Lord, thank You for sending us to this new land. We hear Your call and we call out to You to guide us and bless us. We will listen to the mission that You delivered to us, which is to evangelize all people here and around the world and to settle this continent to please You.

That is the summary of the prayer. If you read that prayer, you can see and hear manifest destiny in that prayer. You can see religious emancipation in that prayer as well. They knew why they were here.

A country that is formed by people who have powerful faith, as they did, and then you have the pilgrims of Plymouth Rock in 1620, and the rest of America was built out. As the colonists began to throw off the yoke of King George, they still retained essential principles. The essential principles would include those of the Magna Carta: the idea that a man's home is his castle and that the law has to be applied equally to everyone.

King John wasn't happy to sign that, by the way, but I think it came down to: It is your head or your signature. Why don't you decide, King John?

He decided his signature.

It has been a long time ago since the Magna Carta was signed, but it laid a

foundation for the pilgrims and the settlers who came to America. They came here for religious freedom and to get away from the yoke of the old country, Great Britain.

We should remember that the pilgrims who came in on the Mayflower didn't sail out of jolly, old England. They sailed out of Leiden in the Netherlands. Several years before, they sailed the Atlantic Ocean. They pulled out and went to Leiden in the Netherlands. There, several hundred of them lived around in the area, in a community, in various different houses and apartment complexes that were there.

A lot of them went to church in Pieterskerk, which is the church in the center. They staged themselves until they were ready to go across the Atlantic Ocean to settle and land at Plymouth Rock in 1620.

These early settlers were driven by religious freedom. As they began to build their farms, their shops, and trade and build ships along the coast and our harbors, we reach the year of 1776. Then, of course, we know the Declaration was on July 4 of that year. But there is another seminal event, Mr. Speaker, and that is Adam Smith published his treatise on free enterprise capitalism. The name of it is "The Wealth of Nations."

No one has surpassed that document at this point. If you allow people to keep their own goods, earn their own profits, invest that, he explained with utter clarity how it will improve the productivity—they will invest it in efficiency—and how the invisible hand, that is the person who is buying the loaf of bread off the shelf, if that shelf is empty, you put more bread on there and sell more. If you are selling more than you can make, you raise the price a little. If somebody thinks you are making too much money, they start up their bakery. They get their bread on the shelf, and then it competes with each other. The shelf is always full of bread and the consumers get a product that they demand. That is the concept of free enterprise capitalism. I don't hear anybody talking about that today.

We also developed here a meritocracy. If you have freedom, you can be rewarded for merit. We don't talk about meritocracies anymore. We give out participation trophies for kids. They don't really want them to be winners or losers, just participants.

That is not the American way. The American way is: we get in, we compete. There is bound to be a lot of losers because there is only one winner at the end, but the losers all learn something and so does the winner. If the winner gets complacent, if the winner gets lazy, then the others who are competing are going to pass up that former winner, and he is going to have to get a little sharper in his game. That makes us all better.

When I look at my neighborhood, Mr. Speaker, I see that we have got some counties in particular that have excellent competition between the public

schools and parochial schools. They have a number of different churches to choose from. They have a lot of banks that will loan money and compete with each other to invest back in the communities so entrepreneurs with ideas or families that need a bridge to the next month or two can have something to bridge them through that.

This is the kind of competition that I see. It is not just sports competition, but it is academic competition, it is competing for students, it is competing for tuition dollars, it is competing for the business investment dollars among the banks, it is churches competing for the faith and competition to save the maximum number of souls, and it is a very healthy environment.

If you take competition out, this goes flat and the vitality that exists today and just the vibrant humming of the lives that I am thinking of would be gone. It becomes complacent. I fear that is where America is going; if we are afraid to compete, we are afraid to defend our values.

Free enterprise capitalism. I think every college campus in the country has some professor who will speak against it. Some of them have many professors who speak against it. They are teaching against free enterprise capitalism. They are teaching socialism. They are teaching Marxism. They are rejecting conservatism.

By the way, I can't find a school in the country today that has an effective course on Western civilization itself. That doesn't mean they aren't out there. This is just me asking questions of people who should know the answer to that. They are saying: I can't name one, unless it would be Hillsdale College or maybe Liberty University.

I grew up in an era where every school had multiple courses on Western civilization. Because we understand our culture, we respect it. We know that, without Western civilization, the world would be so void of the contributions that came from Western civilization.

Sometime a year ago last summer, I found myself on a panel at MSNBC, Mr. Speaker. One of the panelists said: One could be an optimist and hope that this is the last Republican convention where old White people have anything to say about it.

There is no way to let a comment like that pass. So I pointed out: Charlie, that is getting a little tired, this criticism of old White people. I would challenge you to name another subgroup of people who have contributed more.

Then the lady on the panel started fanning herself. She was getting the vapors because I defended Western civilization. The host leaned over, almost with a leer, hoping that I would take the bait, and she said: More than White people.

And I said: More than Western civilization itself.

Western civilization is everywhere that Christianity has laid the founda-

tion for civilization itself; where Christianity has been the footprint that has laid down the foundation of Western civilization itself.

□ 2015

And you don't have western civilization without Christianity; you don't have a successful history without Christianity; and you don't have people that abide by the moral laws so we don't have to have a lot of legal laws. You can't not manage a people of 300 million people and think you are going to get that done effectively if they fail to be a moral people, a people that reach over and pay forward and take care of their families and their friends and their neighbors.

I see it all over this country, Mr. Speaker. I have been to all 50 States in this country, met people in all 50 States. I have gotten behind the steering wheel in 48 of the 50, and I see good people, great people day after day after day that get out of bed, and all they want to do is help somebody. And they don't care about credit; they don't care if anybody ever notices it or sees it; they just want to help somebody. That is what makes this country turn and work the way it does.

If we wonder, we should take a look at the hurricanes that we have suffered in the South and all across, from Texas, Louisiana, and now Mississippi the other day, and Florida—Irma. American people, some people fled out of the hurricane and some people come to help, and I imagine there is a traffic jam there from time to time. But I am so grateful that we have the American character that it is.

American character is a can-do spirit, people that—I know that I had a banker visit me one day, and he showed me a picture. Actually, I met him at the airport. He showed me a picture of their bank, and the water was ready to run in the door of their bank. They had a flood that flooded the whole downtown. He said: Don't send us anything. We can handle this. It is only a flood.

I have been back to that community, and he was right. I am glad we have people like that, these spirited Americans who are part of a culture that is a can-do culture. And I don't want to lose it, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to lose it by devaluing any of the pillars of American exceptionalism.

Now, I will just list a few others.

Aside from the rule of law, there is freedom of speech, religion, assembly, the press. There are all of those together in the First Amendment, and they are put up there in the First Amendment because, without them, without an open dialogue, without ideas having to compete in the public square, then we don't test those ideas, and our Founding Fathers understood that. They wanted debate to take place here on the floor of the House of Representatives. They wanted debate to take place in the Senate. They wanted these ideas to be tested.

For me, I have long believed that I should engage in debate; and if I can't

sustain my position in debate, I only have two choices: I can either adopt the other guy's position, or I can go back and do my homework and get that research done, up my game, so to speak, and be prepared to defend myself for the next round. That is usually what happens if I am not able to defend myself. But over the years, I pay a little more attention to preparation than I used to when I was younger, and so that is how it is, and the best ideas can be sorted forward.

Sitting in a meeting here, we can be discussing these ideas; somebody brings up an idea, might get knocked down like that. I don't think the public gets to see how many ideas are not successful in competing with other ideas, but sometimes there is a power structure, too, that is involved. What troubles me is when good ideas can't have a fair hearing because others want their idea to come through to have their name on it. That is a bit of a side issue, but I point that out.

So freedom of speech, religion, press, the right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances, First Amendment, all pillars of American exceptionalism.

Second, the right to keep and bear arms. We have had a lot of discussion about the right to keep and bear arms, but our Founding Fathers put that provision in the Bill of Rights, not so that we could hunt or collect or target shoot or even defend ourselves. The Second Amendment is in our Constitution so that we can defend ourselves from tyranny, from a future tyrant who would come in; and if they confiscated our weapons, then they can force anything upon the people of this country.

History has proven that over and over again. The first thing a tyrant does is go after your guns. The second thing they do is they go after all the other rights, and pretty soon you are a subservient people. Imagine North Korea or Cuba to get a model or an example of that. And you can go on up the line: the protection against unreasonable search and seizure, constitutional right.

I am naming pillars of American exceptionalism. Without them, we would not be an exceptional nation. There is no pillar that we can pull out that the edifice wouldn't tumble if we lost our First Amendment or Second Amendment or Fourth Amendment.

Our Fifth Amendment, we have lost a part of it already with the Kelo decision, Mr. Speaker. The Fifth Amendment says, "nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation." In the Kelo decision, the Supreme Court ruled—I believe it was a 5-4 decision. And I know that Justice Scalia dissented, as did Justice O'Connor in one of her last major dissents that she had written, but the Supreme Court essentially struck out—I will say, *de facto* struck out—the terms "for public use" from the Fifth Amendment.

They ruled that a locality could condemn private property and hand it over to another private interest, provided they had a government interest and the private interest being successful. And so they could take, let's say, a senior lady's home, a whole tract of land, and force that into the—and confiscate that and put it into the hands of a private investor.

That decision is a horrible decision that weakens American exceptionalism, weakens our property rights in America.

I had a private conversation with Justice Scalia, and he told me that he expected the Kelo decision to be reversed one day. But to amend the Fifth Amendment, effectively, by a decision in the Supreme Court, "nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation," this private property was taken not even for public use, but for private use.

Now, they didn't write in there "nor shall private property be taken for private use" because that was a given that that would not be the case. It is absolutely implied in the Fifth Amendment itself, but the Supreme Court ruled the way they wanted to rule, and they have weakened a pillar of American exceptionalism.

Trial by jury, no double jeopardy, you can go up the line. The powers that are not enumerated in the Constitution are reserved, respectively, for the States or the people. All of these are pillars of American exceptionalism.

Free enterprise capitalism, another pillar of American exceptionalism.

And, by the way, if you take the naturalization test, there is a series of flashcards, laminated flashcards, and these flashcards, you can hold them up and you can ask these aspiring citizens some questions. And part of some of the questions are this: "Who is the father of our country?" And then you flip that card over and it says: "George Washington."

"Who emancipated the slaves?"

"Abraham Lincoln."

"What is the economic system of the United States of America?" It is on a flashcard: "Free enterprise capitalism."

That is under assault. Our religious values are under assault. Our family values are under assault. The very definition of the Constitution itself is under assault, and Barack Obama landed some heavy blows to it while he was President of the United States.

So as we began bringing forward a nominee who could compete effectively and hopefully be elected to the Oval Office as President of the United States, 17 Presidential candidates came through my State. Many of them I knew before they announced, and I think I can say that all of them I knew by the time they got through with their campaigns.

Out of that all, hard fought, there was a platform that was hammered out, and Donald Trump earned the nomination. His platform is awfully

close to the platform of TED CRUZ, who was the second to the last man standing, and that platform is a platform that I appreciate, I respect, and I worked for, Mr. Speaker.

I have watched as Presidential candidates can see themselves as President of the United States. They may not have all of their positions hammered out when they present themselves as candidates—in fact, I don't know if any of them ever actually did have all their positions hammered out when they presented themselves as candidates—but they give their speeches. There is a crowd reaction. There is some polling information that is there. They have a team, a team of advisers. We all talk to them and we try to convince them of the priorities that they should be bringing forward.

In the end, throughout all of this, by the time you get through the national convention and confer the nomination on your Presidential candidate, there is a platform to run on from June or July on through, all the way to November 8 it turned out to be last year. Donald Trump's platform was clear.

He said to me, one day, about the events that he has done for me—and I am very much appreciative of President Trump and the times that he has come in to help me politically, Mr. Speaker. He made that reference in a discussion among several of my colleagues, and I said: Yes, you helped me, and I appreciate it, Mr. President, but I market-tested your immigration policy for 14 years, and you knew how Iowans were going to respond and how most people across the country were going to respond because I market-tested it.

And he did a great job with it, and he gave it more clarity than I have given. But throughout all of that, it was: build the wall and secure our borders and enforce domestic immigration law and reinforce ICE and reinforce Border Patrol and CBP, put that all together, and the birthright citizenship. Support English as the official language. These are just some of the pieces along the way, and we have refined some of this since then.

And also, it was the New IDEA Act, the act that denies deductibility for wages and benefits paid to illegals, and let's see IRS come in and do the enforcement through the normal audit process. So if the IRS came in under the New IDEA Act and did a normal audit, they would run the Social Security numbers and other pertinent information of employees through E-Verify. If E-Verify confirmed that these employees could legally work in the United States, the employer will get safe harbor for having hired them; if they couldn't verify it, the employer gets 72 hours to cure, we see, 72 hours to correct the record.

But, if he is hiring illegals, then the IRS would say: All right. But you can't deduct this \$10,000, \$20,000, \$100,000 that you paid this illegal, and so we are going to have to charge taxes on that

because that deduction is not a business expense; it is actually income instead.

