

But like Donald Trump, the House Republican leadership seemingly can't help themselves when it comes to painting millions of law-abiding and hard-working immigrants as nothing but criminals.

Mr. Speaker, the safety of our communities should not be a political pawn. What the House Republican leadership is doing is irresponsible. Local law enforcement knows how to keep communities safe. Let them do their job.

FAKE OBAMACARE PAYMENTS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, we continue to see issues with the President's healthcare law, including the most recent GAO investigation that has revealed that there are major fraud problems with the enrollment Web site.

The nonpartisan watchdog discovered that www.healthcare.gov is unable to detect and prevent blatant fraud, as fake applicants were able to sign up for subsidies.

This red flag is yet another example of how the healthcare law is not achieving the goals that it has claimed. Premiums continue to rise. Medical innovation has been stifled. And patients have less choice when it comes to their own healthcare decisions.

Mr. Speaker, www.healthcare.gov was supposed to include a working verification system to ensure that nobody could cheat the system. However, it is clear from this investigation that there is very little fraud protection in place.

Mr. Speaker, whether it is through incompetence or apathy, it is unacceptable that hard-earned taxpayer dollars are being wasted because administrators aren't implementing fraud protection measures. The status quo must change.

□ 1215

OPPOSE ENFORCE THE LAW FOR SANCTUARY CITIES ACT

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in staunch opposition to H.R. 3009, the Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act, or perhaps better titled, the "Donald Trump Act." This bill is nothing more than an underhanded ploy to criminalize the immigrant community who, research shows, is less likely to commit serious crimes than native-born persons. To demonize an entire community based on the actions of a few does not inform wise policy.

Local police are best equipped to make decisions of how best to serve their communities. Let them make those decisions. Withholding Federal

funds from jurisdictions who have adopted local trust policies will not make our communities safer or fix our broken immigration system. It will only make it more difficult for local police to provide public safety to their communities.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this doesn't come as a surprise. This is the same Republican-led Congress that nearly shut down the Department of Homeland Security, compromising the safety of our communities.

I have consistently said that we need to focus on passing comprehensive immigration reform, yet time and time again, Republicans have shown the only aspect of immigration reform they are interested in is deportation.

REMEMBERING BROOKSVILLE'S VICE MAYOR, JOE JOHNSTON

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

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of the city of Brooksville's vice mayor and a good friend of mine, Joe Johnston III. Joe was as straightforward and as good as they come. The loss of his life has impacted the entire Hernando County community, and for obvious reasons.

Joe was a family man. He dedicated his life to his wife, Diana, their three daughters, his two brothers, and seven grandchildren in the same place where his parents raised him. He attended our local schools, graduated from the University of Florida, and moved back to be a paralegal in the firm which his father established and helped to build.

More often than not, Joe's devotion was indicative of his love for the greater community. Twenty years ago, Joe ran successfully for a seat on the Brooksville City Council and proudly served in that seat until his untimely death just this month.

He was compassionate and caring about those around him, whether he knew you or not. Joe was known for being a steady hand on the council and was never backing down, even when the odds were against him. And people respected that. He became well known in our small town not solely because of his politics or his career; in fact, it was mostly what he did outside of it. He was an outdoorsman, a traveler, a sailor, an adventurer, and a great member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, he understood that true appreciation in life comes from the experiences you have and the memories you make, and he embraced it with his all.

It pains me that, after 10 years, Joe lost his battle with cancer. So I stand here today to remember a leader I valued and to celebrate his great life.

THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, only one of the top ten exporting countries in the world does not have an export-import agency that helps them finance new export deals, just one, and that country is the United States of America. That is because this Congress has failed to do what every Congress since FDR has done, and that is reauthorize the Export-Import Bank.

Today, Mr. Speaker, an American exporter is forced to compete against China, South Korea, Germany, France, Italy, and Japan with one hand tied behind its back. Their businesses get the support, their citizens get the jobs, and Americans are hung out to dry by their own government.

In my congressional district alone, 66 small businesses in the past 8 years have benefited from Export-Import financing of their exports. They have exported everything from peanut butter to industrial equipment.

Mr. Speaker, let's give Congress a chance to save American jobs. Let's have an up-or-down vote on the Export-Import Bank. If it came to a vote on this floor, it would surely pass.

CELEBRATING PIUTE COUNTY'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Piute County's 150th birthday. Piute County was formed in January 1865, after a year of hard work by entrepreneurial Mormon pioneers.

Press reported that in only 1 year the settlers had built more than 4 miles of canals and more than 10 miles of roads, all to access the good farmland and timber and other things they would need as they built this community. One reporter noted:

The spirit of industry and perseverance in the people is manifest. Their actions are kind and benevolent towards one another, and they will make this a great place for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, the past 150 years have proven these words to be true. Today, the county is home to many hard-working residents, people who work in a uniquely beautiful rural setting. The county enjoys the world-famous Paiute ATV Trail, boating, fishing, hunting, and horseback riding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Piute County. They represent some of the best people our Nation has to offer, and I wish them much success as they celebrate their 150th anniversary.

THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the approaching 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act and talk about the importance of restoring the Voting Rights Act as well.