

actions and human rights abuses perpetrated by Daniel Ortega in Nicaragua. Ortega has forced the Nicaraguan Supreme Court to not recognize the leaders of two opposition political parties. He has removed 28 deputies and alternates from the National Assembly. He has chosen his wife to be his running mate in the upcoming illegitimate elections in order to continue the Ortega dynasty and has sent his thugs to break up peaceful marches by Nicaraguan civil society, who are demanding inclusive elections with international and domestic observers.

Mr. Speaker, there must be consequences for these actions, and that is why I introduced the bill, H.R. 5708, the NICA Act, alongside my friend Congressman ALBIO SIRETSKY of New Jersey, to ensure that the United States will oppose any loans to this decrepit regime.

We must show the Nicaraguan people that we stand with them in solidarity and support their efforts to convene free, fair, and transparent elections.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND MEMORY OF OFFICER BRADLEY M. FOX

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and memory of Officer Bradley M. Fox of the Plymouth Township of Pennsylvania Police Department.

Four years ago today, on the eve of his 35th birthday, Brad was shot and killed in the line of duty. He died protecting the community and the country he served, first as a United States Marine with two tours of combat duty in Iraq, then for 7 years as a Plymouth Township Police Officer.

Brad was a cop's cop. He was respected by his colleagues for his professionalism, and he was admired for his love for life, his love of sports, and, particularly, his love for his growing family.

Brad leaves behind his wife, Lynsay, and his daughter, Kadence, and a son, Brad, Jr., born just months after his father's tragic death. He left behind friends and family who loved him and cherished his memory, and a community that will be forever grateful for his sacrifice.

Semper fi, Brad, and thank you for your life and your service.

CELEBRATING PATRIOT WEEK

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

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating what makes our Nation the greatest country in the world by recognizing Patriot Week, currently going on this week. My resolution, H. Con. Res. 58, does just that.

This is a cause that is very close to my heart, as I have always been in awe of the work of our Founding Fathers. In fact, when I was the Senate majority leader of Michigan in 2009, we became the first legislative body to recognize Patriot Week. Since then, events have spread to at least 10 States, where people of all ages have reflected on the work of great Americans who furthered the cause of liberty and our founding principles.

Patriot Week formally begins on September 11, paying tribute to those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of 9/11, and ends on September 17, by celebrating Constitution Day. Each day focuses on a different set of American values, people, and our most precious founding documents.

Mr. Speaker, in this time when our Nation has become so divided, we must renew our American spirit and let it endure for generations to come. We are blessed to live in the greatest Nation on Earth, and we owe it to all of the brave men and women who paved the way for us to get here.

I urge my colleagues to join me in participating in Patriot Week and supporting my resolution, H. Con. Res. 58.

DAR CONSTITUTION WEEK

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, on September 17, 1787, the United States Constitution was signed by 39 inspired men who changed the course of history.

As a nation, we celebrate Constitution Week from September 17 to September 23 this year to remember the legacy and freedoms we all enjoy. The signing of the Constitution 229 years ago created a Republic that has withstood the test of time and that has proven that it was destined for greatness.

To this day, the United States Constitution stands as a testament to the tenacity of Americans throughout history to establish justice, to ensure domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense, to promote the general welfare, and to secure the blessings of liberty. The Constitution has withstood the test of the Civil War, the Great Depression, and many other challenges.

We are blessed to live in a nation where we can all pursue happiness and safety and freedom, and I ask my colleagues to join me and the Daughters of the American Revolution in celebrating the Constitution and what it has done for each and every American during Constitution Week.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 5587, which reauthorizes the Perkins Career and Technical Education program through the year 2022.

Career and technical education programs help provide the vocational training needed to ensure our students have the technical skills to engage the world with the technology of today and tomorrow.

This reauthorization does more than provide funding for the next 5 years. It also gives structural changes to decrease the burden on local districts and increase engagement with local businesses and higher education partners.

More importantly, H.R. 5587 puts up additional barriers between politicians and students, preventing Sacramento and Washington from interfering with our educators.

Mr. Speaker, not every student is bound for college, but every student should leave high school with the knowledge and skills necessary to join today's workforce and have all the options available to them.

OUR DEALINGS WITH IRAN ARE A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, one would think that, after receiving pallets stacked high with international currency shrouded in secrecy and the associated benefits of this administration's flawed nuclear deal, the leadership in Iran would want to change their ways. But when it comes to Iran, logic doesn't apply.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the opposite has happened. Iran has become more confrontational. Tehran continues to develop and test ballistic missile technology, deploy advanced surface-to-air defenses at a "peaceful" nuclear site, and harass our naval vessels on the open seas.

The leaders in Tehran and in the IRGC are continuing down the same old path of aggression as they did before the nuclear deal. But now, Mr. Speaker, they have fresh resources and a renewed sense the United States won't seek to hold them accountable, both courtesy of the Obama administration.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the administration to wake up and realize that their policies and dealings with Iran are further threatening our national security.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2 (a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

House Resolution 828—impeaching John Andrew Koskinen, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved, that John Andrew Koskinen, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the Senate:

Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against John Andrew Koskinen, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article 1.

