

The independence at home demonstration enjoys strong, bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. It passed the Senate by unanimous consent and in the Ways and Means Committee on a voice vote. I hope that we do the same here. I urge everyone to vote for this important piece of legislation.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge Members to vote for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I act on the sentiment of the gentleman from Washington.

I urge Members to vote for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 971.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JDRF CHILDREN'S CONGRESS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes research.

This week, the JDRF Children's Congress took place here in our Nation's Capital. Delegates from across the country visited my colleagues and me to help us understand what life is like with type 1 diabetes and why research to fund life-changing therapies until a cure can be found is so critical.

As part of this important event, I had the honor of meeting Madyson Huston, an eighth-grader at Fort LeBoeuf Middle School located in my district. Madyson was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes 2 years ago and has since become a tremendous advocate for JDRF. I admire her courageous spirit and willingness to fight for a cure.

I was encouraged by the recent passage of the 21st Century Cures Act, and I look forward to working with my colleagues and advocates like Madyson to advance similar initiatives that will improve the lives and health of Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JONATHAN ROSADO

(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, Jonathan Rosado

was a model citizen who generously shared his strong character and kind spirit through the act of teaching tennis to disadvantaged children.

Jonathan fostered the Legacy Youth Tennis program's presence in the Hunting Park community, a groundbreaking addition to youth programming for this Philadelphia neighborhood. His steadfast commitment to community service has served as a tremendous benefit to the many lives he touched.

Jonathan's sense of responsibility and dedication was instilled in him by his own childhood participation in the Legacy Youth Tennis program, and he chose to contribute those attributes right back into the program as he ascended into adulthood.

Jonathan was tragically murdered last year. Although he is sorely missed by all, his bright spirit will continue to be felt in the Hunting Park neighborhood and in Philadelphia long into the future.

I recognize Jonathan here on the floor of the House of Representatives, the people's House, so that his shining example can be more widely witnessed across the Nation.

□ 1715

UNCLE SAM OWNS OVER 27 PERCENT OF AMERICAN LAND

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government is hoarding American land. The bureaucrats own about 640 million acres of it. That is 27 percent of America, larger than all of Western Europe.

The government cannot afford this massive estate. Notice this map. All the red area is what the Federal Government owns. Over half the West is owned by the Federal Government.

Day by day, unused and unmaintained land sits idle. Instead of Uncle Sam hoarding this land, the government should consider selling the land to Americans. To be clear, I am not talking about selling off national parks, monuments, forests, or protected areas—just unused land and unmaintained land the government doesn't take care of.

The revenue from the sales could go toward reducing the debt or improving transportation. Plus, the sale of land would help State and local governments because new property owners will be paying taxes on the land.

Time for the Federal Government to let Americans own more of America. Does Uncle Sam really need all of this land?

And that is just the way it is.

PURSUING PEACE THROUGH DIPLOMACY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YOUNG of Iowa). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015,

the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the United States and our allies reached a landmark agreement with Iran to prevent them from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

To get to this point, Mr. Speaker, we used diplomacy to find a potential solution that seeks to stabilize the entire Middle East region. Diplomacy affords us a clearer picture of what the Iranian Government is doing and what they are capable of.

We used peaceful means to promote peace in one of the most volatile regions in the world, and I am proud of the commitment of President Obama, this administration, and our allies, in keeping these negotiations alive.

Mr. Speaker, I am not saying that our job is done. Congress must and should take a very close look at this agreement in its final form. In fact, I firmly believe that Congress has a critical role to play in the next steps of this agreement.

Let's look at what this agreement does. Within the text, Iran affirms that it will not seek, develop, or acquire a nuclear weapon; but we must ensure that the language will fully deter them from going back on their word and duly punish them if they take that path.

Within the text of the agreement, we accept that the United States will lift the sanctions that we have placed on Iran, but we must have mechanisms that will allow for oversight on the ground in Iran that holds them accountable.

This is a difficult and sensitive balance, but if this agreement has managed to strike that balance, we would miss a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the Middle East if we reject this deal. That is not something we can afford to flippantly dismiss.

What this teaches us, Mr. Speaker, is that aggression is not the only answer we have to handle difficult relations across the globe. In fact, aggression would not have brought us to this point where, without any loss of life for us or our allies, without significant cost to our Nation or the global economy, we have managed to find compromise.

Sanctions cannot and should not be the only way we bring nations to the table. They serve a critical purpose, and certainly, they helped in bringing us to this point.

They also come at a significant cost; rather than starving their government