So the tax that would be applied to that \$100,000, so to speak, plus interest, plus penalty, and it would turn your \$10-an-hour illegal into about a \$16-an-hour illegal. That is the essence of it.

And we require, also, that the IRS and the Social Security Administration that is collecting Social Security deposits from workers all across this country, sometimes multiple sources on the same Social Security number—I mean, scores and scores of people on the same Social Security number.

Social Security stopped sending out no-match letters some years ago under the Obama administration. We put that all back together, and we require the IRS communicate with and trade information with the Social Security Administration to target and flag those false Social Security numbers. And then also bring the Department of Homeland Security to the table so that the IRS, Social Security Administration, and the Department of Homeland Security are all working together to cooperate to enforce immigration law and denying, then, the deductibility of the employer.

The employer will have all kinds of incentives to clean up his workforce. In fact, we have a 6-year statute of limitations that compiles or accrues over the years. And so if you are sitting there with a 6-year potential liability, you are going to want to be with a clean workforce.

That is another piece that is a policy that the President has been for, at least in the past. Now, things move on, but we are—we have an immigration policy that became part of the platform for the President of the United States, and in that policy and throughout, there are multiple times in speeches he announced that he is going to end DACA. He is going to end DACA, and we all expected that that would happen at noon January 20 of this year when the President was inaugurated out here on the west portico of the Capitol not very far from where I stand right now. That would have been consistent with his campaign promise: build the wall, and the unconstitutional DACA.

And so while he was signing executive orders—and I give him credit. He went to the Oval Office, and at least he had a formal signing of multiple executive orders that day, launched his Presidency with work right on the spot instead of—he shortened up the parade for himself and went to work for America. Hats off to President Trump for that, and I support his entire agenda, and I am going to do my best to help him keep his word on that entire agenda.

But we found out weeks later that DACA permits were still being issued, and they were still being extended, and those permits also included work permits.

□ 2030

So President Obama's unconstitutional DACA—deferred action for children of aliens—program was continued, and it continues actually to this day under the Trump administration, completely in contradiction with the campaign promises he made. I would say many more times than Barack Obama made the statement that he didn't have the constitutional authority.

Barack Obama violated the Constitution. President Trump has continued that violation. And I am calling upon him to keep his campaign promise, restore the respect for the rule of law; and DACA, by the executive action, just sign it off and end it.

If we fail to do that—and I have worked for 31 years to restore the respect for the rule of law with regard to immigration. In 1986, Ronald Reagan signed the Amnesty Act. At least he was honest about it. He called it the Amnesty Act.

I listened to what I could on the debate from the House and the Senate. And I didn't believe it would pass either Chamber, but it passed both Chambers, and it was messaged to President Reagan's desk. I read the material and I thought that through. I thought: I don't have to worry about this. Ronald Reagan will know that, if he signs the Amnesty Act, it does great damage to the rule of law and it will take years to restore it.

Now, the deal was to be that if you sign the Amnesty Act, we will give you the reinforcement and will enforce the law from this point forward, and illegal immigration will no longer be a problem in America. That is what the deal was. They promised us that this Amnesty Act in 1986 would be the last one ever, that they were going to then set about establishing respect for the law.

Well, it seems to me that most everybody in this Congress has lost any memory they may have had about what was going on in 1986. Things haven't changed. There is nothing really new under the Sun. Human nature is human nature. It is what it has been for 2,000 or more years.

But when there is a promise made that is "first you give us this, and then we will see to it that you get that," let me see, we had Ronald Reagan's successor, Bush 41—George Herbert Walker Bush, a great American as well—who took the promise and said: "Read my lips: No new taxes." He said that more than 22 times, too.

But when it got to the point where he was wanting to get some spending cuts, the Democrats went to him and said: Do you know what? We have to raise taxes if you are going to get spending cuts. We will follow through on our part of the deal if you just sign the tax increases that they pass.

So Bush 41, dealing honestly and straight up in believing that the people he was dealing with had the level of integrity that he had, signed the tax increase in exchange for the promise of the spending cuts. And we all know the

answer to that, Mr. Speaker. We know the story. When you make a deal like that and you don't have the things on the table that you are supposed to get for that deal, never comes first. You don't see them.

So George H. W. Bush 41 signed the tax increase. He violated his pledge of: "Read my lips: No new taxes." Not only did he sign that and not get the spending cuts, but they beat him over the head with that at his reelection. He lost his reelection because of it, and we ended up with Bill Clinton.

I think that lesson should be enough to make us all smart enough to know not to make a deal like that. Ronald Reagan recanted and regretted that he signed the Amnesty Act because of the damage he did to the rule of law when he signed that. There were to be 1 million who would be recipients of the Amnesty Act of 1986. It turned out to be 3 million because, let's say, the estimates were wrong, but there was a lot of fraud and corruption, and people slipped through because we didn't have tight enough security on it.

So 3 million people got amnesty in 1986, and that was a path to citizenship—a fairly short path to citizenship—as well. I have talked to some of them, and they say: It was great for me.

And some of them think that amnesty for another group of people is all right.

But if the law means nothing to someone and they violate the law, or it is an obstruction and they slip around that law, or, as we have today, some number that is 750,000 to 800,000 DACA recipients, they are demanding that we grant them amnesty. Illegal aliens came here to the Capitol, right out here on the grass, 2 weeks ago, on a Monday, gathering around, demanding that Congress grant them amnesty.

Now, how do you go to a foreign country and be unlawfully present in that country and you go protest to the government that they should ignore their own laws because you have something that you want that you slipped across the border to have access to?

And I do not buy the idea that most of these DACA recipients are kids. The average age is 23. Some of them go all the way up to 37. Some of them are bald. Many of them have gray in their beard. Some have a build like mine. I don't think of them as kids when I look at them. Yet there are some who came across the Rio Grande River on their mother's arm. And, no, they didn't know and they didn't form intent.

But there are a whole lot of them who would qualify under this, who did have intent and did know. And we know there are a whole lot of them also—and I have witnessed this with my eyes and helped to collar some of them as this goes on, and I have walked through the desert and seen the burlap backpacks that they haul marijuana in into the United States. And it is not only marijuana.

But some of these will qualify under DACA. Drug smugglers will qualify.

And they say: We will do background checks.

Well, how do you do a background check on somebody who doesn't have a legal existence in their home country?

If there is no record of them existing there, then they will say: Well, we didn't find anything negative.

Of course not. The person didn't exist.

I know I had an individual I wanted on my Hispanic Advisory Committee. A smart, personable, young businessman. I said: I would like to have you sit down and I would like to hear your advice. I would like to have your finger on the pulse because I want to know what is going on in the minority communities, and I want to make sure that I am doing a good job of representing them, too.

And he said: That is fine. I am interested.

And I said: But before I put you on this committee, I have to make sure. So I want to see—and he said he was born in America—no. Excuse me. He said he was born in Mexico, but he is a naturalized citizen.

And I said: Well, I would like to see your birth certificate.

And he said: Okay. I can get it for you.

And I said: How long will that take you?

And he said: Well, it will only take me a few days. What do you want the birth certificate to say?

Now, that is a legal document, and you don't get to ask that question if you have respect for the rule of law.

I just dropped him as a potential candidate on my advisory committee. And a year or two later, I found out that ICE had come in, picked him up, and deported him. I didn't know that he was illegal, even at that time. I just didn't trust him any longer when he asked me that question. So that is another individual that could have been, and may still be, qualified to be a recipient.

Those that come across the border, I have gone down and looked into the jail cells of the Border Patrol, and there were hundreds there at the times that I have been there—hundreds of them. They are sorted between children, women, men. And the men far outweigh the numbers of women or children. Some of the numbers we looked at were 80 percent men. Some of these men will present themselves as under 18—many of them will.

And I have seen the cell with those minor males that are in there. And some of those, supposedly, minor males have gray in their beard. They would also qualify, or at least apply for. And if we didn't have a way to do a background check on them—and many cases we don't—and they give you a false name, what do you do after that if they had never been printed? They would qualify.

And MS-13. We know that there have been a significant number of MS-13



gang members, who also are DACA recipients. That has been published multiple times throughout the last couple of years.

So many people that we would want to get out of this country would be granted a path of citizenship to stay in this country. That is why it is so wrong. And it disrespects natural-born American citizens. It even more disrespects naturalized American citizens, who came here the right way, applied the right way, and spent maybe 7 years to get in a position where they could take the naturalization test and then the oath; which is a grand day, by the way, Mr. Speaker.

I look forward to every opportunity I have to speak to the naturalization services that take place in the Federal building in Sioux City, Iowa. And I always tell them: Remember this date that you became an American citizen, and I want you to memorize it.

I hand them a Constitution with the date on it and my signature on it. Hopefully, they will have the reverence for the Constitution that I and many have developed as well.

But we have a vigor that comes into America. These are self-selected people. If you have ten kids growing up in a family in Bangladesh or Ireland or Italy, or wherever it might be, and one of them has the inspiration to come to America, you are going to get the one who had the greatest aspirations, the one with the strongest ambition, the one with the deepest convictions in themselves. The most can-do sibling out of 1, 5, 6, or 10 is the one that has the dream to come to America. So they line up and come here legally. And they built this country for over 200 years. We need to respect the rule of law that they came here to embrace.

We have people who are leaving countries that don't have the rule of law, that are corrupt. And when I go to Mexico, I see the problems down there. Any country that I go to, I can put together a formula to put that country into the First World from the Third World, except for corruption.

How do you address the corruption?

Law doesn't mean law in Mexico and points south the way it does in this country. If you get pulled over by the police, they might pull you over because they might need an extra tip that week. You may not be speeding, you might not have run a stop sign, they might just pull you over, and you have to pay the "bribe," "mordida." That is corruption itself. That doesn't happen in this country hardly ever because we get their badge number and they are out of a job.

No country is free of corruption, but we have a healthy country with a rule of law. It is a pillar of American exceptionalism. We cannot, Mr. Speaker—and my message is to the President—we cannot reward lawbreakers. It destroys the rule of law. Our hearts cannot be leading ahead of our heads.

There is a DACA recipient that I would like to adopt, if that is what it

takes to keep that individual in America. I think that much of that individual. I like this individual a lot and respect this individual a lot, but I love the rule of law. I love the rule of law because, without it, we descend into the Third World.

So this debate about, "don't you have a heart, don't you know that these are just 800,000 kids, and can't we just give them the confidence of having a legal status in America," I say, no, not if you love the country, you can't do that.

And it is not our doing. They either came here of their own volition, formed the intent, or their parents did. The law is the law. We don't tell the judge: Don't be putting this criminal in prison because he has kids at home.

We don't worry about the separation of families when it comes to enforcing the law against American citizens, but we worry about enforcing the law against people who have intentional and willfully divided themselves.

Now, what happens if we should grant amnesty to DACA recipients and then deport their parents?

That splits up the family.

I say: Get right with the law, go to your home country and apply to come in the legal way. By the way, when you arrive in your home country, if you truly are characterized for DACA, you will have a free American education that the American taxpayers pay for. You will be bilingual. You will have familial connections in your community. You will have a skill set that is there, a good educational set. You will know what it looks like to live in a country where things work generally right.

And if you think of the 7,000 Peace Corps workers that are working in about 130 countries in the world and how much good they do, they go to countries without speaking the language, they don't know where they are going to land, they find a way to help out and contribute. People going home is not being condemned to hell. People going home is like sending out 750,000 or 800,000 fresh Peace Corps workers back to their home countries.

What could be a greater economic development plan for Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua than for their best and brightest to go home and build their countries while they apply to come back to the United States?

That is the best solution we can have, Mr. Speaker. And we don't even have a serious debate on that in here unless I bring it up.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives this evening. I am hopeful that we made a little bit of progress. I will continue to defend the rule of law and the Constitution. I challenge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### WORLDWIDE REFUGEE CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUTHERFORD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) for 30 minutes.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as with any moment in the history of our Nation, in the world, there are tragedies and disasters which sear the conscience and call us to action not only because we are American, but because we are human.

Some of these tragedies are man-made, others are the work of nature. Some hit close to home, such as the hurricanes that devastated Texas—my home State—Florida, and Puerto Rico, taking many lives and inflicting billions of dollars in damage. Some are the work of one man, like the shooter in Las Vegas, who took 58 lives.

□ 2045

Like many in this Chamber, I have spoken up on these tragedies close to home.

Tonight, I would like to speak to a humanitarian crisis far away from us; that is, the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya Muslims in Burma.

Since late August, 500,000 Rohingya have been forced out of their nation. The Rohingya, after being driven out of Burma, have sought refuge in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and India. Some have even come as far as the United States of America.

These victims had been driven out of the country their ancestors have called home for hundreds of years through a systematic campaign of murder and rape and the destruction of entire villages and communities.

It can be challenging for host governments to care for these displaced populations, which can lead to additional instability, especially in countries with low incomes or with governments already under stress to provide services to their citizens. We see this pattern worldwide.

The refugees from the war in Syria have fled to Lebanon and Turkey, to Iraq, and across the Mediterranean to Europe. Over a million Syrian refugees are in Lebanon, which is over one-sixth of that nation's population. Over 3.2 million refugees have found their way to Turkey, and 600,000 in Jordan. Almost 1 million have sought refuge in Europe.

