

PREVENTING EXECUTIVE OVER-
REACH ON IMMIGRATION ACT OF
2014

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to urge my colleagues to affirm the best of our traditions as a nation, rather than our worst partisan inclinations and oppose H.R. 5759, the Preventing Executive Overreach on Immigration Act of 2014. After several years of delay and obstruction on the matter of comprehensive immigration reform, President Obama acted to protect American immigrant families from the threat of forcible separation under immigration laws that are inadequate in the Twenty-First Century, by permitting parents living in the United States whose children are citizens or legal permanent residents to avoid deportation and receive authorization to work.

This legislation, H.R. 5759, exists only to allow the Republican-controlled House of Representatives to perpetuate the status quo that has done greater harm to immigrants who have been a part of our communities and criticize President Obama and the families and children he is seeking to protect. The enactment of this legislation would repudiate our commitment to the value of families.

H.R. 5759 would nullify and block implementation of the President's executive actions. If indeed the House majority were to act on the bipartisan Senate immigration reform bill. There would have been no need for the President to Act through his Executive Authority. We, in Congress, must legislate actually solutions. Congress has an obligation to pass commonsense immigration reform that offers meaningful solutions to the broken system.

It is also important to note that every president during the past 50 years has taken executive action on immigration and granted temporary immigration relief. Like his predecessors, this president has the legal authority to take these actions under the Constitution and the Immigration and Nationality Act. Unfortunately, the partisan divide in our nation's capital has created this legislation of discord.

The constituents of my district and across the United States understand that families are the foundation of our civil society. They want reform of our immigration laws that protects the interests of American immigrant families and supports the development of our nation and its people.

President Obama's executive action would provide protection to millions of immigrants, keep families together and expand our economy. I urge the rejection of this legislation. H.R. 5759 fails to uphold the ideals on which this nation was established. I urge the defeat of this bill.

CONGRATULATING RICK VIOLETT
FOR RECEIVING THE 2014 CALI-
FORNIA DISTINGUISHED REAL-
TOR AWARD

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rick Violet, who has received the 2014 California Distinguished Realtor Award from the California Association of Realtors.

A licensed Realtor for the past 40 years, Rick Violet began his real estate career at Horvath Realty in Fullerton, California. He later started his own company, Investment Brokers of Orange County, in 1977. But Rick was not selected for this distinguished award because of his company's success. The 2014 California Distinguished Realtor Award is awarded to an individual who has been a California Realtor for 20 years and has demonstrated outstanding service to the California Association of Realtors for no less than 15 of the 20 years of service. The honoree also must have achieved the California Association of Realtors' designation of Director-for-Life.

Aside from growing his own business, Rick has devoted his time and skills to serving as an active participant in the Pacific West Association of Realtors, the California Association of Realtors, and the National Association of Realtors. Rick has contributed countless hours and hard work to preserving the American Dream of homeownership for future generations, not only in California but across the nation. Rick served as President of the Greater North Orange County Association of Realtors and as merger chairman for the formation of the Pacific West Association of Realtors. He has been a California Association of Realtors Director since 1993, chaired numerous committees, and has served as a member of the California Association of Realtors' Executive Committee. At the national level, Rick has served the National Association of Realtors' most prestigious committees and he has also chaired various workgroups and task forces. Rick always kept me apprised of how the issues that were being considered in Congress impacted my district's housing market.

A true public servant, Rick is active in his community. He has served as a board member of the Placentia Rotary Club, a member of Placentia-Yorba Linda School Demographic Advisory Council, and the President of Southern California Leadership Education Foundation for 6th Grade Outdoor Camps.

I am so pleased that Rick has been recognized for his many years of dedicated service to the Realtors. Please join me in congratulating Rick Violet for being awarded the highest recognition that the California Association of Realtors can bestow on a member. Rick, we thank you for your commitment to strengthening the ability of Americans to own, buy, and sell real property.

NEW YORK DELEGATION
FAREWELL

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Gentleman, Mr. RANGEL, our dean of the House New York State delegation for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and bid farewell to four colleagues who have served this institution, this country, their constituents, and the Great State of New York admirably and well.

From a nurse to a captain in the United States Navy, my four colleagues, Representatives OWENS, MAFFEI, MCCARTHY, and BISHOP, have brought diverse backgrounds to our chamber, enriched us with their insight, and stood by us through our Nation's most pressing debates.

Mr. Speaker, today, the New York delegation is losing four pillars, four leaders, four friends. I have worked late into the night with each one of them on issues vital to the health of our Nation, such as stemming the tide of gun violence, ensuring an affordable college education, updating our Nation's crumbling infrastructure, and providing health care through the Affordable Care Act.

While they will no longer be serving their constituents in this body, I am confident that whichever way their paths lead them, they will continue their legacies of service to their communities any way that they can.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the New York Delegation and the House as a whole in wishing BILL, DAN, CAROLYN, and TIM the best of everything in the next chapter of their lives and careers.

HONORING CHERIE SLAYTON ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated service of my Chief of Staff, Cherie Slayton. After more than 30 years of government service, Cherie will be retiring at the end of this Congress.

Cherie started her career as an elevator operator. She went on to work for former Senator Frank Church and Congressmen Norm Dicks and Larry LaRocco before joining my staff in 1995.

Cherie began as an Executive Assistant in my office and, in 2011, was named Chief of Staff. Throughout this time, Cherie has been a calm and steady voice in a sometimes-chaotic environment, offering good judgment and trustworthy service. Quite frankly, I don't know if I would have made it through some days without her.

But more important than the day to day work here in Washington, Cherie has served the people of Minnesota's Seventh Congressional District. Over the years she has developed numerous personal relationships—listening to the concerns of our constituents—and it is these friendships that have made Cherie an