



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 161

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2015

No. 110

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOOLENAAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 15, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN R. MOOLENAAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

THE NEW AMERICAN COALITION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, I was on the HBO show "Real Time" with Bill Maher on a Friday night, and I had a chance to talk with Ann Coulter who, as you might have guessed, I don't have on my speed dial for regular conversations. It was a couple of days after Donald Trump announced he was running for the Republican nomination because he thought Mexican immigrants were criminals, drug dealers, and rapists.

When it was my turn, I told Ms. Coulter—and, by extension, Mr. Trump—that what they were saying about Mexican immigrants would serve as a voter registration machine to turbocharge voter registration in the Latino and immigrant community, all because of their particularly mean and—frankly, let's be honest—racist attacks on Mexican immigrants.

It was particularly important that I was in California for the show because I was watching the Republican Party make exactly the same mistake they made in the 1990s when it lost control of the politics in California.

By supporting extreme anti-immigrant policies to kick kids out of school and cut off families from being part of our society, California went from a purple State that had given the Republican Party important leaders like Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan and, in just a few years, was transformed into a deep shade of Pacific blue.

Why? It is because millions of immigrants became citizens; millions of immigrant citizens registered to vote; and millions of registered voters voted to punish the Republican Party for being mean, shortsighted, and for offering demagoguery, not real solutions to issues.

This brings me back to Mr. Trump, who is trying to be the standard bearer of the anti-immigrant wing of the Republican Party and trying to define the party as one that will fight against immigrants it sees as murderers, drug dealers, criminals, and rapists.

Jan Brewer has endorsed Trump, and there he was, this past weekend, standing with Joe Arpaio in Arizona. Democrats could not paint a clearer picture if we tried. You should understand that, when Donald Trump said Mexican immigrants are criminals, what do I and other Puerto Ricans hear? I hear him saying all Puerto Ricans are criminals; and, as far as the Republicans are concerned, we all are.

Millions of others here—Hondurans, Colombians, and Dominicans—it is clear to all of us that what he is really saying is that all Latinos are suspect, whether we were born here or not.

Look, Trump's stereotyping is nothing new. Every single wave of immigrants has met the same resistance. They say they are lazy, they are bringing crime and diseases, that they are not like us, and they are coming to kill our sons and rape our daughters.

Whether you came to Chicago from Mexico a decade ago or from Mississippi in the 1950s to escape Jim Crow, you heard the same thing. If you came to New York from Ireland or came from Sicily a century ago, it has always been the same thing.

I say that Latinos should do what the Irish and the Polish and the Italians did, become citizens and vote. To my constituents and anyone today that is offended by what Donald Trump stands for, I have a simple message: Become a citizen—"hazte ciudadano."

There are more than 8.8 million immigrants who hold green cards and meet the residency requirements and are eligible to apply for citizenship today. That includes about 5 million Latinos who can apply to become citizens today.

Mr. Speaker, let me fill you in on a little secret. With fee waivers, up to 20 percent of all of those 8.8 million will pay absolutely nothing for their citizenship application. Becoming a citizen for free so you can make it clear that you are offended by Donald Trump, it is poetic and patriotic. Rather than renew your green card for \$450, become a citizen for about \$230 more, or zero if you are part of the 20 percent.

Look, Mr. Speaker, almost all of the immigrants in this country are going to remain in this country until the day they die. Let's be honest. For the millions who meet the requirements of citizenship, I say take the step, learn the language, learn our history and

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H5175

how our government works, and take the test. Every time you see Trump's face on your TV, vow to learn a little more English or a few more history facts so you can take the citizenship test.

Let's turn the ignorance and the hatred of a TV personality running for President and turn it into something that strengthens democracy for all Americans.

You know what, if millions of people naturalize, become citizens, and we add to that the million Latino citizens who this year will turn 18, plus all of our allies in the African American community, the LGBT voters, younger voters, environmental voters, women voters, Asian voters, and union voters that are being pushed away by the Republican Party, all the people they don't want in their coalition constitute a majority of Americans.

Together, we are the new American coalition that will dominate politics for decades to come; and together, we will create a stronger, more inclusive, and more egalitarian Nation.

Let's turn Trump's negative words into something positive. That is how you deal with bullies and bigots.

NEVADA'S BASIN AND RANGE MONUMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HARDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, the President signed away more than 700,000 acres of Lincoln and Nye Counties, as the Basin and Range National Monument in my district, locking these lands up from economic development the region depends on. This is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to give a voice to what Nevada's argument is and what Nevada's argument is not. Some on the other side of the aisle wish to paint those who oppose the designation as enemies of our public lands, when nothing could be further from the truth.