There are similar crises in the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan, and Yemen. Millions of people have fled conflicts and instabilities in these regions, usually finding refuge in

neighboring countries vulnerable to instability.

The United States, our own country, has already been affected by instability. In recent years, gang-related violence in Central America has driven hundreds of thousands of people both to the north and to the south. We remember the tens of thousands of primarily women and children who made their way to the United States and were able to find refuge here. Tens of thousands more, though, remained in Mexico, where the resources to care for these children are scarce.

These crises have global consequences, and failure to address them early will eventually affect the United States. The United States cannot afford to treat these crises as events “over there” or just far away. This affects us in a very real way.

These events highlight how important the concept of democracy and inclusive governance are. Democratic countries with inclusive governments respect the rights of citizens and address the concerns of even the most vulnerable and least empowered.

This is why U.S. foreign assistance matters so much. We invest in the rest of the world and build the capacity of states and societies to govern in a more democratic and inclusive manner. We also empower regional diplomacy through our engagement, allowing regions to address any such instability in a single country collectively.

Like many others in the global community, I welcomed Aung San Suu Kyi's rise to power in Burma a few years ago in 2015. Her election ended decades of military rule when the Burmese military government held elections and promised civilian rule.

This kind of democratization, enabled by the persistent diplomacy of President Obama and Secretary Clinton, is a precious and rare event in the world and occurs only now and then.

Last year, after the Burmese military drove tens of thousands of Rohingya out of the country, Aung San Suu Kyi moved to establish the Rakhine Advisory Commission under former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.

This was an important step towards addressing the concerns of the Rohingya, which includes disenfranchisement, statelessness, and widespread discrimination.

The situation today looks far different and far less flattering to Counselor Suu Kyi. This year, the crisis is much more devastating, with hundreds of thousands displaced.

I wanted to be able to show you some of these images of the catastrophe the Rohingya face. These are, of course, just a few, but as I said, they sear the conscience and call us to action.

This year, the crisis, as I mentioned, is much more devastating, with hundreds of thousands displaced. Like many others in Congress, I have been disappointed in the lack of moral leadership Aung San Suu Kyi has demonstrated.

When hundreds of thousands of people are driven out of the country, their villages burned, people slaughtered, women and children raped, I would expect a Nobel Peace Prize-winning leader of a country to take action. Counselor Suu Kyi rose to power because her moral leadership and her persistence in the face of adversity inspired millions. It is deeply saddening and disappointing to witness her lack of action today.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), my colleague.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding and for bringing up this very important issue.

I just want to make a few comments, and I just want to say, what makes the United States exceptional among all nations is the moral courage and leadership we have displayed throughout our history.

So many times, in the face of great terror and significant moral crisis, the United States has acted as a force for good. We have supported our allies to restore order where there was once chaos. Where people have been suffering famine and drought, we have stepped up to provide food and water. Time and again, the world has faced crises, and the United States has stepped up to defend the moral good.

The crisis in Myanmar presents yet another challenge for the global community, but in this moral crisis is yet another opportunity for our Nation to once again lead.

As we speak, the Rohingya people are suffering undue hardship and violence under a government that has failed to uphold the values inherent to a vibrant democracy.

It has been reported that an average of 2,000 Rohingya are fleeing the country each day. Denied basic rights for decades, the Rohingya people have been subject to systematic discrimination as a religious minority in a predominantly Buddhist country. The state has gone so far as to completely deny citizenship to the Rohingya people since 1982.

Serious accusations of ethnic cleansing and genocide have been leveled against the government, which has failed to respond appropriately to the calls for calm and peace.

While the government has the right to defend itself against any form of insurgency, common, agreed-upon rules of warfare dictate that all civilians be protected. This rule is sacred and must not be broken. Despite this, reports of abuse against civilians are running rampant in Myanmar.

More than 200 villages have been destroyed, many burned to the ground by government forces. Communities are being wiped away as hundreds, possibly even thousands, of civilians are slaughtered. The crisis demands our immediate attention.

Just recently, the House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing, and

Chairman ROYCE stated plainly: “This is ethnic cleansing.”

Mr. Speaker, I must agree.

Every conflict is complex, and this one is no different, but it must be made clear that under no conditions should the rights of innocent civilians be abridged. To the Government of Myanmar, we must make it equally as clear that their behavior will not be tolerated.

I recently met with constituents from Myanmar in my district office. Utica, the largest city in New York's 22nd Congressional District, is home to a vibrant refugee community. We are home to the largest Bosnian refugee population in the Nation, a population that was also fleeing ethnic cleansing in their own home country of the former Yugoslavia.

My constituents shared with me their personal stories and deep despair over the violence in their home country. They asked that I do all I can to make their voices heard, and tonight I am proud to speak on their behalf.

They shared with me horrific pictures of violence and death, of torture of children, of young people, of women, of men, of families. It was simply just appalling.

Mr. Speaker, when our Nation faces moral challenges, it is in our nature not to back down. I must insist that this time be no different. I call on my colleagues to stand up and speak out and to act on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas and my colleague for highlighting this very important issue. I urge all of my colleagues to understand this is a tragedy of major proportions that is happening in our world today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas again for bringing this issue to the floor.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TENNEY for joining me at this late hour to speak on this issue.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, this is so important. I really am grateful to my friend from Texas for doing this.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York for her comments.

This humanitarian crisis in Burma, or Myanmar, requires international attention and action, as Representative TENNEY said. The actions of the Burmese State in ethnically cleansing hundreds of thousands of Rohingya demonstrate this need for international action.

The most immediate need is to facilitate access by NGOs and international organizations in the Rakhine State. There are tens of thousands of Rohingya internally displaced within the Rakhine State.

Violence against Rohingya, including the burning of villages, continues despite international condemnation. Just yesterday, a full month and a half after the beginning of this crisis, 11,000 Rohingya reportedly crossed over into Bangladesh.

Access by international groups would allow the rest of the world to deliver assistance to the Rohingya still within Rakhine and to help prevent further violence.

The United States, in partnership with our allies around the world, must also assist Bangladesh in providing for the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya they lost. This includes food, water, shelter, and medicine. We cannot allow this humanitarian catastrophe to escalate further.

We know a political settlement to repatriation is possible. Bangladesh and Burma have arrived at such agreements in the past. The United States and our allies must support the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and the Bangladeshi Government's effort to identify all Rohingya who have arrived.

Given the Burmese Government's reluctance to acknowledge Rohingya as Burmese citizens, leaving them stateless, identification by the United States would assist in repatriation by defining who originates from Rakhine State.

The Rohingya have suffered violence and forced displacement for decades. Hundreds of Rohingya villages have been burned to the ground, and they can no longer return to their homes, because in many cases, those homes no longer exist.

The full extent of the catastrophe is not yet known, as thousands of Rohingya remain unaccounted for. More Rohingya have fled Myanmar in the past 2 months than remain in Rakhine State. Would the Rohingya want to return if given a chance? What would need to be done to create the conditions required for such a return?

Tackling the underlying issues that led to the violent displacement of the Rohingya will take decades to resolve, the most important of which will be a military that lacks transparency or oversight; that is, the Burmese military.

Burma's Government and military currently face a dozen separate insurgencies against forces claiming to represent minority communities. While the Burmese Government has taken steps to reach a cease-fire and political agreements with a number of these groups, continued fighting in various parts of the country undoubtedly contributes to the military's independence and free rein.

Allowing the Rohingya to be comfortable in Burma will require assurances by the Burmese Government to respect the rights of Rohingya to live on the land they have lived on for hundreds of years. This can only come with citizenship for the Rohingya, and greater democracy, where the government is responsive to the needs of the population and respects the human rights and civil liberties of ethnic and religious minorities.

Developing a political settlement towards greater accountability in the Burmese Government and citizenship

for the Rohingya will be difficult and may take years.

Important actions the United States can take include limiting our support for the Burmese military, given their complicity in these crimes. For example, Congress considered expanding support for the Burmese military this year. That will not occur, given the actions of the Burmese military.

I also believe sanctions on individuals found to be complicit in ethnic cleansing, including local military commanders, are warranted.

Designating military commanders in Rakhine State as Specially Designated Nationals, SDNs, would send a powerful message that these crimes will not be tolerated anywhere in the world, including in Burma.

On the other hand, I would like to recognize the immense generosity the people and Government of Bangladesh have shown during this crisis. Over 500,000 people, most of whom are women, children, and the elderly, have fled to Bangladesh since August 25. The Government of Bangladesh has accepted these people and worked to provide for them within the limits of their abilities, while supporting international efforts to address the root causes of the crisis.

□ 2100

Bangladesh, a country not much larger than Iowa, with a population of more than 150 million, faces significant challenges in taking care of this refugee population. The 500,000 Rohingya join hundreds of thousands who have arrived in Bangladesh during previous such forced migrations.

Bangladesh has done an admirable job, but the limits on the Bangladeshi Government to provide for these refugee populations are real, and the nation requires international assistance. This includes assistance from the United States, the United Nations, Europe, and Japan. Countries in the region must also step up and provide support for the refugee populations in Bangladesh, especially China and India, which maintain close relationships with both Bangladesh and Burma.

As I mentioned previously, we are in an age of accelerated news, and with social media, we are in an age of knowing. Things that were once far away that were hardly seen or known directly or firsthand can now be seen over the internet, on Facebook, on Twitter, on other social media. The pace at which news comes at us now can give us a case of whiplash, and governing in this body and trying to deal with even the things that just affect the United States of America, such as the hurricanes that have hit Texas and Florida and Puerto Rico, can sometimes feel overwhelming. There can be a temptation to hunker down, to look no further than our own borders, to try to solve the problems that confront us not only as Americans but as fellow human beings.

These days, with everything going on in our own Nation, sometimes it

doesn't seem like there is a time to take our focus off of our challenges and speak about other things, some of them far away. But it is important that we think about, that we remember, that we reflect, and that we try to solve the problems and challenges of other peoples.

It is often said that the United States can't be the policeman of the world, and I believe that is true. But there are things that call our conscience that do move us to action where I believe that we do have a responsibility to act as the leader among nations in the world.

The crisis in Burma, the ethnic cleansing that has victimized the Rohingya people, is one of those instances, and I wanted to speak about it today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues tonight in calling the attention of Congress to the horrific ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya people that is underway in Burma.

On August 25th of this year, an illegal armed militant group known as the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army attacked police outposts in Rakhine state, Burma, killing twelve people. I condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms.

Forty-five years ago, Pope Paul VI said "If you want peace, work for justice." Especially in today's world, I do not believe that armed insurgency is the best path to justice, nor to peace.

But let me be clear: the Burmese government's response to the August 25th attack over the last several weeks has been so disproportionate that one is at a loss to describe it.

The military has carried out a massive scorched earth campaign in which hundreds of Rohingya villages and tens of thousands of homes have been burned and destroyed. There are many highly credible reports of people, including children, being shot in the back as they ran, and of rapes, torture and ill-treatment.

As many as half a million Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh and at least another 27,000 are displaced within Burma.

That is on top of the tens of thousands of Rohingya who fled after a previous armed militant attack a year ago. Most of the Rohingya population of Rakhine has now been forced out of the state. 120,000 of those who remain live in IDP camps.

Stunningly disproportionate? Unimaginably, brutally, barbarically disproportionate? Flagrantly, in-your-face, try-to-stop-me disproportionate? I am left without words.

Do I regret the killing of 12 policemen on August 25th? Absolutely. Do more than half a million people deserve to be punished for it? Absolutely not.

And please do not talk to me about a "growing terrorist threat" in Burma.

The Rohingya in Burma are stateless and subject to the most profound discrimination. They are poverty-stricken, denied access to education and work, and their movements within the country are restricted—and all of this was true before the militant attacks.

The Burmese government has allowed the conditions for radicalization and extremism to

fester within their country. The current military campaign is only making things worse.

What should we be doing?

First, all available leverage should be brought to bear on the Burmese military to end its violent campaign against the Rohingya people. Its actions to date are entirely removed from any concept of rule of law and make a mockery of the government's obligation to protect its people.

Second, the government must ensure full and unfettered humanitarian access to Rakhine state. Given the dimensions of the crisis, this means letting in experienced aid organizations in addition to the Red Cross.

It also means ending the threats, allegations and misinformation against humanitarian staff that have sparked fear among humanitarian workers, especially national staff, and contributed to an environment in which targeted attacks against humanitarian staff have taken place. Enough already.

Third, the Burmese government must grant access to the fact-finding mission authorized by the UN Human Rights Council last March, after last "clearance operation" the military conducted from October 2016 to February of this year. Now more than ever, we need an objective international presence on the ground.

Fourth, a roadmap to ending this crisis already exists. It's found in the Final Report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State led by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

International actors, including this Congress, must do all we can to make sure that the Burmese government implements the recommendations included in that report—especially the ones that have to do with ending statelessness and poverty. Otherwise, we should not be surprised if the situation in Burma just gets worse and worse.