John Andrew Koskinen, in his conduct while Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, engaged in a pattern of conduct that is incompatible with his duties as an Officer of the United States, as follows:

Commissioner Koskinen failed in his duty to respond to lawfully issued congressional subpoenas. On August 2, 2013, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives issued a subpoena to Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew, the custodian of Internal Revenue Service documents. That subpoena demanded, among other things, “all communications sent or received by Lois Lerner, from January 1, 2009, to August 2, 2013.” On February 14, 2014, following the Senate’s confirmation of John Andrew Koskinen as Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives reissued the subpoena to him.

On March 4, 2014, Internal Revenue Service employees in Martinsburg, West Virginia, magnetically erased 422 backup tapes, destroying as many as 24,000 of Lois Lerner’s emails responsive to the subpoena. This action impeded congressional investigations into the Internal Revenue Service targeting of Americans based on their political affiliation. The American people may never know the true culpability or extent of the Internal Revenue Service targeting because of the destruction of evidence that took place.

Wherefore, John Andrew Koskinen, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial and removal from office.

Article 2.

John Andrew Koskinen engaged in a pattern of deception that demonstrates his unfitness to serve as Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service. Commissioner Koskinen made a series of false and misleading statements to Congress in contravention of his oath to tell the truth. Those false statements included the following:

(1) On June 20, 2014, Commissioner Koskinen testified that “since the

start of this investigation, every email has been preserved. Nothing has been lost. Nothing has been destroyed.”

(2) On June 23, 2014, Commissioner Koskinen testified that the Internal Revenue Service had “confirmed that backup tapes from 2011 no longer existed because they have been recycled, pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service normal policy.” He went on to explain that “confirmed means that somebody went back and looked and made sure that in fact any backup tapes that had existed had been recycled.”

(3) On March 26, 2014, Commissioner Koskinen was asked during a hearing before the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, “Sir, are you or are you not going to provide this committee all of Lois Lerner’s emails?” He answered, “Yes, we will do that.”

Each of those statements was materially false. On March 4, 2014, Internal Revenue Service employees magnetically erased 422 backup tapes containing as many as 24,000 of Lois Lerner’s emails. On February 2, 2014, senior Internal Revenue Service officials discovered that Lois Lerner’s computer hard drive had crashed, rendering hundreds or thousands of her emails unrecoverable. Commissioner Koskinen’s false statements impeded and confused congressional investigations into the Internal Revenue Service targeting of Americans based on their political affiliation.

Wherefore, John Andrew Koskinen, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

Article 3.

John Andrew Koskinen, throughout his tenure as Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, has acted in a manner inconsistent with the trust and confidence placed in him as an Officer of the United States, as follows:

During his confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Finance, John Andrew Koskinen promised, “We will be transparent about any problems we run into; and the public and certainly this committee will know about those problems as soon as we do.”

Commissioner Koskinen repeatedly violated that promise. As early as February 2014 and no later than April 2014, he was aware that a substantial portion of Lois Lerner’s emails could not be produced to Congress. However, in a March 19, 2014, letter to Senator Wyden of the Senate Committee on Finance, Commissioner Koskinen said, “We are transmitting today additional information that we believe completes our production to your committee and the House Ways and Means Committee. . . . In light of these productions, I hope that the investigations can be concluded in the very near future.” At the time he sent that letter, he knew that the document production was not complete.

Commissioner Koskinen did not notify Congress of any problem until

June 13, 2014, when he included the information on the fifth page of the third enclosure of a letter to the Senate Committee on Finance.

Wherefore, John Andrew Koskinen, by such conduct, warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

Article 4.

John Andrew Koskinen has failed to act with competence and forthrightness in overseeing the investigation into Internal Revenue Service targeting of Americans because of their political affiliations as follows:

Commissioner Koskinen stated in a hearing on June 20, 2014, that the Internal Revenue Service had “gone to great lengths” to retrieve all of Lois Lerner’s emails. Commissioner Koskinen’s actions contradicted the assurances he gave to Congress.

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration found over 1,000 of Lois Lerner’s emails that the Internal Revenue Service had failed to produce. Those discoveries took only 15 days of investigation to uncover. The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration searched a number of available sources, including disaster backup tapes, Lois Lerner’s BlackBerry, the email server, backup tapes for the email server, and Lois Lerner’s temporary replacement laptop. The Internal Revenue Service failed to examine any of those sources in its own investigation.

Wherefore, John Andrew Koskinen, by such conduct, warrants impeachment, trial, and removal from office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Louisiana will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3590, HALT TAX INCREASES ON THE MIDDLE CLASS AND SENIORS ACT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 858 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 858

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3590) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the increase in the income threshold used in determining the deduction for medical care. All