

I worked hard on it; the Speaker worked hard on it; Leader PELOSI worked hard on it—392 votes in this House. That was one of the best days we had this year. As a matter of fact, it might have been the best day we had this year.

The items that I raised are of, obviously, great concern. Hopefully, we could have discussions about that before being simply informed that those would be in reconciliation instructions.

Let me go, if I can now, the gentleman made a very eloquent statement yesterday. That statement was on the 150th anniversary of the assassination of one of the greatest Americans in history; that, of course, was Abraham Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln helped cure one of the blackest blots on America's reputation and America's moral commitment by issuing the Emancipation Proclamation. However, Mr. Leader, as you know, subsequent to the adoption of the 13th Amendment, which the gentleman also referenced, we had vicious segregation. We had policies put in place that prevented African Americans from registering, much less voting.

The gentlemen and I have had the opportunity to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge together where Alabama State troopers were sent by Governor Wallace to stop people from simply going to register to vote.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. CONYERS and our friend JOHN LEWIS, one of the great heroes of the American civil rights movement, have cosponsored a bill—JIM SENSENBRENNER being the former Republican chairman of the Judiciary Committee, JOHN CONYERS being the ranking Democrat—have sponsored a bipartisan bill which would return the protections that were undermined by the Supreme Court decision in the Shelby County v. Holder case.

I believe it is important—and I think the gentlemen share this view—that we absolutely protect the rights of every American to register and to vote and to ensure that the policies adopted by any State or any county or any municipality are not such that it undermines the ability of citizens to register and to vote. This is bipartisan legislation.

I would ask the majority leader respectfully, and one of the great attributes to Abraham Lincoln who talked about a nation divided against itself, talked about a nation who did not give equality to all of its citizens, talked about a nation that needed to respect the inclusion of all people irrespective of their race, I would ask respectfully that the legislation cosponsored by Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. CONYERS and JOHN LEWIS be brought to this floor so that we can, in fact, ensure that every American—every American—has the right to register, to vote, and is protected by their Federal Government from the discrimination and exclusion that we know historically has happened too often.

I urge my friend, the majority leader, to bring that bill, that bipartisan bill, to the floor for debate, open to amendment and discussion and a vote.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for his comments, and I thank him for his comments regarding Abraham Lincoln as well.

Yesterday was the 150th anniversary of his passing. It was also a significant day yesterday, as well, of the Jackie Robinson anniversary of breaking the color barrier in baseball.

As the gentleman knows, as we have walked across that bridge many times with our good friend JOHN LEWIS, the difference that it has made in those last years from when he first was beaten across that bridge and how far this country has come, and this country can go much further.

The bill is before the committee. It is not scheduled for the floor next week. We will watch as the committee continues to work. The gentleman and I can continue to work on the issue to make sure we get this done.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

WELCOMING DR. JULIO FRENK AS THE SIXTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Julio Frenk on being named as the sixth president of the University of Miami and the first Hispanic to be selected for this job. Dr. Frenk joins my hometown Hurricanes after a 6-year tenure as dean of Harvard's School of Public Health.

The son of German and Spanish immigrants who settled in Mexico, Dr. Frenk's remarkable career as an academic and a public servant also includes his service as the Mexican Minister of Health under President Vicente Fox.

I would like to welcome Dr. Frenk and his wife, Dr. Felicia Knaul, to south Florida and to the Miami Hurricanes family. I look forward to working with him as he leads the university's continued transformation into a global research hub in a world class international city.

Go Canes.

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Trade Adjustment Assistance was designed as a lifeline for hundreds of thousands of America's workers, their last line of defense when they lose their jobs through no fault of their own thanks to

NAFTA and other bad trade deals that outsourced their jobs to foreign countries. Many workers never qualified even when they were eligible.

The American people need much more than just adjustment assistance for thousands more workers whose jobs will be outsourced by the Trans-Pacific Partnership. America needs trade deals, themselves, to be adjusted, so they, again, create jobs in America rather than suck them away to foreign shores.

This hasn't happened for nearly four decades. Since 1976, our Nation has lost 47.5 million jobs due to lopsided trade agreements. Last year, our economy lost 16 percent of its growth due to the overhang of the growing trade deficit.

Thousands of steel workers in Lorain, Ohio, have just been pink-slipped and laid off due to imported steel. With every lost U.S. job, our Nation's economy gets weakened. Our working families become less financially secure. Rising into the middle class becomes impossible.

What we need and must learn is the history of bad trade deals. Congress can't repeat the mistakes of the past. Our Nation needs a new trade model that creates more jobs in America, instead of outsourcing our jobs to foreign shores.

HONORING LIEUTENANT JOHN LEAHR

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, on March 27, another outstanding member of America's Greatest Generation departed from this world.

Lieutenant John Lehr—Johnny, as he was known—a lifelong Cincinnati, is an example of an American we should all strive to emulate. Lieutenant John Lehr was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African American fighter pilots that flew missions protecting Allied bombers over the skies of Europe during World War II.

On March 27, 2009, 6 years before Mr. Lehr's death, the Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. Lieutenant Lehr had hoped that the successes of the Red Tails, as they were known, would shift the racial prejudices that African Americans faced before the war; but, after fighting fascism overseas, he had to continue fighting discrimination back home.

Over the years, times changed, and the people of Cincinnati and our entire Nation began to recognize the heroism of Lieutenant John Lehr. I had the honor to get to meet John in recent years, and his story is remarkable, a story that needs to be told for unending generations.

Today, I, with all of you, honor his courage and thank him for his unparalleled service.