

39TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an anniversary that has pained the Cypriot and Hellenic communities for 39 years.

On July 20, 1974, in blatant violation of international law, Turkey violently invaded Cyprus and captured the northern part of the island.

Since the invasion, Turkey has established a heavily armed military occupation that continues to control nearly 40 percent of Cyprus and has forced 160,000 Greek Cypriots from their homes.

Mr. Speaker, it is not impossible to conceive a unified Cyprus that respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots.

Cyprus has long been a strong and faithful ally of the United States, and we owe our support for both peace and the end of this illegal occupation.

SARATOGA RACE COURSE

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, "and they're off." That traditional refrain as horses come out of the gate ushered in yet another Saratoga season just days ago—this time a very special season.

I recognize Saratoga Race Course as it celebrates 150 years of thoroughbred racing in Saratoga Springs, New York.

On August 3, 1863, a son of Irish immigrants, John Morrissey, who served two terms in this body, staged the first horse race at what is now known as the Oklahoma Track, giving birth to the oldest continually active sporting venue in the United States.

Notable sportswriter Red Smith once said of the Saratoga Race Course, "From New York City you drive north for about 175 miles, turn left on Union Avenue and go back 100 years."

Racing in Saratoga produces over 2,000 jobs, nearly \$15 million in tax revenue and an economic boost of \$200 million to the surrounding region each year.

I am honored to recognize 150 years of tradition and community spirit that come to life in a most unique and exciting way, that have a special place in our American story.

Let me close, Mr. Speaker, the following way: "And down the stretch they come." Happy 150th, Saratoga.

BEATRIZ ARREDONDO

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the memory of Beatriz

Arredondo, an inspiring woman who embodied the spirit of love and compassion.

Beatriz, or "Nena" as she was called by her loved ones, passed away on June 28, 2013.

Beatriz was born on January 16, 1943, in Tamaulipas, Mexico. At a very young age, she knew that she wanted to be a loving wife and mother, and she dreamed of one day seeing her grandchildren. She accomplished these goals magnificently.

Fifty-four years ago, she met Ernesto Arredondo, Sr. and they were married for 46 years. They have four beautiful children—Ernesto, Jr., Edoardo, Everardo, and Elizabeth.

Beatriz is survived by her husband, her children, and her 10 grandchildren.

As is said in St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy:

She fought the good fight. She finished the race. She kept the faith.

She is now in God's arms.

Our prayers are with the Arredondo family.

GOP DOCTORS CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am joined this evening with my colleagues in the House GOP Doctors Caucus, and other Republican Members, to talk about this most, most important subject, and that is this recent delay of the employer mandate.

The Obama administration's announcement that it will delay implementation of the employer mandate due to the enormous regulatory burden on businesses, Mr. Speaker, is proof positive that the Affordable Care Act is a job killer.

The administration's excuse for the delay was to simplify reporting requirements for small businesses. But employers haven't been against the mandate solely due to its burdensome reporting requirements.

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While it's estimated that ObamaCare will require American job creators, families, and health care providers to spend more than 127 million hours a year on complying with the law, a far greater concern to business owners is the impact the mandate will have on job creation. The cost of the health insurance and of ObamaCare's fines will drive up the costs of labor and will continue to be a drag on this economy. This is further evidence that the administration does not get how the law will impact the economy.

The U.S. Chamber reported that 72 percent of small business executives would have a harder time hiring because of ObamaCare. The employer mandate has been cited by business owners repeatedly as a major obstacle

to expansion. They simply cannot afford it. At a recent small business roundtable, one Georgia business owner said to me, I want to provide health care insurance for my employees. ObamaCare has forced me to choose between that and hiring new people.

For instance, one common deterrent to growth that is often cited by small businesses is the 50 employee threshold, at which point a business must provide insurance to its employees once the 50th full-time employee is hired. This misguided provision has repeatedly forced different hiring practices by these companies.

I heard that Heatco, a company which specializes in the design and manufacture of world-class heating solutions, which is located in my district in Bartow County, Georgia, had looked into expanding. The thing is that it currently has—you guessed it, Mr. Speaker—49 employees, and due to the added ObamaCare cost, to expand by adding an additional employee, it will cost more than automating some of their processes.

The administration cannot say with a straight face that businesses are more concerned with reporting requirements rather than with the overbearing costs that ObamaCare will add to their bottom lines.

President Obama's announcement doesn't reduce the harmful effects that the mandate will have on employers as we move forward. It could, however, provide cover. Let me repeat that: it could, however, provide cover for Democrats during an election year. This political calculation protects them from voter backlash and from the reality that ObamaCare—their law—is to blame for an economy that is literally hemorrhaging jobs.

This is yet another example of the Obama administration's replacing the rule of law with partisan, raw politics. This unilateral decision is an abuse of executive power; and in my opinion, it is a clear demonstration that President Obama will disregard for political gain the laws he has signed.

In 2010, Democrats in Congress determined that the enforcement of the egregious employer mandate would begin on January 1, 2014. As bad as the law may be, the administration does not have the power to rewrite the law. That responsibility belongs—where?—right here in Congress. Just look at your Constitution, which I keep in my pocket. It's somewhere deep inside my pocket, but I guarantee you that it's in here, because I put it in here every single day.

Legalities aside, postponing the mandate for 1 year is not enough. It simply delays the inevitable. When it's eventually enacted, Mr. Speaker, hours will still be cut, and pay will still be reduced. Businesses hovering just under the 50 employee threshold will still have to weigh the costs of expansion; and because of the requirement, many will be unable to grow. It is just further proof that the administration does not understand how business works.