Southeastern rural Nevada is in my blood. As a fifth-generation son of farmers and ranchers from Mesquite, Nevada, I am directly descended from the very same mountain men and the settlers whose bravery and resolve blazed the trail for the founding of our great State and who are mentioned in the President's proclamation. I grew up to explore the rugged landscapes of Lincoln and Nye Counties, hunting, hiking, and camping in these one-of-a-kind surroundings.

I love Nevada as much as the next Nevadan, and we refuse to be lectured by those who feel that they are first among equals in matters that concern our future. Our argument is not about whether or not to preserve our national treasures contained on our public lands. I wholeheartedly agree that we have a responsibility; we must protect what needs to be protected.

It comes down to this: The Antiquities Act is antiquated. The law is

rooted in the last century, and it has been manipulated over the years to exceed its original intent. It has become a tool of political patronage, burying the legacies of those privileged enough to hold our Nation's highest elected offices. It also furthers the insidious notion that Washington knows best.

The primary orchestrator of this monument maneuver even went so far as to say to the concerned people of Lincoln and Nye Counties: Don't worry. This is going to be great for you.

Despite the Orwellian refrain, the people in Nevada demanded the right to think for themselves, and they strongly disagree.

According to the letter I received from Nye County, the entire county board of commissioners opposes the Basin and Range National Monument designation, stating the dire concerns about the absence of any consultation with the Federal Government and the harmful economic constraints. With 98 percent of Nye County already under Federal control, it can ill afford to lose additional economic opportunities.

As for Lincoln County, the commissioners have expressed grave concerns about having such a large swath of the county administered "for a singular, specific, preferred use, rather than for a multiple-use management resource plan."

Despite what the White House asserts, this outcome would particularly be harmful for a county that is already 97 percent federally controlled.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, there is no doubt in my mind the Antiquities Act is a holdover of a bygone era. We continue to see Presidents pay lip service to the requirement that the boundaries of national monuments should be "confined to the smallest area compatible"—700,000 acres, really?

What I would like to encourage my colleagues and those in the administration to remember is that rural Nevada's culture, the will and resolve of its people, are not things that can be locked away in an outdoor museum. They live on in today's generations who continue to carry on the traditions of those who came before them and respect the land they call home.

With proper consultation across all levels of government and the local buy-in, I am confident that Democrats and Republicans can work together to protect America's natural heritage, while also preserving its people's way of life.

This photograph is a great example of the possibilities. The Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument is a case study of a successful effort to preserve Nevada's national heritage that was given due consideration and that had a widespread community backing. That is why Congress passed legislation to create the Tule Springs Fossil Bed National Monument in Nevada last year.

If I can pose for a picture, smiling wide and holding a sign with the words

"national monument" on it, there must be a right way to go about protecting our public lands.

Mr. Speaker, we need local input; we need votes in Congress, and we need to fix the antiquated Antiquities Act.

IRAN DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, for 35 years, the United States' relationship with Iran has been frozen in amber, locked in a series of proxy wars and covert struggles.

Circumstances have occasionally thrust us together, like our shared actions against the Taliban after 9/11 or, more recently, working together against some of the most barbarous forces in the Middle East.

Now, no one is under any illusions that the military leadership and hard-line clerics are bad actors opposed to the United States, but that is only part of the story of a complex narrative.

The new and potentially more significant chapter of that relationship is an effort to contain Iran's nuclear ambition, not through force, but a combination of tough, multinational sanctions and diplomacy. This all started in the Bush administration a decade ago and has continued. Congress is now beginning the analysis of this historic agreement.

For the first time, Iran's nuclear activities have been reined in. They have followed what they said they would do for the last 2 years. For the first time in history, we have an agreement that would last for a decade or more, reached not just by the United States alone—we could not have done this alone—but with all five members of the U.N. Security Council, Germany, and the cooperation of potential consumers of Iranian oil like India and Japan.

Now, we must be prepared to hear people, starting with Prime Minister Netanyahu, attack it. We will hear that it is not good enough, that it contains potential downsides.

Iran might well try to cheat. Netanyahu will make his arguments with the same certitude as when he appeared in Washington before the Iraq war and talked about the benefits of attacking Iraq. He would have more credibility with me if he weren't so wrong then and if he had any credible alternative now. He has complaints but no solution.

Indeed, he doesn't even have a peace plan for dealing with Israel's own ongoing festering problems with the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories—a man with no plan and no alternative attacking the best option for America and Israel that we have seen.

With this agreement in place, we will have more tools than we have ever had to inspect, to monitor, and enforce and more allies to make it work. If the United States walks away from this