

Mr. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise to express my outrage that my Republican colleagues, in the darkness of the night, offered a surprise amendment to allow the Confederate battle flag to be displayed in our national parks and at Federal cemeteries. Just a couple of days ago, this body voted to remove the Confederate battle flag from our national parks.

My Republican colleagues are choosing to raise the Confederate battle flag again, despite growing opposition by Americans who recognize it as a disgraceful celebration of the war waged to prolong slavery in this country.

Yesterday, in a stunning sign of progress, South Carolina voted to take down that flag after 50 years of flying it at their State capitol. Why do some here continue to insist on defending this painful symbol of racism?

This is shameful. In the wake of the devastating murder of Senator Pinckney and the eight other churchgoers at Emanuel AME, this is a new low for this Congress.

#### 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

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

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, today, we have 10,000 known diseases, most of which are considered rare. However, we only have 500 cures for these diseases. Americans can do better than that, and today, we have that opportunity to do so.

We have a bill that will be heard here on the floor today, the 21st Century Cures Act, which I am proud to be a sponsor of and thrilled to see that we actually have an opportunity to help so many people with increased funding so that we can help find some cures, help people—sometimes in our own family, people that we know, our friends—with some of the diseases and some of the things that we face.

Finally, today, with all the negative press that we have got, we have an opportunity to actually do something to be proud of, something that actually makes a difference for people in our own community.

Again, I ask that this House approve this bill.

#### GOP CONFEDERATE FLAG AMENDMENT

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, the hope of a secure, livable world lies within those who believe in justice and equality for all.

Democrats have worked in a bipartisan fashion to ban the display of Confederate flags in Federal cemeteries and barred National Park Services from doing business in gift shops that sell the Confederate flag.

Last night, Republicans rolled out an amendment that would resurrect the

Confederate flag in our national parks. Mr. Speaker, I was appalled by these actions.

The tragic events in Charleston led to South Carolina's landmark vote last night to take down the Confederate flag from their statehouse. If South Carolina can act, certainly and surely, Congress can support our national parks in acting to don't sell that flag.

Mr. Speaker, these are America's parks, and they belong to all people. The Nation is watching. Don't go down in history as not standing up against violence and racism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me to ensure that we don't sell that flag, the Confederate flag.

#### TAKE DOWN THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, last night in the South Carolina Legislature, we saw Democrats and Republicans join together to take down the Confederate battle flag, many with tears in their eyes and still grieving the nine lives lost in Charleston.

While the people of South Carolina move one step past this terrible tragedy, many House Republicans want to take our Nation 150 years back.

We were scheduled to vote on the Interior Appropriations bill today. The bill was pulled because Members on the other side of the aisle objected to banning the display and sale of the Confederate flags at national park facilities.

For years, I have heard all the arguments from those who defend the display of the Confederate battle flag, but it is moral cowardice to ignore this flag's history of White supremacy and treason, to pretend it symbolizes anything other than a heritage of hate and human oppression.

The Confederate battle flag does not belong atop our State capitols, and it certainly should not be sold or displayed at our national parks. It belongs in a museum of shame, alongside the other relics of hate and division that tore our country apart.

#### SHERIFF RALPH LAMB

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

Ms. TITUS. Sheriff Ralph Lamb, who passed away on July 3, was one of those larger than life characters who dot the landscape and lore of the Old West.

A rancher from humble Mormon beginnings, he embodied the independent cowboy spirit. He was John Wayne, Wyatt Earp, and Dirty Harry all rolled into one. He was a rodeo rider. He inspired a TV series, and he changed the face and future of Las Vegas by cleaning up the streets and reining in the mob.

Sheriff Lamb wasn't afraid of the devil because he always had an angel

on his shoulder. He cut a wide swath and cast a long shadow over Las Vegas when times were simpler, but the stakes were high.

Our community misses him; I miss him personally, and I look forward to reading George Knapp's biography on his amazing life.

#### CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG

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

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to this discussion about the Confederate battle flag.

As a daughter of the South, a Representative from Alabama, a native of Selma, Alabama, I have to tell you I cannot believe, in 2015, we are talking about whether or not this body would allow on Federal grounds, Federal cemeteries, and Federal national parks the display, the selling of this Confederate battle flag.

There is no denying that our Constitution talks about "We, the people," and there is no denying that this Confederate flag is controversial. Some see it as heritage, and most see it as hatred.

I can tell you one thing: we, the people, cannot allow on Federal grounds—we all pay taxes and are citizens of this great Nation—and to allow this flag to be sold and to be displayed on Federal land is unacceptable.

I really hope that, when I gathered together 100 Members of Congress in Selma for the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery march, it was not a kumbaya moment in Selma in March; rather, I hope that we will do what we promised this Nation we would do, and that is represent we, the people, by taking down this flag and not displaying it on any grounds.

#### PENNSYLVANIA OREO PLANT CLOSURE

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, many of us were proudly waving our flag, celebrating the Fourth of July, and also rooting on the successful women's soccer team in winning the World Cup.

Unfortunately, at the very same time we were doing that, displaying our patriotism, the company that makes Oreo cookies and Ritz crackers, two very well-known American brands, decided that, for the first time in 60 years, they would close their legendary Philadelphia plant in the heart of my district, laying off over 300 workers because they are shipping the jobs to Monterrey, Mexico.

Now, keep in mind, this is a company, Mondelez, that is in no way in financial disarray. In fact, their revenues last year topped \$50 billion. This plant that was closed is profitable, but not profitable enough.