Finally, we need to be clear-eyed about the nature of the Burmese government.

I have been among those in Congress who have welcomed the political transition in Burma that began with the 2015 elections. But the events of the last few weeks raise very serious questions about the extent to which that transition is real.

As events have unfolded in Burma in recent weeks, a lot of criticism has been focused on Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Laureate and de facto leader of the civilian government. Her defenders have responded that the military still has a lot of power, and that she has to walk a very fine line.

But if that is true, what kind of "democratic" government are we talking about?

If the military is still in charge—if the civilian government is powerless to stop ethnic cleansing—then we need to recognize that.

If not, then let's be clear about the requirements of moral leadership. Standing by in silence—even worse, downplaying the seriousness of what is happening to the Rohingya people because of political convenience—is not the leadership we expect from Aung San Suu Kyi.

Those who want to claim the mantle of human rights leader must defend the human rights of all people.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HASTINGS (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

#### SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 692. An act to provide for integrated plan permits, to establish an Office of the Municipal Ombudsman, to promote green infrastructure, and to require the revision of financial capability guidance; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; in addition, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

#### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on October 6, 2017, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 1117. To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an emergency or disaster.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 11, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2804. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tolfenpyrad; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0309; FRL-9967-72] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2805. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's notification of its 2017 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency's current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1833b(a); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1206(a); (103 Stat. 523); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2806. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-

9969-10-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2807. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tall oil fatty acids; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0012; FRL-9965-58] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2808. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Nutritional Yeast Manufacturing Residual Risk and Technology Review [EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0730; FRL-9969-08-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS93) received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2809. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Chemical Recovery Combustion Sources at Kraft, Soda, Sulfite, and Stand-Alone Semicemical Pulp Mills [EPA-HQ-OAR-2014-0741; FRL-9969-06-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS46) received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2810. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Florpyrauxifen-benzyl; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0560; FRL-9963-66] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2811. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0513; FRL-9969-12-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2812. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation; State of Utah; Salt Lake County and Utah County Nonattainment Area Coarse Particulate Matter State Implementation Plan Revisions to Control Measures for Point Sources [EPA-R08-OAR-2017-0298; FRL-9969-01-Region 8] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2813. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Oregon; Permitting and General Rule Revisions [EPA-R10-OAR-2015-0333; FRL-9968-98-Region 10] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2814. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation

of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; California; Ambient Ozone Monitoring Requirements [EPA-R09-OAR-2017-0265; FRL-9969-18-Region 9] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2815. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of South Carolina; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan [EPA-R04-OAR-2013-0389; FRL-9969-23-Region 4] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2816. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Alabama; Regional Haze Plan and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub>, 2010 NO<sub>2</sub>, 2010 SO<sub>2</sub>, and 2008 Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R04-OAR-2017-0104; FRL-9969-21-Region 4] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2817. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; KY; Miscellaneous Source Specific Revisions for Jefferson County [EPA-R04-OAR-2017-0356; FRL-9969-19-Region 4] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2818. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — Air Quality Implementation Plan; Iowa; Amendment to the Administrative Consent Order, Grain Processing Corporation, Muscatine, Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0143; FRL-9969-14-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2819. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Colorado; Revisions to Regulation Number 3 [EPA-R08-OAR-2017-0446; FRL-9969-46-Region 8] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2820. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Balancing Authority Control, Inadvertent Interchange, and Facility Interconnection Reliability Standards [Docket No.: RM16-13-000; Order No.: 836] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2821. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Important Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ethnological Materials From the Republic of Mali [CBP Dec. 17-12] (RIN: 1515-AE32) received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 378. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-341). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2196. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients (Rept. 115-342). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 3031. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-343). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 3243. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information technology, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-344). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 562. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, through October 20, 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 115-345). Referred to the House Calendar.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 3995. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to submit to Congress a report on promoting broadband internet access service for veterans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 3996. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to permit other courts to transfer certain cases to United States Tax Court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROTHFUS (for himself and Ms. GABBARD):

H.R. 3997. A bill to waive the application fee for any special use permit for veterans demonstrations and special events at war memorials on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 3998. A bill to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny

the transfer of firearms or the issuance of explosives licenses to known or suspected terrorists, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. POLIS, Mr. LANCE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PAULSEN, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. KIHUEN, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. DENT, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 3999. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the manufacture, possession, or transfer of any part or combination of parts that is designed and functions to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle but does not convert the semiautomatic rifle into a machinegun, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. COMSTOCK:

H.R. 4000. A bill to provide for the establishment of a mechanism to allow borrowers of Federal student loans to refinance their loans, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance to employer payment of interest on certain refinanced student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. TONKO, Mr. COSTA, Mr. NOLAN, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 4001. A bill to provide for the refinancing and recalculation of certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4002. A bill to amend chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that in the case of an agency that appeals the ruling of a court under that chapter, and does not prevail on appeal, the court shall award the prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4003. A bill to require that in a notice of proposed rule making for a new rule, the notice shall identify two rules which the agency intends to repeal; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4004. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require employees of the White House to enroll in Obamacare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4005. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for medical assistance under Medicaid for inmates during the 30-day period preceding release from a public institution; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. LEE, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. HANABUSA, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CRIST, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. BASS, Mr. WALKER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. HILL, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H. Res. 563. A resolution honoring the accomplishments of the 9 historically Black colleges and universities that celebrated their sesquicentennial the week of September 24, 2017; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

H. Res. 564. A resolution affirming the constitutional power of Congress over the Nation's debts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BASS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. MOORE):

H. Res. 565. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of October 9, 2017, as "World Post Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mrs. COMSTOCK):

H. Res. 566. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of October 4, 2017, through October 10, 2017, as World Space Week and for the designation of the week of October 8, 2017, through October 14, 2017, as Earth Science Week; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

129. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 7, urging state and federal departments and agencies responsible for stewardship of public resources, as specified, to make collabora-

tive, statewide salmon fishery restoration an urgent and high priority; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

130. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Resolution 2010, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

131. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Resolution 2013, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

132. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 5, urging the Congress of the United States to pass a law to reschedule marijuana or cannabis and its derivatives from a Schedule I drug to an alternative schedule; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary.

133. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 8, requesting the Governor to request the President of the United States, Members of Congress, and the Federal Highway Administration to dedicate increased funding to California to accelerate and support the planning and development of the plan and to accelerate the completion of existing nonmotorized recreational trails; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Transportation and Infrastructure.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 3995.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 3996

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 9

By Mr. ROTHFUS:

H.R. 3997.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution. To borrow Money on the credit of the United States.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 3998.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida:

H.R. 3999.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. COMSTOCK:

H.R. 4000.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (Power to lay and collect Taxes); Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (Commerce Clause); and the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 4001.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4002.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4003.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4004.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4005.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1:

"The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States"

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 62: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 490: Mr. KINZINGER.

H.R. 535: Mr. ZELDIN and Mr. CURBELO of Florida.

H.R. 586: Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 592: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. LATTI, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 613: Mr. WILLIAMS.

H.R. 620: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. HARRIS.

H.R. 638: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. TAKANO, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 669: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 685: Mr. MCEACHIN.

H.R. 772: Mr. WALKER.

H.R. 807: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. THORNBERRY, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 820: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. MITCHELL.

H.R. 848: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 866: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 959: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 1017: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Ms. DeLAURO.

H.R. 1038: Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 1046: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. COLE, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.



H.R. 1111: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.  
 H.R. 1150: Mr. SESSIONS.  
 H.R. 1179: Mr. NORMAN.  
 H.R. 1225: Mr. YODER.  
 H.R. 1243: Ms. DELBENE.  
 H.R. 1251: Mr. SUOZZI.  
 H.R. 1267: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. CLAY.  
 H.R. 1270: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. KING of New York.  
 H.R. 1276: Mr. CAPUANO.  
 H.R. 1279: Mr. KIND.  
 H.R. 1298: Mr. CARBAJAL and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 1300: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.  
 H.R. 1358: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mrs. DEMINGS.  
 H.R. 1360: Mr. RATCLIFFE.  
 H.R. 1406: Mr. BROWN of Maryland.  
 H.R. 1470: Mr. O'HALLERAN.  
 H.R. 1478: Mr. PANETTA.  
 H.R. 1669: Mr. KILMER.  
 H.R. 1670: Mr. KILMER.  
 H.R. 1676: Mr. O'ROURKE.  
 H.R. 1772: Ms. ROSEN.  
 H.R. 1861: Mr. BUDD.  
 H.R. 1896: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Ms. NORTON.  
 H.R. 1928: Mrs. LOVE.  
 H.R. 1960: Mr. LEVIN.  
 H.R. 1982: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
 H.R. 2034: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
 H.R. 2063: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
 H.R. 2095: Mr. TAKANO.  
 H.R. 2101: Mr. BARR and Mr. BYRNE.  
 H.R. 2121: Mr. POLIQUIN and Mr. BANKS of Indiana.  
 H.R. 2228: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
 H.R. 2242: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.  
 H.R. 2259: Mr. COLE.  
 H.R. 2318: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.  
 H.R. 2319: Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. BARLETTA, and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.  
 H.R. 2345: Mr. HASTINGS.  
 H.R. 2401: Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 2545: Mr. VALADAO.  
 H.R. 2633: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.  
 H.R. 2651: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. HECK.  
 H.R. 2670: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.  
 H.R. 2740: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mrs. LOVE, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. KATKO.  
 H.R. 2790: Mr. HECK.  
 H.R. 2856: Mr. GOMEZ and Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.  
 H.R. 2871: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BLUM, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 2906: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 2933: Mr. CROWLEY.  
 H.R. 2938: Ms. GABBARD.  
 H.R. 3031: Mr. CARBAJAL.  
 H.R. 3034: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.  
 H.R. 3042: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. BERGMAN.  
 H.R. 3107: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
 H.R. 3108: Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 3122: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.  
 H.R. 3148: Ms. NORTON.  
 H.R. 3303: Ms. TSONGAS.  
 H.R. 3314: Mr. HASTINGS.  
 H.R. 3324: Mr. PAULSEN.  
 H.R. 3329: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. BILLIRAKIS.  
 H.R. 3380: Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.  
 H.R. 3415: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. TSONGAS, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.  
 H.R. 3441: Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. COMER, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. HOLDING, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LATTA, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.  
 H.R. 3452: Mr. CUELLAR.  
 H.R. 3459: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.  
 H.R. 3530: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.  
 H.R. 3666: Ms. MCSALLY.  
 H.R. 3711: Mr. RATCLIFFE.  
 H.R. 3716: Mr. DESAULNIER.  
 H.R. 3741: Mr. RICHMOND.  
 H.R. 3749: Ms. JACKSON LEE.  
 H.R. 3757: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. DESAULNIER.  
 H.R. 3759: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. BYRNE.  
 H.R. 3761: Mr. ABRAHAM.  
 H.R. 3766: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. PERLMUTTER.  
 H.R. 3789: Mr. DESAULNIER.  
 H.R. 3798: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. WOODALL.  
 H.R. 3806: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.  
 H.R. 3808: Mr. REED.  
 H.R. 3814: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.  
 H.R. 3832: Mr. FASO, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. HUDSON.  
 H.R. 3852: Ms. ADAMS.  
 H.R. 3853: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
 H.R. 3860: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.  
 H.R. 3862: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. TAKANO.  
 H.R. 3875: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
 H.R. 3881: Ms. SINEMA, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. DELAULO, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr.

McGOVERN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mrs. DEMINGS.

H.R. 3889: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 3923: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RICHMOND, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 3938: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 3940: Mr. FARENTHOLD.

H.R. 3947: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 3987: Ms. MENG.

H. Con. Res. 43: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H. Con. Res. 52: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H. Con. Res. 81: Mr. WALZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. RUSH.

H. Res. 220: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.

H. Res. 257: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H. Res. 367: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mrs. DINGELL.

H. Res. 401: Mr. LYNCH.

H. Res. 529: Mr. O'HALLERAN.

H. Res. 555: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. KIHUEN.

H. Res. 556: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Ms. ESHOO.

H. Res. 557: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Ms. ESHOO.

H. Res. 560: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H. Res. 561: Mr. GOSAR.

#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

##### OFFERED BY MR. GOWDY

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in S. 585 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

##### OFFERED BY MR. ROE OF TENNESSEE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs in S. 585 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017

No. 162

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:52 and 47 seconds a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROY BLUNT, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, October 10, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ROY BLUNT, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. BLUNT thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY,  
OCTOBER 13, 2017, AT 8:30 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until Friday, October 13, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:53 and 25 seconds a.m., adjourned until Friday, October 13, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S6379

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO CURT HAENSEL

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, according to their website, "The Office of the Legislative Counsel provides legislative drafting services to the Committees and Members of the House of Representatives on a non-partisan, impartial, and confidential basis. Our goal is to work with Committees and Members to understand their policy preferences in order to implement those preferences through clear, concise, and legally effective legislative language." For the last 30 years, no one has performed all of the above more professionally and more successfully than Curt Haensel.

