

problem and the solutions to it and to take a mighty step back into the last century. H.R. 8 is said to be energy security. Well, it is the security of the coal and oil industry to be sure, but not the security of our Nation's ability to survive in a climate-changed environment.

It does, in fact, increase the production and the use of coal. It does, in fact, allow for the export of oil. We want to be energy independent, but this legislation would allow the export of oil without any regulation at all and without any consideration for the American economy or the American automobile user.

We are going in the wrong direction here. We ought to recognize, as 120 leaders in Paris are recognizing today, that we have a serious climate problem. We must address it not with the policies that we are seeing here on the floor of the House of Representatives this week, in complete denial of what is happening around the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to wake up. It is time for us to be aware of what is happening.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARTYRDOM OF SR. DOROTHY KAZEL, JEAN DONOVAN, SR. ITA FORD, AND SR. MAURA CLARKE

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, with great solemnity and gratitude, today I wish to honor four grace-filled women. Each of them were called to live their faith in the nation that bears their Savior's name. Each worked tirelessly to bring hope, healing, and joy to the poor of El Salvador. Each were bound together in tragedy on December 2, 1980.

Maryknoll Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and a young woman named Jean Donovan each traveled different paths to El Salvador. In the words of Sister Dorothy, they were united by a powerful sense of responsibility to "spread the Gospel to people who needed help."

They sought to bring peace and comfort to vulnerable persons caught in a maelstrom of political turmoil on the cusp of a brutal 12-year civil war that followed the 1980 murder of newly beatified Archbishop Oscar Romero, who was killed by an assassin's bullet as he said Mass.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Dorothy and Jean had each joined a mission team from the diocese of Cleveland, Ohio. Together they worked to ferry food and medical supplies to the sick and wounded, in whom they saw the face of Christ.

Sister Dorothy had been engaged, but postponed her marriage to test a call to religious life. Jean Donovan wanted to get closer to Christ in the poor, though her friends hoped that she would leave El Salvador.

Reunited with her fiancé briefly to attend a friend's wedding in Ireland, Jean actually chose to stay in El Salvador a little bit longer. She was drawn by the beauty and warmth of the Salvadoran people.

Sister Ita and Sister Maura, both from New York and born nearly 10 years apart, had each sought a life of service through the Maryknoll religious sisters. Their paths led through Chile and Nicaragua, respectively, and ultimately to El Salvador, where they each responded to Archbishop Romero's call, a plea for help.

It has been said of Sister Ita that "her twinkling eyes and her elfin grin would surface irrepressibly, even in the midst of poverty and sorrow." Sister Maura, for her part, "was outstanding in her generosity, always saw the good in others, and could always make those whose lives she touched feel loved."

Mr. Speaker, all of these women could have left. Instead, they remained in El Salvador to be faithful. Sister Maura said, "There is a real peace here in spite of many frustrations and the terror around us. God is very present in His seeming absence."

They gave all that they had to the poor and homeless, whose difficulties were compounded by the counterinsurgency that indiscriminately leveled many innocent lives in its crossfire.

Mr. Speaker, while in college myself, pondering the essence and meaning of things, trying to figure out my own pathway, I heard the news of these women's deaths. The rape and murder of these selfless women greatly disturbed me. I remember going to Mass and, overcoming my own hesitancy, offered a prayer for them during the community's Prayer of the Faithful.

The love that moved these four women to fly into the eye of the hurricane—because they could not bear to see vulnerable people suffer without recourse, without help—profoundly affected me and remains a part of my life today.

As a Member of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to laud the example of these exceptional heroines. Having met with members of El Salvador's congress, I have witnessed firsthand now the work of reconciliation that is going on, the healing of lives haunted by painful memories.

When I first learned about the decades-long outpouring of love in service, vigils, prayers, and charitable programs that were inspired by the example of these courageous women, I felt moved to actually take some small part in these celebrations, thus this talk today.

In recalling their noble sacrifice, it is my fervent hope that responsible nations throughout this hemisphere will see in the lives of these martyrs of El Salvador a path to genuine prosperity. We can honor them fittingly by embracing the truly needy with integrity, peace, and justice, in genuine mutual solidarity as they live their lives.

HONORING KENTUCKY GOVERNOR STEVE BESHEAR

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 61st Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Steve Beshear, whose tenure as Governor comes to a close this week.

Of his many significant accomplishments, none came easily or by happenstance. In fact, national basketball championships for both the Universities of Louisville and Kentucky notwithstanding, it is tough to think of a less enviable time to walk into the Governor's mansion.

Within a year of his taking office, the global economy imploded, creating the worst economic crisis in our lifetimes and leading to unemployment as high as 10.7 percent. The health of our State was dismal, with one in five Kentucky adults carrying no health insurance. Mother Nature didn't do him any favors either. During one 11-month span, three presidential disaster declarations were issued for Louisville alone.

To say you wouldn't want to be the Governor to face those challenges is an understatement. To say you want Steve Beshear to be your Governor addressing those challenges, well, that is just common sense.

Our recovery didn't just happen during the tenure of Steve Beshear. It happened because of Steve Beshear. Because we had a Governor who wasn't concerned with what was popular or politically savvy, he was committed to doing what needed to be done.

He said no to the calls for European-style austerity and instead invested in our Commonwealth—in our people, our infrastructure, and our education—giving Kentucky's economy an immediate jolt and keeping our communities and workforce competitive for the long haul.

The results speak for themselves. Today unemployment is half of what it was during the Great Recession, under 5 percent for the first time since 2001. Site Selection magazine says there is no better State in the Nation for economic development.

Companies are investing in Kentucky like never before, \$3.7 billion in investment announced just last year. Kentucky is doing business like never before, with exports of \$27.5 billion last year, four times the national average.

Mr. Speaker, we are building like we haven't done in a long time. When I say our infrastructure was crumbling, it is not hyperbole. Bridges were literally falling down. Now they are going up. Leaders have been talking about the need for a new Ohio River bridge in Louisville for nearly 50 years.

But Governor Beshear doesn't talk the talk. He walks the walk. I will be proud to walk with him across the first of two new Ohio River bridges for the first time this weekend.

But it is his stands that he will be most remembered for. If you asked