

systematically denied access to their Constitutional rights. The Constitution guarantees all women the right to access abortions and prohibits the government from putting an undue burden on that right. However, the recent case of Jane Doe litigated in *Garza v. Hargan*, is a stark reminder of just how far this administration will go to deny a young woman her constitutional right to access an abortion.

Jane Doe, a 17 year old unaccompanied minor, came to the U.S. and was subsequently detained and placed in a government-funded shelter where she discovered she was pregnant. She immediately sought an abortion. However, she was inhumanely and unconstitutionally denied her right to an abortion. This administration's Office of Refugee Resettlement held Jane Doe hostage and barred her from leaving her shelter to access care, simply because the ORR Director Scott Lloyd and the administration disagreed with her health care choice to have an abortion.

Jane Doe's case is a heartbreaking one. While I am glad to see that the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals stood up for the rights of Jane Doe in that case and allowed her access to an abortion regardless of her immigration status, we know Jane Doe is not alone, and fear that many other young women's rights are being denied by this administration.

I have heard deeply concerning reports that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services now enforces unconstitutional policies such as systematically counseling young women against accessing abortion. Similarly, there are reports of mistreatment of pregnant women and mothers in incarceration and detention. These reports illustrate that there are pregnant women sitting in solitary confinement without access to needed food and nourishment, women are sometimes shackled during labor, and others are ultimately denied adequate health care services. These policies and the mistreatment of women in incarceration and detention are simply shocking and represent a gross abuse of power by this administration.

We need to know why this is happening, how often it is happening, and what can be done to prevent these situations. This is why thirty-one of my colleagues and I have requested a Government Accountability Office report to examine the real situation of pregnant inmates and immigrant detainees in order to better understand efforts taken to protect them and their fetus.

This administration must stop denying women their constitutional rights. We must demand that this administration immediately end the cruel practices of intimidation and coercion, and uphold the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution. This administration must allow young women currently in government custody access to the health care they need, including abortion.

COMMENDING CHILD ADVOCATES OF FORT BEND

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Child Advocates of Fort Bend for their continued commitment to helping foster children in Fort Bend County.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend is the only program in the entire state of Texas that is able to match every single foster child with a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA). These CASA volunteers advocate for the "best interests" of children in foster care and ensure that their needs are met. Through their CASA program, Child Advocates of Fort Bend trains volunteers so that they can best serve as a voice for these children in the courtroom. The lives of these children and by extension our communities, are stronger thanks to the dedication of these committed volunteers at Child Advocates of Fort Bend. We thank them for their commitment to volunteering their time for children who truly need it.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Child Advocates of Fort Bend. I thank them again for their dedication to foster children in our Fort Bend community.

HONORING MAJOR LESLIE R.
HADLEY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Major Leslie R. Hadley USAF Ret for his service to our nation. Major Hadley joined the United States Air Force and began pilot training at the age of 18. He piloted the B-24 Liberator, flying more than 30 missions in Europe and Korea, including historic D-Day missions over coastal France—June 4–7 1944.

Major Hadley was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism and earned four Air Medals and other commendations in the service of our nation.

A native of Ballardville, Massachusetts, Major Hadley was graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts and completed his study of statistics while in the service at the Harvard School of Business.

As a career officer, he lived in many places around the globe and retired while at McGuire AFB in New Jersey. He settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania with his wife, Muriel Hart Hadley, and their children.

He was an active volunteer in his retirement years and composed many memoirs of the B-24 Liberator pilots and crews for their families.

He will be laid to rest with full military honors on November 16, 2017 in Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In his life, Major Leslie R. Hadley demonstrated courageous, selfless service to the United States of America and devotion to family and friends. He has the gratitude of his beloved nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call No. 624 (on the passage of H.R. 3071). Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2810, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Conference Report to the FY18 National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation helps ensure that our men and women in uniform are equipped to carry out their national security mission.

As the proud Representative of Naval Station Mayport—the East Coast homeport for Littoral Combat Ships—I commend the Committee for authorizing three more of these ships. The LCS platform currently provides a much-needed U.S. naval presence in global hotspots, especially in contested waters, and will do so for years to come. I would also like to commend them for allowing the Navy to make common-sense changes to the routine and low skilled maintenance requirements and practices of our forward deployed Littoral Combat Ships.

As the Navy and we in Congress work to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars while meeting the global threat, we must reevaluate our sustainment strategies so that LCS can be utilized to the fullest extent possible. However, I would like to express my strong belief that the more complex maintenance availabilities and modernizations still require the expertise, proficiency and experience of the U.S. ship repair industrial base. Without a strong industrial base, our assets and sailors would be unable to meet the requirements facing our Navy.

I thank the Committee for including detailed reporting requirements and a two-year sunset so Congress can work closely with the Navy to balance the importance of the U.S. ship repair industrial base and the flexibility needed for the Littoral Combat Ships on extended deployments.

This bill is a strong example of Congress's commitment to the LCS program and using taxpayer dollars wisely. I again thank the Chairman and the Committee for their hard work on this legislation.

THANKING THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE USS "WASP," USS "OAK
HILL," AND USS "KEARSARGE"

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize those in our military who have worked tirelessly to help Americans in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Despite my continuing concerns about the dreadful federal response to the devastation in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, I know that the dedicated men and women of our military have been working day and night to help bring much needed relief to those in need.

Without their help and aid, one can only imagine how much worse the situation would be now.