Curt has specialized in transportation law his entire career. His sharp mind and relentless pursuit of perfection (sometimes in spite of staff and Member interference) ensured that bills considered by the Committee and the House were clear and coherent expressions of legislative intent. I and my predecessors have relied on Curt's expertise and creativity to draft legislative solutions to many complex issues. Even under immense pressure, Curt's guidance was always calm, balanced, and fair. I don't know how many bills or amendments Curt has drafted (it must be in the thousands), but I can tell you that a great many of our Nation's most profound laws bear his fingerprints.

Curt not only cared about the work product, but more importantly, he cared about the people he was working with. He has infinite patience, is humble, and is kind. He served as a mentor and tremendous professional example to many young legislative counsels and Committee staff over the last 30 years.

On behalf of myself, the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the entire House of Representatives, I want to express my sincere gratitude to Curt for his years of service. His contributions to this institution have been invaluable and the impact of his guidance will be felt for many, many years to come. I wish him, his wife Meg, and his two children well. I wish him good luck with his future endeavors. He will be missed.

### TRIBUTE TO CURT HAENSEL

#### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Curt Haensel, Senior Counsel of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the U.S. House of Representatives.

For the past 30 years, Curt has served as Legislative Counsel to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In that time, Curt has worked to assist the Committee under eight different Committee Chairmen,

half a dozen Ranking Members, and hundreds of our Committee colleagues. He formally began working with the Committee in 1989 and one of the first bills he worked on was H.R. 598, which banned smoking on commercial airlines. At the Committee markup, Curt drafted dozens of amendments as the smokers and their advocates worked to fill the amendment tree, as they tried to kill the bill by endless amendment. The back row of the dais filled with cigarette smoke as the Committee slowly worked its will and ultimately banned smoking on airlines.

After this baptism by fire, Curt went on to work on every single surface transportation, aviation, water resources, and environmental law that this Committee has enacted. He took our ideas, and working with our staffs, used his gifted legislative craftsmanship to shape our transportation future. ISTEA, TEA 21, SAFETEA-LU, and the FAST Act; Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Acts; WRDA after WRDA; and dozens of other Acts all bear his stamp.

One of Curt's great achievements was his work, in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks, on the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (ATSA), which enhanced aviation and surface transportation security and created the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). After months of negotiation and as the Thanksgiving break approached, House and Senate Committee staffs and House Legislative Counsel spent 20-hour days drafting the agreement. The Committee Chairmen and Ranking Members finally resolved the remaining critical issues on a Thursday afternoon. House and Senate Leaders wanted the agreement passed the following day, Friday, before the House and Senate adjourned for Thanksgiving. As Committee staffs and Legislative Counsels Curt Haensel and Dave Mendelsohn finished drafting the conference agreement around 4:30 a.m., the Office of Legislative Counsel computers failed and the computer files of the agreement were completely lost. The Committees faced the prospect that Congress may not be able to pass the legislation before the Thanksgiving break. There was a genuine fear that, over the break, the hard-fought agreement could fall apart. Instead, Curt and his colleagues, after a walk around the block to clear their heads, recreated the text from memory and, later that day, both the House and Senate passed the agreement. Two days later, President George W. Bush signed the bill into law and the U.S. Department of Transportation began immediately implementing it to make our country safer. This little-known story is but one example of Curt's contributions to the House of Representatives and the American people.

Curt will continue to serve in his new role. He is joining the Office of Legislative Counsel of the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), where he will help develop DOD's request for the National Defense Authorization Act each year. I am hopeful that this new opportunity provides Curt more time to spend with his wife, Meg, and their two kids, Ada and Peter,

and hopefully watching his beloved Wisconsin Badgers and spending longer vacations on Lake Michigan's shores.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will truly miss his expertise, wise counsel, and friendship. I join all of my colleagues on the Committee in wishing Curt all the best in his new endeavor.

### 106TH NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

#### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 106th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). I would like to wish the people of Taiwan and Taiwanese Americans a very Happy Double Ten Day.

Taiwan is an extraordinary friend of the United States and continuing this strong relationship is important. Taiwanese companies employ more than 12,000 workers in the United States with a total worker compensation of almost a billion dollars. Taiwan also serves as a strong example of democracy in Asia, and provides the U.S. with an ally to further promote peace and stability in the region.

The state of California has deep and growing ties with Taiwan. More than 800 Taiwanese companies have offices or investments in the state. California exports \$7.46 billion worth of goods to Taiwan, serving as its 7th largest export market in the world. The majority of the Taiwanese-American community is concentrated in Los Angeles County, and many have gone on to settle in the San Gabriel Valley providing our local communities with new traditions, employment opportunities and economic growth.

With continued commitment to this important relationship, I would like to again wish Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER CAPODANNO'S PASSING

#### HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the passing of Father Vincent Capodanno.

Fr. Capodanno was born on February 13, 1929, in Mariners Harbor on Staten Island. Growing up, he attended P.S. 44 and Curtis High School, after which he attended Fordham University for one year. A proud lifelong Staten Islander, he loved volunteering in the Staten Island community. Perhaps this dedication to serving others led him to find his true calling from God.

Vincent Capodanno made a decision to devote his life to God and joined the Maryknoll

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Missionary Seminary in Ossining, New York. He was ordained as a priest in June 1957 and spent the rest of his life serving all of God's children. After his ordination, Fr. Capodanno traveled to Taiwan as a missionary and then ventured to Hong Kong to teach disadvantaged children. As America's involvement in Vietnam increased, he decided to join the Army as a chaplain. It was in the jungles of Vietnam where Fr. Capodanno sacrificed his life protecting others.

On September 4, 1967, as American troops were taking fire, Fr. Capodanno moved from soldier to soldier administering Last Rites. By then, the enemy had shot him over 20 times. Despite it all, he carried on and with his dying breath, he used his body to protect his fellow Americans from the gunfire. At just 38 years old, Fr. Vincent Capodanno died as a man of peace during a war of destruction. His heroic actions earned him the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Silver Star, and the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, Fr. Vincent Capodanno embodied the virtues of courage, altruism, and piety. While many know him as the namesake of one of Staten Island's thoroughfares, we must never forget the sacrifices he made. He was a true American hero, and with the recent anniversary of his death, I rise to salute him and everything he did for his community, country, and faith.

CHRIS PENDLETON

**HON. FRANCIS ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Pendleton, President & CEO of the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, who has announced her retirement at the end of the year. For the past 16 years, Chris has been a cornerstone of our community and is leaving the Estates well positioned for the future.

More than 250,000 people each year visit the Edison & Ford Winter Estates. In fact, the annual Holiday Nights event was named by USA Today as one of the '10 Best Historic Homes for the Holidays.' While the Estates and our entire community are still recovering from Hurricane Irma and the damage left behind, the Estates are open for visitors.

I thank Chris for her years of service to Southwest Florida. Her actions to preserve the history and honor of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford for future generations are invaluable.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF KEYS FOR KIDS MINISTRIES

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Keys for Kids Ministries on the celebration of its 75th anniversary. Keys for Kids Ministries, formerly known as the Children's Bible Hour, will be celebrating this momentous occasion on October 12.

Inspired by a group of West Michigan pastors, Children's Bible Hour first aired as radio programming in 1942. It utilized kid's choir, solos, and radio drama to help children learn about God and inspire a relationship with Jesus. Wildly successful, the Children's Bible Hour grew to television and—by the end of the decade—was filling churches and auditoriums across the country.

In 1982, the Keys for Kids devotional was introduced, followed by the Keys for Kids radio broadcast in 1989. Both continue to reach thousands of children each month. Always striving to reach more individuals with the story of Jesus, Keys for Kids recently launched the Creature Feature Storytellers. This marked the beginning of Keys for Kids International and plans to translate the Keys for Kids devotional into 100 different languages.

While its name has changed, its organization expanded, and ministries diversified, Keys for Kids remains true to the mission established by Rev. Gil Cosselman, Dr. David Otis Fuller, Rev. Malcom Cronk and Rev. Donald Hescott.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Keys for Kids Ministries, the millions who have been impacted, and the millions yet to be reached. May we celebrate the 75 years of inspired work and look forward to the years ahead.

HONORING BAHÁ'Í FAITH

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Bahá'í Faith to recognize the two-hundredth year anniversary of the birth of Bahá'u'lláh.

Bahá'u'lláh, born in 1817, is the founder of the Bahá'í Faith which is currently practiced by people across the world. Its teachings promote oneness and human unity between all people regardless of race, religion, or class.

Bahá'u'lláh's teachings have proven to be timeless as followers continue to study and practice his teachings two centuries after his birth. As many as five million people make up the Bahá'í Faith in virtually every country. This includes Minneapolis and its surrounding areas where members of the faith continue to promote unity and serve their community.

The Bahá'í Faith has shown a continued commitment to peace and community globally as well as in Minnesota. I am proud to represent members of their community as they celebrate the two-hundredth year anniversary of Bahá'u'lláh.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF BUDDY RICH

**HON. ROGER WILLIAMS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Birthday of Buddy Rich, and to celebrate his status as the world's greatest drummer, along with his patriotism and love of

country. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Buddy Rich was known for his virtuoso technique, power, and speed. His legacy to the genre of jazz will live on forever.

HONORING DR. EDWIN M. QUEZADA

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as a former educator in the public school system, I know just how hard the administrators and faculty work to help our kids achieve academic excellence. Today I honor one of those fine educators, Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, the Superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools, who is being recognized by the Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers for all he has done for our students in the community.

As Yonkers Superintendent, Dr. Quezada moves the agenda of public education in Yonkers, New York, the fourth largest school district in the state serving almost 28,000 students and employing 3,600 staff. The Trustees of the Yonkers Board of Education appointed Dr. Quezada Superintendent of Schools on March 16, 2016 after serving as Deputy Superintendent for two years. Dr. Quezada supervises all functions of the school district's 39 schools and central administration—teaching and learning, budgetary, human resources, facilities, communications, technology and works with city, state and federal officials. Under Dr. Quezada's tutelage Yonkers boasts the highest on-time graduation rate, 82 percent, of New York State's Big 5 city school districts. In 2016, My Brother's Keeper Challenge was launched in the City of Yonkers, initiated by Dr. Quezada and flourishing through a coalition with Mayor Mike Spano and Nepperhan Community Center Executive Director Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic.

An immigrant from the Dominican Republic, Dr. Quezada came to the Bronx, New York in September 1983 at age 16. Completing most of his early education in the Dominican Republic, he graduated from James Monroe High School in 1985 and immediately began his college career at Herbert H. Lehman College, my alma mater. In January of 1998, Dr. Quezada joined the Yonkers Public Schools as a Human Relations Facilitator. Recognized as a mover and shaker, he was encouraged to obtain a degree in school administration. He was appointed assistant principal at Gorton High School in 2000, Principal of Emerson Middle in 2003, and Principal of Lincoln High School in 2004. During his tenure as principal, Lincoln High School received state and local accolades for improving student achievement. After ten years as a principal, Dr. Quezada was promoted to Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Administration and Supervision, before finally rising to Superintendent.

When not shaping young minds, Dr. Quezada enjoys spending time with his family—his wife, Gladys, a Yonkers teacher and their two children, Edwin Joseph and Alyssa Marie. They are his pride and joy.

Dr. Quezada has been an exemplary public servant and is most deserving of this recognition. Congratulations to him on the occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF EMERICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire Tenth Congressional District of Virginia, I would like to honor Emerick Elementary School in Purcellville, Virginia for being named a 2017 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Now in its 35th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,500 private and public schools across the United States. This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities of Emerick Elementary School, in creating a safe and welcoming environment where students can cultivate and master challenging and engaging curriculum in all subjects. Based on their vision, "Today's Learners . . . Tomorrow's Leaders," Emerick Elementary School nurtures a strong academic foundation, incorporating library and computer lab visits, as well as a wided set number of opportunities from sports to crafting to computer coding, robotics, art nights, math club, Odyssey of the Mind and environmental classes. The 2017 National Blue Ribbon School Honor, recognizes Emerick Elementary School as an Exemplary High Performing School because of their graduation rates, as well as their exemplary performance amongst Virginia's schools measured by state assessments and national tests.

In addition to the recognition from the National Blue Ribbon School, for the past three years, Emerick Elementary has placed 90 percent or higher for each core subject tested in the Virginia Standards of Learning, and in 2016, emerged with scores of 97% percent or higher in all subjects tested. These results are remarkable and based on these recent successes, it is clear that Emerick is committed to developing productive problem solvers in the 21st century, who will become the future leaders of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Principal Dawn Williams, Loudoun County Superintendent, Dr. Eric Williams and the entire Emerick Elementary School community on this achievement in being named a 2017 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. I can say in great confidence that this elementary school has been an irreplaceable part of this district and has had an exceptional impact on cultivating America's youth.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT E. DOYLE UPON HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

### HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Robert E. Doyle for serving 40

years with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), the largest local park agency in the United States.

Mr. Doyle began his career as a park ranger, serving at various parks within EBRPD. Throughout his tenure he moved to the Planning & Design Department, then working to develop a first of its kind Regional Trails Master Plan. He later became a Chief, then Assistant General Manager for Land and Planning in 1990, where he served for 21 years—leading the greatest expansion of parks and trails in the Park District's 80 year history. He now serves as General Manager.

