

also received an associate's degree in Business from North Iowa Area Community College.

Over the course of her career, Rachel has served her country in numerous full-time roles including unit armorer, unit supply sergeant, operations sergeant major, and various NCO roles. Throughout her service to our state and nation, Rachel has been placed across Iowa and across the globe in station assignments from Centerville to Johnston and as far away as Kosovo and Iraq. CSM Fails was deployed twice to the Middle East, during Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield in 1990, and Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, as an outspoken supporter of Iowa's National Guard I have always been impressed with the remarkable men and women who serve in this organization. Rachel Fail's career is a great example for our men and women in uniform and what Iowans are capable of through hard work and unwavering commitment to a cause greater than themselves. I applaud Command Sergeant Major Fails on her most recent promotion and wish her the greatest success. It is a great honor to represent her in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Rachel, and all of Iowa's servicemembers, on the continued excellence in service they provide to the State of Iowa, and our nation as a whole.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of passing comprehensive immigration reform legislation in the House. There is no question that it is long past time to fix our broken immigration system.

Earlier this year the Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform after working with stakeholders to reach a balanced, albeit imperfect bill.

Then last month, my colleagues in the House introduced a comprehensive immigration reform bill that has gained the support of 190 bipartisan cosponsors.

Unfortunately House Republican leadership continues to block the path forward.

Their refusal to consider legislation that has strong bipartisan, bicameral support is in direct conflict with the will and the needs of the American people and our constituents.

There is growing unrest among the agricultural, business, and technology communities in addition to the advocacy organizations and faith groups.

In my own district, there are heart-wrenching stories of parents who made the dangerous journey here just so they could make sure their children have a place to live and something to eat back home.

They are separated not just by militarized borders, but by time—years and decades of not being able to see one another.

That is why it is so important that organizations like PICO and countless others are continuing to organize and rally to get this done.

At this moment, faith leaders are joined together on the National Mall as part of the Fast4Families event.

They are giving up their meals in order to emphasize the moral importance of passing comprehensive immigration reform.

They follow in the footsteps of leaders like Cesar Chavez, who in 1968 led a 25-day fast for the rights of migrant workers. Today's community leaders are fighting to fix another broken system, one that affects more than 11 million people from all around the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is unacceptable that in the 145 days since the Senate passed its immigration bill, House.

Republican leaders have dedicated what little time we have to a government shutdown, 40 billion dollars in SNAP cuts, and the repeal of Obamacare.

Republican leadership may not be tired of gridlock and dysfunction but the American people are.

The nation is ready to pass comprehensive immigration reform and we must not delay any longer.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY SULLIVAN

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Barry Kevin Sullivan on the occasion of his retirement as the Director of the Democratic Cloakroom after over 30 years of service to the House of Representatives and to our nation.

Barry came by his love for public service naturally. A native of South Boston, his father Leo served in the Massachusetts State Legislature and also as Boston Police Commissioner. After earning a degree in political science from Boston State College, Barry spent a few years on Beacon Hill before arriving in Washington in 1980 where he was mentored by two giants of this institution: Former Speaker Tip O'Neill and former Congressman Joe Moakley. Barry quickly became the heart and soul of the Democratic Cloakroom. Members of Congress count on him to be first to know what is happening on the floor, and he has a well-deserved reputation as the consummate professional.

While we will always miss Barry, I wish him and his wife Barbara the very best as they leave D.C. and get to enjoy some well-deserved family time on the Cape they love so much.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY SULLIVAN

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, Barry Kevin Sullivan has come to be known as "the man to know in the House." Serving as Chief Information Officer in the Democratic Cloakroom, Members have been looking to him for the past 33 years for everything from the now fa-

mous "Best Guesstimate for Last Vote," to last night's Red Sox score. When Members need to get a pulse reading on the floor, they turn to Barry. He is command central, and it's a job he's been masterful at.

This hasn't been by mere coincidence.

Barry is the son of Evelyn and Leo Sullivan. His father served as Massachusetts State Senator and Boston Police Commissioner who escorted President-elect John F. Kennedy from Logan International to the Boston Garden for his victory rally. He is an alumnus of Boston State University and a Beacon Hill veteran. His mentor Congressman Joe Moakley groomed him and Speaker Tip O'Neill promoted him. Barry Sullivan's pedigree has made him a consummate professional and uniquely and exceptionally suited to manage the cloakroom.

I rise to honor Barry Sullivan for his 33 years of service in the House Democratic Cloakroom and for being one of the most loyal and trustworthy people I've ever met. His kindnesses to me have been endless and he has enriched my daily service in the House for 21 years. I wish Barry every blessing in his retirement, enjoying happy and healthy days with his wife and the pride of his life, their three sons. May there be more time for bluefishing for Horseshoe Shoal, and cheering on the Red Sox.

Here's to you, Barry. God bless you and thank you for the honorable service you have given to our nation.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3350, the so called "Keep Your Health Plan Act".

This bill is nothing more than the latest Republican effort to delay, defund, dismantle, or derail the Affordable Care Act.

I remain committed to ensuring that my constituents in California and millions across the country have access to quality, affordable health care.

Yet, the Republicans want nothing more than to capitalize on any opportunity to undermine the fundamental human right to healthcare. And that is what this latest attack is.

While we must certainly address any challenges that arise in the roll out and implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we cannot undermine its effectiveness by passing this cynical bill.

In fact, just today, I received an email from a constituent who said that his plan had been cancelled, but once he had a chance to view the options on Covered California—California's healthcare exchange—he found a better plan at a better price.

Stories like this one are happening all over the country and are further proof that we must not do anything to undermine the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

My constituents depend on it, as do millions of Americans.

I urge my colleagues to vote 'no' on this bill.