

Ms. HAHN. Madam Speaker, we know that when women succeed, America succeeds; but, unfortunately, our mothers, daughters, and sisters are not succeeding when women, on average, earn just 77 cents to every dollar that a man makes, and one in three women and their families are living on the brink of poverty.

Across the Nation, women are facing unprecedented economic insecurity. Pay inequity, combined with the lack of affordable child care or paid family leave, means women are burdened with an unfair disadvantage and struggle to support their families.

Pay discrimination means that African American women are expected to earn just 64 cents to every dollar earned by a White man, while Latinas earn just 54 cents.

Yesterday, I was proud to join President Obama and Lilly Ledbetter at the White House to mark Equal Pay Day. We witnessed the President sign two critical executive orders that will empower women to fight pay discrimination. It is a simple principle: equal pay for equal work.

I was disappointed that our Senate colleagues failed to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act and address this situation. I urge them to reconsider addressing the injustice of paycheck discrimination.

#### MILITARY MENTAL WELLNESS

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the timely issue of behavioral health in our military.

Currently, our soldiers undergo comprehensive medical and physical examinations during recruitment to ensure that they are fully fit and capable of performing their military duties; however, currently, no similar examination for mental health competency exists. This is a serious information gap as our military continues to address issues such as posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and suicide.

Madam Speaker, the issue of military mental wellness should be on the mind of every Member of Congress—and not just when this issue is back in the news.

Prior to the Fort Hood shootings, I introduced H.R. 4305, the Medical Evaluation Parity for Servicemembers Act, which will institute a preliminary mental health assessment at the time recruits are first joining the military.

The bill, which was reported on today by the Pittsburgh Tribune Review, is not an end-all solution when it comes to addressing this issue, but it is an important step in tackling a well-established information gap in the realm of servicemember behavioral health.

I encourage Members to join in co-sponsoring H.R. 4305.

#### NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

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

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, this week is National Crime Victims' Rights Week; therefore, it is appropriate that we raise the awareness of survivors' challenges and the advocates who help rebuild their lives.

In the face of a victim's trauma, there are countless individuals across the Nation committed to making things right, such as the incredible staff at the Community Action Partnership of Madera County, which I represent.

As cochair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, I will have the honor tomorrow of presenting the Ed Stout Memorial Award for Outstanding Victim Advocacy.

Programs operated by the Community Action Partnership have met all types of crime victims' needs and reduced the barriers that sometimes prevent victims from accessing services that are so important.

In addition, individuals like Darius Assemi and his family have shared time and treasure to construct the Marjaree Mason Center in Clovis, which is a 24-hour safe haven for women and children.

Each of us has a voice that can speak out against violence and listen to those who have suffered as a result of violence. We can all do our part—and we all should. Until the day when there are no more victims, we will all be with those who have suffered.

#### 25TH ANNUAL NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in grateful recognition of the youth leaders who are taking action in their communities to make our world a better place and those who help them get involved.

This week, right here in our Nation's capital, thousands of students have gathered for the 25th Annual National Service-Learning Conference. Their time on the Hill will be used to visit with their elected officials and share how important service is to their district and our country, as well as the personal impact of service learning on their lives.

A group from my district will be led by Joan Liptrot, a tireless leader for positive change and a woman whose commitment to service learning and societal advancement is without question. At this week's conference, she will be presented with the Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award, which recognizes those who have equipped young people to lead and

serve, both through their direct work with youth and by nurturing other practitioners.

I have been proud to speak at this conference in the past and to work closely with Joan's Youth Action Council on projects that advance awareness and involvement among teens.

The work of people like Joan and countless young people around the country who are ready to make the world a better place is nothing short of commendable. I wish them the best at this week's conference, and I look forward to working with them in Pennsylvania's Eighth District.

#### RYAN BUDGET

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

Mr. BARBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Ryan budget proposal, which would balance the budget on the backs of seniors, middle class families, and students. We must balance the budget, but this is the wrong way to do it.

The Ryan budget would destroy the Medicare guarantee for Arizona seniors I work for and for seniors across this great country. It would implement a voucher system and ask seniors and future retirees to pay more. Prescription drug costs would increase by nearly \$1,200 a year, and Medicare premiums would soar. This is just plain wrong, Madam Speaker.

I stand today against the reckless Ryan budget plan because it undermines the promises we have made to our seniors, it hurts middle class families, and it would slash funding for students who want to go to college. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand with me in opposition to this irresponsible budget.

#### WORKING TO GET AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. POMPEO. Madam Speaker, Kansans and Americans across the country are exhausted by a job market that is failing them. The most recent report in March showed absolutely no improvement in employment. In fact, for women, we saw an increase in unemployment.

Madam Speaker, the President's latest attempt to redefine the workweek from 40 hours to 29 has already proved detrimental to millions of Americans. There are 7.2 million Americans working part-time for economic reasons. This will leave them with less money to take care of their families.

The President's policies have hit Kansans hard—things like identifying the lesser prairie-chicken as an endangered species or redefining navigable waterways such that puddles will come