In 1971, Mr. Doyle was a founding board member of Save Mount Diablo, a nonprofit land trust and conservation organization that serves to protect, restore, and add acreage to Mount Diablo State Park, one of the ecological treasures of the San Francisco Bay Area. He served on the board for 25 years, including several years as Board president. Mr. Doyle was also a founding board member of the East Bay Conservation Corps and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, and served as a board member of the Bay Area Open Space Council.

As part of his responsibility to advance the mission and vision of the East Bay Parks, Mr. Doyle works tirelessly to advance urban parks and recreation, garnering support nationally and internationally. He has presented twice regarding the Park District's Healthy Parks Healthy People initiatives at International Union for Conservation of Nature World Parks conferences, as well as at national park and open space conferences on a variety of impactful issues.

I congratulate Mr. Doyle on this milestone achievement, thank him for all he has done for EBRPD and the community, and wish him best of luck in the future.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 555 on agreeing to the McClintock Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

HONORING MR. ED McMILLAN, 2018 RECIPIENT OF THE ORDER OF LINCOLN

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for a very special purpose, to recognize Mr. Ed McMillan of Greenville, IL, as a 2018 recipient of the Order of Lincoln.

Established in 1964, the Order of Lincoln is the state's highest award and each honoree receives a warrant signed by the Governor and bearing the Great Seal of the State of Illinois, certifying his or her investiture as a Laureate of the Order of Lincoln.

The purpose of the award is to "honor individuals whose outstanding contributions to the

betterment of mankind have been accomplished in or on behalf of the State of Illinois." Mr. McMillan is a worthy recipient of this award. He grew up in McDonough County on a family farm, graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign, and is currently the President & CEO of Purina Mills. He has served on many industry boards of directors plus extensive civic and philanthropic organizations, including Chairman, Board of Trustees, University of Illinois System.

Mr. McMillan's selection by the Academy is in recognition of his leadership in state and national agribusiness. His investiture will occur during the Lincoln Academy's annual convocation next year, when he will join a cohort of 340 distinguished Illinois citizens who have been honored over the past 54 years.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend to Mr. McMillan, as well as the other Order of Lincoln recipients, my sincerest congratulations and very best wishes.

### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

### HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 4, 2017*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the following letter to the Honorable PAUL RYAN, Speaker of the House.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, October 4, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,  
Speaker of the House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: We write to request that, as the Congress considers the Fiscal Year 2018 budget resolution and any legislation written to comply with its reconciliation instructions, we continue to follow the long-standing practice of evaluating the fiscal effects of legislation relative to the baseline developed by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Using the CBO baseline will allow us to provide the American people the most accurate forecast of how proposed fiscal policies will affect our ballooning federal deficit.

CBO's baseline conforms to the principles that Congress has defined in law. For decades we have consistently used the CBO baseline to accurately calculate the fiscal and distributional impacts of tax reform policy. The CBO baseline is the best mechanism to measure how we are affecting our nation's balance sheets because it reflects the clearest intent of Congress, accurately accounts for the costs of extending specific program provisions scheduled to expire, and keeps legislation in line with fiscal requirements set forth in reconciliation instructions within the budget resolution.

Our constituents are calling on us to enact sound fiscal policy, and many have answered that call with promises to get our financial house in order. Unfortunately, according to recent news reports, some members of the House of Representatives may break that promise by opting instead to change the baseline we traditionally use to determine how new tax policy proposals will affect the deficit. Instead, some lawmakers are pushing you to use a "current-policy" baseline that would, among other things, obscure the true cost of extending deficit-increasing tax cuts by ignoring their expiration dates written into the tax code.

Changing the baseline could cause Congress to inaccurately calculate the detrimental impact of tax cuts and therefore allow lawmakers to disregard important rules such as those that guide the use of reconciliation in order to limit long-term deficit increases. As you know, the Byrd Rule prevents reconciliation procedures from being used in the Senate to pass legislation that increases the deficit beyond the budget window. Adopting a current-policy baseline would effectively hide the \$400 billion cost of extending expiring tax cuts, and pretend that they are revenue neutral in order to meet the Senate's reconciliation requirements.

Such a change will have costly consequences. Every dollar of lost revenue hidden by a misleading or inaccurate current-policy baseline is a dollar added to our deficit that will in turn make it harder to adequately fund important priorities, such as national security, infrastructure, disaster relief, health care and the safety net for our most vulnerable citizens.

Resorting to gimmicks such as the "current-policy baseline" and creating unrealistic assumptions about economic growth rates obscures the full cost of tax cuts and severely undermines our ability to put the federal budget on a sustainable fiscal path. Whether these gimmicks serve a procedural or rhetorical role, the end result is the same: fiscally irresponsible policies, larger deficits, and erosion of the American people's confidence in our fiscal stewardship.

As you know, our annual deficits are projected to swell to over \$1 trillion by the end of the decade. Equally troublesome, the national debt is on an unsustainable trajectory. If we willfully choose to inaccurately account for taxing and spending legislation, then we will place our economic wellbeing in jeopardy and saddle future generations with the burden of shouldering today's fiscal wrongs. Instead, we must be open and honest with the American people. The traditional CBO baseline best accomplishes that by providing the most transparent and precise measure of the impacts of our fiscal policies.

Accordingly, we urge you to resist calls to abandon the CBO baseline in the budget resolution so that the American people are fully apprised of how we are affecting the nation's financial future.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,  
Co-Chair, House  
Democratic Policy  
and Communications  
Committee.

JOSEPH CROWLEY,  
Chairman, House  
Democratic Caucus.

STENY H. HOYER,  
House Democratic  
Whip.

JOHN YARMUTH,  
Ranking Member,  
House Committee on  
the Budget.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR. DENNIS PRESLEY

#### HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis Presley of Buncombe County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Mr. Presley for over 35 years of service

to our communities and congratulate him on his recent retirement.

Dennis Presley began his career with Skyland Fire and Rescue in 1978. From here, Chief Presley worked his way up from Firefighter to Chief of Skyland Fire and Rescue. While working in Skyland, Chief Presley also served Asheville Fire and Rescue as both a Captain and District Commander. During his time in Asheville, Chief Presley's team was the first to save a life using an automatic defibrillator, and he received an award from the Asheville City Manager for his heroism during a swift water rescue. All told, Chief Presley has earned over 10 awards for his leadership, heroism, and devotion to his community.

Outside of the fire station, Chief Presley continues his dedication to the firefighters of Western North Carolina by serving as an insurance agent for over thirty fire departments and as the first Chairman of the Buncombe County Fire Chiefs Association. In addition to this work in Buncombe County, Chief Presley actively serves in the Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters, the Buncombe County Firefighters Association, and as a Statistician with the North Carolina State Firefighters Association. While he has gone above and beyond the call of duty for his fellow firemen, Chief Presley has also found time to lead his family, serve his church, and invest in many friendships.

Chief Presley has earned the respect and friendship of the people of Buncombe County through his hard work and wide-ranging involvement in his community. For his service to Western North Carolina, I am honored to express to Chief Presley the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

#### HONORING GERTIE SOLE ARCHER

#### HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Gertie Sole Archer, who passed away in August, for her service and contributions to her community. Mrs. Archer was born in Muddy Creek, West Virginia and lived in Middlebourne, WV for most of her life. Mrs. Archer contributed to her community as a County Clerk in Tyler County, as an active member in the Muddy Creek Church of Christ, the Tyler County High School Athletic and Band Boosters, and offered her time to many other community organizations.

As a long-standing and active member of the Tyler County Republican Women's Club, she enthusiastically volunteered to support the election of Republican candidates. As the first Republican Congressman from the 1st District in 42 years, I benefited from her work and friendship. She also worked tirelessly to improve the streetscape, parks and recreational facilities in Middlebourne, her hometown for 50 years.

Today, we honor Mrs. Archer and her contributions to her community. We join her friends and family in mourning the loss of a stalwart in her community.

#### MR. TOM CAMP'S 55 YEARS OF SAFE DRIVING FOR UPS

#### HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Livonia, Michigan resident, Tom Camp on achieving 55 years of safe driving for the United Parcel Service (UPS).

Tom Camp is the first driver ever in UPS history to achieve 55 years of safe driving with no Department of Transportation reportable accidents during this period.

Having driven over a million miles and transported over 5 million packages, 77-year-old Marine Corps veteran Tom Camp is always on the lookout. He attributes his safe driving record to his keen sense of caution and awareness of the other drivers on the road.

We should all take note from Mr. Camp's advice, "You just have to pay attention out there. You can't get distracted. Safety is No. 1."

His dedication to safety is perhaps only rivaled by his passion for customer service. "Anyone can deliver a package," he says. "It's the person delivering the package that makes all the difference," and, since 1962, Mr. Camp has taken this to heart, brightening the days of so many of his neighbors.

I congratulate Mr. Camp on this record-breaking achievement and applaud him for serving as a role model of conscientious driving and safety. Here's to many more years of safe driving.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, on October 8 to 14, 2017, across the United States and throughout the world, patients, plasma donors and plasma collection centers will join together to observe International Plasma Awareness Week. There will be events to raise global awareness of the crucial need for plasma to create lifesaving therapies, recognize that plasma donors contribute greatly in saving and improving lives, and increase understanding of the many rare diseases and plasma protein therapies that help to treat them.

Plasma-derived therapies and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic medicines that are either infused or injected to treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic diseases including bleeding disorders, hereditary angioedema, immune deficiencies, pulmonary disorders, neurological disorders, shock and trauma, liver cirrhosis, and infectious diseases such as tetanus, hepatitis, and rabies.

Plasma-derived therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world, including in emergency and surgical medicine. Plasma protein therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved



patient outcomes, and extended the life expectancy of individuals with rare, chronic diseases and conditions.

Healthy, committed donors provide the plasma essential to manufacture these lifesaving therapies; and there are more than 575 plasma collection centers in the U.S. that have demonstrated their commitment to plasma donor and patient safety and quality by earning International Quality Plasma Program (IQPP) certification.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of International Plasma Awareness Week, honoring those committed donors and collection centers who make and collect needed and lifesaving contributions.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JONATHAN SCHAFER

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing United States Coast Guard Community Affairs Officer Jonathan Schaffer for his years of service as liaison to the District of Columbia.

Prior to his service as a Community Affairs Officer, Lieutenant Commander Schaffer served as a drilling reservist. He was deployed overseas several times, including for one year in Iraq with Patrol Forces Southwest Asia as the Liaison to the Iraqi Coastal Border Guard, and in Spain with Port Security Unit 305.

Since Lt. Cmdr. Schaffer began his position as a Community Affairs Officer for the District of Columbia, he and his coworkers have contributed more than 55,000 volunteer hours to the District; delivered over 200,000 pounds of food to pantries in the Ward 8 community as part of the "Feds Feed Families" outreach program; loaned over 2,300 tents to various community outreach events; and implemented a successful "Partnerships in Education and Services" program at six D.C.-area schools.

In addition to his work as a Community Affairs Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Schaffer served as the Coast Guard liaison to the Anacostia Coordinating Council (ACC), a group that has been dedicated to the Ward 8 community since 1983. Lt. Cmdr. Schaffer was designated as the liaison when he approached Vice Admiral Manson Brown at an ACC meeting.

Lt. Cmdr. Schaffer also worked at the United States Department of the Interior for 25 years as a National Park Service Ranger, Federal Game Warden and Wildlife Refuge Manager at nine locations, from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lt. Cmdr. Jonathan Schaffer for his years of service to the U.S. government and the District of Columbia.

HONORING NEPPERHAN COMMUNITY CENTER 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in my district there are several community focused organizations that do amazing work on behalf of my constituents. The Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers is one of those standout organizations, and this year it celebrates its incredible 75th anniversary.

Nepperhan Community Center (NCC) was founded by a group of concerned neighbors in the Nepperhan section of Yonkers (now Runyon Heights) in the late 1930s. This group wanted a meeting place that could also accommodate recreational activities and classes for the youth. In 1942, NCC became officially incorporated, and with the help of United Way, purchased a building at 117 Palisades Avenue. The activities offered at this location expanded to include cooking, basketball, sewing and occasional social dances. Scholarships were also offered to deserving students for up-state campsites. Through the years, the programs and services offered by NCC increased by more than twenty-fold. Even though the demand for services was increasing, NCC was still functioning on a part-time basis. In the late 1960s, NCC relocated to 302 Warburton Avenue, where it undertook new programming, along with Yonkers YCAP, in the field of education, tutoring, remedial reading and math. NCC also started its first parental involvement program.

NCC initiated a Black Studies and Cultural Enrichment program, which for the first time, afforded many young individuals in the community the experience of going to black theater, plays, and seeing ballets. Today, NCC still carries on that tradition, in addition to presenting our own theatrical productions. During this time, NCC became aware of the many social ills that were affecting our community in the areas of employment, housing, education, high youth crime, etc. NCC addressed these issues by setting up an Ex-Offender Program and a few years later a Youthful Offender program, with built-in help that offered assistance with employment, housing, life coping skills and education. Other programs included: welfare rights, veterans services, pre-trial intervention, drug programs, social and recreational programs.

