

capabilities for new business development or expansion at little to no cost.

I recently participated in a roundtable discussion with the university presidents, and I am very excited to see this collaborative effort take root in Erie County. This network was made possible thanks to the Ignite Erie Industry and Business Acceleration Collaborative, the Erie County Gaming Authority, and the Appalachian Regional Commission.

This truly is a collaborative effort, and it is my hope that the beehive will soon be abuzz with good ideas throughout Erie County. This is an excellent partnership that will give innovators and students hands-on, real-world experience to test their ideas and make their dreams become reality.

Madam Speaker, I am glad to see Erie County leveraging the strengths of these four universities for the betterment of its community. It is an exciting time in Erie County. I look forward to seeing what this brings to the region.

#### REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, the so-called Republican tax plan will increase taxes on the middle class, explode the deficit, and undermine Medicare and Medicaid. It will saddle your children and grandchildren with more than \$1 trillion in debt, simply to provide millionaires and billionaires with a massive tax cut.

Now, House Republicans will argue that trickle-down economics, supply-side economics, and dynamic scoring will somehow magically save the day. But the notion that massive tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires will somehow result in strong economic growth is a phony, fraudulent, and fake argument. It has no basis in reality. There is no evidence to support this fantasy.

When Ronald Reagan cut taxes on millionaires and billionaires, it didn't result in strong economic growth. It led to a massive deficit.

When George W. Bush cut taxes on millionaires and billionaires, it didn't result in strong economic growth. It led to the Great Recession.

When the Republican Governor of Kansas cut taxes on millionaires and billionaires, it didn't result in strong economic growth. It led to prison riots, overcrowded schools, and crumbling infrastructure.

We cannot allow this scheme to happen to the United States of America. The American people deserve a better deal.

#### VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, our veterans represent one of the most highly skilled workforces in American history—the product of rigorous training, an ironclad commitment to teamwork, and the remarkable ability to succeed where others might fail. It is no wonder that veterans are 45 percent more likely to be self-employed than nonveterans. In total, veteran-owned businesses make up nearly 10 percent of all businesses in the United States and account for more than \$1 trillion in business receipts every year.

One of those businesses is Navmar Applied Sciences Corporation, based in Warrington. Owned by Air Force veteran Tom Fenerty, Navmar engineers technology to make sure that our military has the best tools possible to complete any mission. Tom has also committed to employing veterans in the community. I am privileged to represent Tom and others like him in Congress.

In honor of their service—both in uniform and as part of our economy—I am proud to recognize the importance of veteran-owned small businesses in our community by introducing and supporting H. Res. 588, which recognizes National Veterans Small Business Week this week, from October 30 to November 3.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues—and all Americans—to join me in supporting the veteran-owned small businesses in our community.

#### NATIONAL OBESITY CARE WEEK

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Obesity Care Week and the over 90 million adult Americans living with obesity. National Obesity Care Week is recognized during the first week of November, when individuals and organizations from across the country raise awareness about the serious chronic disease of obesity.

Leading medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, the Obesity Society, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, and the World Obesity Federation, all recognize obesity as a disease and the belief that it should be treated as such.

National Obesity Care Week aims to advance an evidence-based understanding of obesity and widespread access to respectful, comprehensive, and appropriate care. Obesity is a complex disease, linked to over 50 disorders, including type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. Over \$1.4 trillion is spent in the U.S. on direct and indirect costs for health-related conditions related to obesity each year.

This must change, Madam Speaker. It is time for action, and I commit to being part of the solution to improve care for obesity. I urge my fellow Members to join me in recognizing obesity as a serious, chronic disease and working towards improving access to evidence-based tools for chronic weight management.

#### DREAMERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK) for 5 minutes.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, DREAMers are young people who are fighting to give back to the only country they have ever known as home. They are not political bargaining chips, and they didn't ask to be at the center of this immigration debate. They were brought here before they were old enough to know the difference. They grew up as our neighbors, our kids' classmates, and our friends. They are also taxpayers, teachers, medical students, and they are young people who are signing up to serve in our military.

Let me tell you about some of the DREAMers I have met in my district.

Richard Kim is a student at Tufts University. He was brought here by his parents from Korea when he was just 2 years old. His parents sacrificed a great deal in America—even becoming homeless and living in a car for a while—for the chance that Richard would have a better life than they had.

Their son worked hard, got good grades, and, ultimately, was admitted into one of the best schools in the country. Now he is a freshman at Tufts University, studying international relations. One day, he wants to work here in Congress. Richard calls himself 100 percent American. In his words, he says: I grew up here just like everyone else. I want to make a difference in America because this is the place I call home.

Let me tell you also about Mario Delgado.

In Mario's words, he says: I know what it is like to live like a shadow in a room full of light, keeping my head down to make sure that I don't get sent back to a country that I know nothing of.

So Mario kept his head down. He studied, worked through high school to help pay the bills, and saved up money for the future. Mario expects to graduate from college next year. He wants to work in the renewable energy industry. He says he intends to help America with the advancement of fusion energy.

And then there is Marla, who started attending school in Framingham, Massachusetts, when she was in the first grade. She describes learning American history, listening to popular music, and watching the Disney channel like the rest of her friends, but something was different.

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Unlike her friends, she realized she couldn't get a driver's license. As a teenager, she suffered the crushing fear that every knock on the door could mean that she would never see her loved ones again. She feared that applying for college would mean exposing her family, a cruel reality for someone who was the valedictorian of her graduating class.