NCC has grown from a part-time social agency, serving a few people yearly, to now providing direct services, referral and supportive services on a full-time basis. The addition of these capabilities has enabled NCC to assist thousands of children and their families. Today under strong leadership from Dr. Jim Bostic and his team, it continues to offer invaluable service to the Yonkers community and beyond. I want to congratulate them on 75 terrific years and say here's to 75 more.

WELCOMING NEW CITIZENS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on Friday, October 13, 2017. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On October 13, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Christopher Richard Sweet, Hikmat Mahmood Jbara, Abimbola Harninat Elenitoba-Johnson, Inessa Sergeyevna Bodrova, Radoslaw Jan Nabrzyski, Bhavik Kapilbhai Pathak, Zivojin Gino Djuric, Petrica Murariu Botez, Corina Gabriela Murariu-Botez, Obiefuna Foster Eze, Ai-Anh Thi Truong, Pavel Veljanoski, Caterina Susana Bosio Ruiz, Kan-Wei Coduti, Alejandra Diaz, Bijan Farajzadeh, Angela Izchel Fonseca, Adrian Fuentes, Gabriela Herrera, Jean Yves Jean Mardy, Petra Pacheco Dorado, Maria Guadalupe Perretta, Patricia Reid-Sinclair, Liliana Romo, Samantha Wenz, Jade Yu Rui Yang, Radomir Cvetkovski, Lan Phuoc Mai, Gilles Jean Claude Charriere and Heidy Lobo Gibson.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country " . . . of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on October 13, 2017. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

## TRIBUTE TO JOHN GABRIEL SMITH

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. John Gabriel Smith, a constituent in St. Mary's County, Maryland, whose courage broke barriers and advanced the cause of integration and equality in our country. This Saturday, he will be honored at the homecoming game at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, DC, where he made history in 1954 as its first African-American graduate.

Along with his two sisters, Gabe—as he is known to his family, friends, and neighbors in St. Mary's County—learned hard work and diligence from his parents amid the turbulent times of Jim Crow as he grew up in the 1940's. He found comfort and calm in the teachings of his Catholic faith and in fellowship at St. Peter Claver Church in Ridge, Maryland. There, he served as an altar boy and met the Jesuit priest who would become his mentor, Father Horace McKenna. Under the guidance of Father McKenna, Gabe developed a deep desire to find God and pursue the priesthood. Asking his spiritual guide what he would need to do, he learned that he would first have to study Latin. However, none of the segregated schools in Southern Maryland offered Latin courses.

From Father McKenna, though, Gabe also learned that Gonzaga College High offered Latin and all the other subjects prerequisite to prepare for the priesthood—and then-Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle had ordered the desegregation of the schools within the Archdiocese of Washington in 1948. Thus, in 1951, Gabe walked into Gonzaga College High as its first African-American student, bravely breaking the color barrier and preparing the way for the more than 1,100 African-American Gonzaga College High students who have followed him.

At Gonzaga College High, Gabe witnessed less of the abusive conditions of segregation that he had encountered in Southern Maryland, and many of his classmates stood with him in solidarity against bigotry outside the school walls. But as a member of the school's Purple Eagle football team, he had to face opposing teams from still-segregated schools whose players and fans directed their ignorance and hatred in his direction. His coach, Joe Kozik, stood by him throughout and presided over a team that rallied around Gabe. He would never forget the support he found among his peers and from Coach Kozik, who became as much a mentor to him as Father McKenna had been.

When Gabe became the first African-American student to graduate Gonzaga College High in 1954, the Supreme Court reached its historic decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* and required the complete integration of America's public schools. Gabe and others who had already been trailblazers inspired other young African-American students around the country to be the first in their communities to desegregate their local schools as our nation struggled to achieve full enforcement of the *Brown* decision in the years that followed.

While Gabe never ended up becoming a priest, he nonetheless rooted his life strongly in faith and built a career as a pharmacist

upon the foundation in Latin and the sciences that he studied first at Gonzaga College High and then later at Howard University. He worked in the field for more than four decades, retiring this past spring. For many years now, Gabe has been an active member of the Mt. Ennon Baptist Church's Men's Ministry, helping to inspire others to achieve and pursue their own dreams as he did his. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Gabe on his retirement after a long and productive career serving the community in St. Mary's County and on being honored this weekend at his alma mater. I wish him and his wife of fifty years—Mrs. Jeanette Graves Smith—and their entire family well on this happy occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE QUINCY AIR  
EVAC LIFETEAM'S 20TH ANNI-  
VERSARY**HON. DARIN LaHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam for their commitment to our community as they celebrate their 20th anniversary.

For twenty years, the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam provided lifesaving access to crucial medical services for those who need it most. By providing air ambulance support, the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam provided safe and rapid emergency transportation to the most vulnerable in the Quincy community. The Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam is essential to the safety of citizens in the rural communities of Illinois' 18th Congressional District.

The Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam sets the gold standard for care among Air Evac Lifeteams around the country. In 2017, the National Paramedic of the year for Air Evac Lifeteam was awarded to a member of Quincy's team. I am grateful to the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam for their service to our community and the lives they have saved.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam on twenty years of service and I wish for their continued safety as they continue to protect the Quincy community.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIM MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, owing to a leave of absence for personal reasons, I was unable to cast votes on October 4th and 5th. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call No. 553, the Rep. Grijalva Progressive Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY' 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted "Nay."

On Roll Call No. 554, the Rep. Scott Congressional Black Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY' 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted "Nay."

On Roll Call No. 555, the Rep. McClintock Republican Study Committee Substitute

Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY' 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted "Nay."

On Roll Call No. 556, Rep. Yarmuth Democratic Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY' 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted "Nay."

On Roll Call No. 557, Adoption of H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY' 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 558, Approval of the Journal, I would have voted "Aye."

HONORING THE LIFE OF PATRICIA  
YATES**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Patricia Yates, who passed away on October 2, 2017, after a lifetime of public service to her community. Born in San Francisco on February 18, 1921, Mrs. Yates was raised in a family with a well-regarded history of public service at both the state and local level. This environment helped mold in her a passion for service. She graduated from U.C. Berkeley in 1941 before immediately going to work for the federal government.

During World War II, Mrs. Yates worked as an economist for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and traveled across the country to inspect stores and track the prices of vital goods. This exposure to people from all walks of life and their diverse lifestyles, contextualized her dedication to public service.

By 1952, Mrs. Yates moved with her husband to Marin County, where she would reside for the rest of her life. She attained a Masters of Arts in teaching from Dominican University in 1967, and became a teacher at San Domenico High School in San Anselmo. There, she endeavored to instill her passion for civic engagement into her students, eventually becoming the chair of the school's social studies department. After 8 years of teaching, Mrs. Yates retired in order to pursue her growing passion for land and resource conservation in Marin County.

Following years of volunteer work with Marin Conservation League, Mrs. Yates became one of the first women to be elected to the Board of the Marin Municipal Water District in 1982. She occupied this role for six years over the course of two terms, serving as the Board President for two of those years. Even after retiring from the Board in 1991, she continued to volunteer her time teaching students and the public about ecology and the importance of the natural environment.

Mr. Speaker, the depth of Mrs. Yates' service to her community has left a lasting legacy in Marin County, and she will be dearly missed. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and honor her many contributions.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF DIANE GLASSER**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous sadness that I rise today to honor the life and contributions of Diane Glasser. Diane was a former Vice Mayor of the City of Tamarac, a dear personal friend, a constituent, and an activist who contributed greatly to the growth of Democratic politics in Broward County and Florida. She passed away on October 10, 2017 at the age of 89, and is survived by her son Craig Glasser of Sunrise, Florida.

Originally from Mill Basin in Brooklyn, New York, Diane and her husband moved to the City of Tamarac in 1973. She worked in the construction industry for twelve years. In 2004, Diane was appointed First Vice Chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party.

She was then elected to the Tamarac City Commission in 2008, where she served until her retirement in 2016. She also served on various Boards in Broward County, including the Broward School Board Senior Advisory Task Force and the Broward Human Rights Board.

Diane was an Elected Florida Delegate in the last six Democratic National Conventions, and cast her vote in the Electoral College for the State of Florida in 1996 for Former President Bill Clinton and in 2000 for Former Vice President Al Gore.

Mr. Speaker, Diane was a very special woman who profoundly impacted our community. Her spirit and loving memory will always live on. She will be dearly missed.

HONORING THOMAS MACAULAY'S  
50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE  
MASSENA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Macaulay for his 50 years of service in the Massena Volunteer Fire Department.

Since joining the department in 1967, Mr. Macaulay has proven to be an effective leader, advancing through the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Chief of the department. As a testament to his distinguished service, he was chosen by his peers as Fireman of the Year in 1998. A decade later, Mr. Macaulay was elected to serve as Chief of the department until 2010. Currently serving as Treasurer, he continues to be a valuable asset to the Massena community.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Mr. Macaulay for the sacrifices he has made in protecting the residents of Massena for over half a century. We applaud Mr. Macaulay for his selfless service, and for acting as an example for future generations of firefighters.

HONORING THE WORK OF REGISTERED  
NURSES IN AFTERMATH OF NATURAL DISASTERS**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor registered nurses across our nation who have urgently worked on the front lines after the deadly hurricanes this past season. In particular, Dotty Nygard and Rhonda Risner, who are a part of a large network of volunteers that are deployed after natural disasters to help take care of patients.

Three weeks after Hurricane Harvey hit south Texas, registered nurses were deployed for weeks at a time. These nurses gave dedicated care to their patients to ensure that the viruses had not spread to anyone and that they received the specific attention they needed. Their work was integral to the safety of victims after natural disasters. Viruses and diseases can spread quickly after natural disasters due to the number of different people in confined places. It is the nurses who spot the signs of these viruses as soon as they can, and it is the nurses who become the first defense against the spreading of flu and other life-threatening viruses.

While serving the victims of the hurricane, nurses encountered a multitude of chronic issues, including heart attacks, strokes, and hypertensive crises from patients who have either never had access to health care or lost their medications in the floods. It is because of nurses' insight, diligent observation, and quick response that these people are still alive today.

Nurses across the nation have created a network of 20,000 volunteers who have traveled the world, helping victims of natural disasters. The nurses have gone to the Philippines after a tsunami, Haiti following the earthquake, and worked with the U.S. Navy in Central and South America. Many of the patients they face have no access to their medications after a disaster or their access to medical care is severely limited or non-existent. These nurses are at the front lines saving lives in disasters all over the world, and their work cannot be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, across the nation registered nurses' dedication and benevolence in their care for victims of natural disasters all over the world are integral to patients' safety and well-being and the eventual recovery of any area. We must always remember to honor and thank those first responders in their work around the world, especially those nurses who give up their time in hospitals and health centers to care for victims after a natural disaster.

HONORING DR. DEIRDRE J.  
LOUGHLIN**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Deirdre J. Loughlin. Deirdre's work as a teacher has touched the lives of so many students and families. As Manager of

Staff Development, she poured her time and talent into creating an atmosphere of excellence throughout Worcester Public Schools, leaving a legacy of progress that will benefit our students for years to come.

But Mr. Speaker, her lessons extended far beyond the classroom. In fact, if you spent the day with her, you would think she taught the entire city of Worcester. Seldom does a day pass by that she doesn't run into a former student. Deirdre is the kind of teacher that becomes a friend for life: staying in touch as students grow and continue on to that next chapter, always remembering a name, a memory—and yes, even that homework assignment you missed in Chemistry class.

In the years I have known her, I have been personally inspired by her drive to make things better for every single young person in Worcester, no matter who they are or where they're from. She's worked with the School Committee to set strategic goals and measure success by the best benchmarks available. She's gotten creative, partnering with outside organizations to improve each school's curriculum and expand students' horizons. She's created a solid foundation which our schools will build upon for generations. And she's never lost sight of what it's all about at the end of the day: ensuring that each student has the support and opportunities he or she needs to thrive.

It is with warm wishes and a deep appreciation for her lifetime of public service that I send my congratulations on behalf of the people of Worcester and the United States Congress as together we celebrate "Dr. Deirdre J. Loughlin Day" on October fifteenth, two thousand seventeen.

IN HONOR OF SHERANDO HIGH  
SCHOOL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate an excellent high school in the 10th Congressional District of Virginia, Frederick County's Sherando High School, while the school community is celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

The school's slogan, "where one person can make a difference," summarizes the caring, respectful culture that has been created at Sherando High School during those 25 years. Central to this special culture are the guiding words of the Mission for the staff, wherein they accept responsibility for providing "a safe and supportive environment that encourages intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth" and "a positive educational atmosphere which will encourage students to maximize their learning opportunities." The Sherando community is proud of the fact that the entire community supports students with learning differences and that these students are encouraged to be an important part of the school and to benefit from the daily educational and social activities of the school. This caring attitude also extends to other students, including those struggling with severe depression. Hundreds of members of the Sherando community have participated in Out of the Darkness walks, raising funds for suicide prevention programs.

Another important aspect of Sherando High School's culture is summed up in the third sentence of the staff mission statement: "We will promote the active participation of parents and the community in the educational process." This welcoming attitude of the school has provided the community the opportunity to cheer on Sherando students in a variety of pursuits, including dramatic productions, D.E.C.A and FFA activities, choir concerts, The Widget Cup, a design/build interscholastic competition that shows off the talents of Career and Technical Education students, and the marching band, which recently took first place in General Effect, Drum Major, and Color Guard disciplines at the Hylton High School Marching Band Competition.

The motto of the school, "Once a warrior, always a warrior" certainly rings true in the area of athletics, where community residents and alumni get caught up with Sherando football and other athletics, and even travel long distances to see their athletes compete at regionals and at state championships. And at the very event that took place on October 7, 2017, several athletes from the past are going to be recognized as the first inductees into the Sherando Athletic Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Tyler Gaines, Kelley Washington, Emily Budnyk-Putt, Robyn Ritter-Browne, Zach Franz, Pepper Martin, and Jason Barbe for this special recognition.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in congratulating Principal John Nelson, his dedicated staff and the entire Sherando High School community,

on 25 years of extraordinary success and in wishing them a continuation of this success in the years to come.

YONKERS GUARDIANS  
ASSOCIATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2017*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Yonkers Guardians Association, an organization in the Yonkers community dedicated to promoting equal opportunities within the Yonkers Police Department.

The Yonkers Guardians Association, incorporated in 1988 under the leadership of first president, Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, is a fraternal organization comprised of African American Police and Detention Officers. Dedicated to promoting equal opportunities of appointment, assignment and promotion for members of the Yonkers Police Department, and to devising and executing plans to assist its members morally, financially, educationally and culturally. The association's mission is to encourage community members to be conscience of the criminal justice system and to enhance the quality of life in the African American community. Moreover, the Organization's goal is to foster an indispensable alliance with the community by creating partnerships, programs and building relationships with community based

organizations that share the ideals and common principles of the Guardians Association.

In addition to working to increase the number of African American Police Officers the Guardians have honored outstanding women in our community through its "Mother's Day Award Dinner". Using the motto "Protecting our Future today" the Guardians have also made a commitment to programs that help our local youth partnering with the My Brother's Keeper initiative to mentor our local youth. The Guardians had also formed alliances with the National Association of Black Law Enforcement (NABLEO), the Westchester/Rockland Guardians Association, the Nepperhan Community Center, Compact for Learning in the 21st Century, the Cluster Westchester Mediation Center, the Yonkers Department of Parks and Recreation, the Yonkers Drug Court, the Westchester Coalition Against Bigotry, the Yonkers NAACP, the Yonkers Public Schools, the Municipal Housing Authority and the Salvation Army. Under the leadership of past presidents Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, Detective Charles Morton, Detective Donald Wilson, Detective Stuart Barksdale, Police Officer Joseph Lecoq, Detective Vincent Tilson and current President Sergeant Charles Walker the Guardians seek to bridge relationships between Law Enforcement and the Minority Community, to be a voice against injustice and work to create opportunities for the members of the community which we are a part of. They have done a tremendous job with that, and I congratulate them on all they've accomplished.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

The Senate met at 9:52:47 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 9:53:25 a.m. until 8:30 a.m., on Friday, October 13, 2017.

### Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 15 public bills, H.R. 3995–4005; and H. Res. 563–566 were introduced. **Pages H7917–18**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H7918–19**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 378, to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–341);

H.R. 2196, to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients (H. Rept. 115–342);

H.R. 3031, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–343);

H.R. 3243, to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information technology, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–344); and

H. Res. 562, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, through October

20, 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 115–345). **Page H7917**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fitzpatrick to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7893**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H7895**

**Member Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Murphy, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Eighteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, effective October 21, 2017. **Page H7895**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m. **Page H7896**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”:* H.R. 1858, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 397 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 558;

**Pages H7896–97, H7901–02**

*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”:* H.R. 2254, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635

Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”; **Pages H7898–99**

*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”*; H.R. 2464, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-and-nay vote of 395 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 559;

**Pages H7899, H7902–03**

*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ekpanya Post Office Building”*; H.R. 294, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ekpanya Post Office Building”; and

**Pages H7899–H7900**

*Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017*: S. 1617, to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the “Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint”. **Pages H7900–01**

**Recess**: The House recessed at 5:44 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H7901**

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed**: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”*: H.R. 452, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”. **Pages H7897–98**

**Senate Referrals**: S. 692 was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce. S. 1103 was held at the desk. S. 1595 was held at the desk.

**Page H7916**

**Senate Message**: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H7896.

**Quorum Calls—Votes**: Two ye-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7901–02 and H7902–03. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment**: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### DR. CHRIS KIRKPATRICK WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2017

*Committee on Rules*: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 585, the “Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a closed rule for S. 585. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. In section 2, the rule provides that on any legislative day during the period from October 16, 2017, through October 20, 2017: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 3, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 2. In section 4, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of October 12, 2017, or October 13, 2017, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. Testimony was heard from Representatives Mitchell, Cummings, and Kuster of New Hampshire.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

*Committee on Agriculture*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the 2017 Agenda for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Examining How Covered Entities Utilize the 340B Drug Pricing Program”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.



Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reauthorize appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission, to provide for certain procedural changes to the rules of the Commission to maximize opportunities for public participation and efficient decision making, and for other purposes, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, Full Committee, begin markup on H.R. 477, the “Small Business Mergers, Acquisitions, Sales, and Brokerage Simplification Act of 2017”; H.R. 1116, the “Taking Account of Institutions with Low Operation Risk Act of 2017”; H.R. 1585, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws; H.R. 1645, the “Fostering Innovation Act of 2017”; H.R. 1699, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017”; H.R. 2121, the “Pension, Endowment, and Mutual Fund Access to Banking Act”; H.R. 2148, the “Clarifying Commercial Real Estate Loans”; H.R. 2201, the “Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act”; H.R. 2396, the “Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act”; H.R. 2706, the “Financial Institution Customer Protection Act of 2017”; H.R. 2954, the “Home Mortgage Disclosure Adjustment Act”; H.R. 3072, the “Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Examination and Reporting Threshold Act of 2017”; H.R. 3299, the “Protecting Consumers’ Access to Credit Act of 2017”; H.R. 3312, the “Systemic Risk Designation Improvement Act of 2017”; H.R. 3758, the “Senior Safe Act of 2017”; H.R. 3857, the “Protecting Advice for Small Savers Act of 2017”; H.R. 3898, the “Impeding North Korea’s Access to Finance Act of 2017”; H.R. 3903, the “Encouraging Public Offerings Act of 2017”; H.R. 3911, the “Risk-Based Credit Examination Act”; H.R. 3948, the “Protection of Source Code Act”; H.R. 3971, the “Community Institution Mortgage Relief Act of 2017”; H.R. 3972, the “Family Office Technical Correction Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3973, the “Market Data Protection Act of 2017”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Confronting the Full Range of Iranian Threats”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “The State Department and USAID FY 2018 Africa Budget”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

*Committee on House Administration*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Transforming GPO for the 21st Century and Beyond: Part 4”, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 219, the “Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project Boundary Correction Act”; H.R. 2630, the “La Paz County Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 3373, to amend the District of Columbia Stadium Act of 1957 to extend for an additional 50 years the lease under which the government of the District of Columbia uses the ground under and the parking facilities associated with

Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium; and H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on legislation to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to distribute revenues from oil and gas leasing on the outer Continental Shelf to certain coastal States, and for other purposes, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3990, the “National Monument Creation and Protection Act”; H. Res. 555, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit, respectively, certain documents and other information to the House of Representatives relating to the executive order on the review of designations under the Antiquities Act, 4 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled “Review of the U.S. Government’s Role in Protecting International Religious Freedom”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Security Clearance Investigation Challenges and Reforms”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled “NIST’s Physical Security Vulnerabilities: A GAO Undercover Review”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Evaluating the Paperwork Reduction Act Part II: Are Burdens Being Reduced?”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Highways and Transit Stakeholders’ Perspectives”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on “H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust certain limits on the guaranteed amount of a home loan under the home loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 3018, the “Veterans’ Entry to Apprenticeship Act”; H.R. 3634, the “SERVE Act of 2017”; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the applicability of certain provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act to housing and business loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the use of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for flight training programs; legislation to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces recently separated from active duty service; and legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-

State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Opportunities to Expand U.S. Trade Relationships in the Asia-Pacific Region”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 11 through October 13, 2017

### Senate Chamber

Senate will meet in a pro forma session on Friday, October 13, 2017.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House Committees

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Department of Energy Missions and Management Priorities”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

October 12, Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled “21st Century Trade Barriers: Protectionist Cross Border Data Flow Policies Impact on U.S. Jobs”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Future of Housing in America: Oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development”, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

October 12, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 477, the “Small Business Mergers, Acquisitions, Sales, and Brokerage Simplification Act of 2017”; H.R. 1116, the “Taking Account of Institutions with Low Operation Risk Act of 2017”; H.R. 1585, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws; H.R. 1645, the “Fostering Innovation Act of 2017”; H.R. 1699, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017”; H.R. 2121, the “Pension, Endowment, and Mutual Fund Access to Banking Act”; H.R. 2148, the “Clarifying Commercial Real Estate Loans”; H.R. 2201, the “Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act”; H.R. 2396, the “Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act”; H.R. 2706, the “Financial Institution Customer Protection Act of 2017”; H.R. 2954, the “Home Mortgage Disclosure Adjustment Act”; H.R. 3072, the “Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Examination and Reporting Threshold Act of 2017”; H.R. 3299, the “Protecting Consumers’ Access to Credit Act of 2017”; H.R. 3312, the “Systemic Risk Designation Improvement Act of 2017”; H.R. 3758, the “Senior Safe Act of 2017”; H.R. 3857, the “Protecting Advice for Small Savers Act of 2017”; H.R. 3898, the “Impeding North Korea’s Access to Finance Act of 2017”; H.R. 3903, the “Encouraging Public Offerings Act of 2017”;

H.R. 3911, the “Risk-Based Credit Examination Act”; H.R. 3948, the “Protection of Source Code Act”; H.R. 3971, the “Community Institution Mortgage Relief Act of 2017”; H.R. 3972, the “Family Office Technical Correction Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3973, the “Market Data Protection Act of 2017”, 1 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

October 13, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 477, the “Small Business Mergers, Acquisitions, Sales, and Brokerage Simplification Act of 2017”; H.R. 1116, the “Taking Account of Institutions with Low Operation Risk Act of 2017”; H.R. 1585, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws; H.R. 1645, the “Fostering Innovation Act of 2017”; H.R. 1699, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017”; H.R. 2121, the “Pension, Endowment, and Mutual Fund Access to Banking Act”; H.R. 2148, the “Clarifying Commercial Real Estate Loans”; H.R. 2201, the “Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act”; H.R. 2396, the “Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act”; H.R. 2706, the “Financial Institution Customer Protection Act of 2017”; H.R. 2954, the “Home Mortgage Disclosure Adjustment Act”; H.R. 3072, the “Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Examination and Reporting Threshold Act of 2017”; H.R. 3299, the “Protecting Consumers’ Access to Credit Act of 2017”; H.R. 3312, the “Systemic Risk Designation Improvement Act of 2017”; H.R. 3758, the “Senior Safe Act of 2017”; H.R. 3857, the “Protecting Advice for Small Savers Act of 2017”; H.R. 3898, the “Impeding North Korea’s Access to Finance Act of 2017”; H.R. 3903, the “Encouraging Public Offerings Act of 2017”; H.R. 3911, the “Risk-Based Credit Examination Act”; H.R. 3948, the “Protection of Source Code Act”; H.R. 3971, the “Community Institution Mortgage Relief Act of 2017”; H.R. 3972, the “Family Office Technical Correction Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3973, the “Market Data Protection Act of 2017”. Time and location to be announced.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, October 12, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 535, the “Taiwan Travel Act”; and H.R. 1698, the “Iran Ballistic Missiles and International Sanctions Enforcement Act”, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, October 12, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, hearing entitled “Assessing First Responder Communications”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

October 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled “Empty Threat or Serious Danger: Assessing North Korea’s Risk to the Homeland”, 2 p.m., HVC-210.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, October 12, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act of 2017; H.R. 2228, the “Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act of 2017”; and legislation on the Protecting Access to the Courts for Taxpayers Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, October 12, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 3144, to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia

River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes; and H.R. 3916, the “FISH Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

October 13, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, legislation to achieve domestic energy independence by empowering States to manage the development and production of oil and gas on available Federal land, and for other purposes, 9 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hearing on the 2020 Census”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, October 12, Subcommittee on Health and Technology, hearing entitled “Fostering

Women’s Entrepreneurial Success”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

October 12, Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations; and Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, joint hearing entitled “Oversight Improvements Needed: SBA OIG’s Review of the Microloan Program”, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, October 12, Full Committee, markup, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

October 12, Full Committee, hearing on legislation on the Asset and Infrastructure Review Act of 2017; and H.R. 2773, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to sell Pershing Hall, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

8:30 a.m., Friday, October 13

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Wednesday, October 11

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of S. 585—Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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