These economic issues are the root cause of many critical issues in the African-American community today, such as education, healthcare and criminal justice policy, including policing practices. The call for reparations represents a commitment to entering a constructive dialogue on the role of slavery and racism in shaping present-day conditions in our community and American society.

Over the last two years, we have had a distinguished academic and activist panel from the National African American Reparations Commission dive into some of the most salient points in the reparations discussion. I have supported this effort by holding my annual reparations retrospective at the Annual Legislative Conference of the Congressional Black Caucus.

I believe that H.R. 40 is a crucial piece of legislation because it goes beyond exploring the economic implications of slavery and segregation. It is a holistic bill in the sense that it seeks to establish a commission to also examine the moral and social implications of slavery. In short, the Commission aims to study the impact of slavery and continuing discrimination against African-Americans, resulting directly and indirectly from slavery to segregation to the desegregation process and the present day. The commission would also make recommendations concerning any form of apology and compensation to begin the long delayed process of atonement for slavery.

With the over criminalization and policing of black bodies, a reoccurring issue in African-American communities, I believe this conversation is both relevant and crucial to restoring trust in governmental institutions in many communities. The times and circumstance may change, but the principle problem continues to weigh heavily on this country. A federal commission can help us reach into this dark past and bring us into a brighter future. As in years past, I welcome open and constructive discourse on H.R. 40 and the creation of this commission in the 115th Congress.

## IN HONOR OF ZACH KREFT

### HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 3, 2017*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Zach Kreft of Buckeye Valley High School for winning the Ohio Division II State Individual Boys Cross Country Tournament.

An achievement such as this certainly deserves recognition. The Ohio High School Athletic Association has enabled talented teams and individuals to earn state titles since its founding in 1907. Throughout this time, the champions of OHSAA state level competitions have represented the highest achieving and most talented athletes in Ohio. Each year these elite competitors join the long ranks of those who embody Ohio's proud history of athletic success.

Zach Kreft's victory caps a tremendous season. This sort of achievement is earned only through many hours of practice, perspiration and hard work. He has set a new standard for future athletes to reach. Everyone at Buckeye Valley High School can be extremely proud of his performance.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I congratulate Zach Kreft on his state championship. I wish him continued success in both athletic and academic endeavors.

## INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE THAT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE SHOULD ENSURE DOOR DELIVERY FOR ALL

### HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 3, 2017*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution of the House "expressing the sense that the United States Postal Service shall take all appropriate measure to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all."

Many do not realize that the Post Office is already in the process of phasing out door delivery service, the heart of its customer experience.

And that if some in Congress had their way it would be eliminated entirely.

In my home state of California, residents in newly planned communities are already witnessing the end of traditional mail delivery.

Instead, residents are being forced to resort to so-called cluster boxes—centralized curbside locations many of which are in unsecure locations, poorly maintained and far from people's homes.

Just last month local residents from a community meeting in my district adopted an official neighborhood resolution calling on Congress to address this pressing issue.

I have heard stories from dozens of my constituents about cluster boxes being stolen or damaged. Once that happens, postal customers have to wait months and raise enough money from their neighbors to replace them because USPS does not maintain them. While they wait, they have to go to their post office and wait in long lines every day to pick up their mail.

Americans have benefited from door delivery service ever since the time of the Civil War.

But now some in Congress, in a short-sighted attempt to cut costs, are pushing through a radical overhaul of the Post Office without considering the long-term consequences.

Studies have shown that in today's digital age it is people with disabilities and the elderly who rely most on postal mail more, especially for prescription medicines.

Yes, it is these very groups that would most be hurt by the sudden forced adoption of centralized cluster boxes.

And businesses big and small all across the country rely on well-timed mailers to advertise their products and services. These efforts could be less productive without door delivery and could lead to less business mailings and less revenue for USPS.

All this just for short-term cost cutting—which will do nothing to address the long-term solvency of the Post Office.

And we already know that nobody wants these changes. In 2013, USPS offered voluntary cluster box conversions to businesses and only .8 percent signed up.

What business survives by reducing customer satisfaction?

Or by finding ways to devalue the very service, door delivery, it is known for?

But that is what the proponents of such radical postal reform efforts have in mind.

Furthermore, such changes as proposed in broad postal legislation will end the equal mail delivery system we have now for everyone.

Forced adoption of cluster boxes and a "delivery tax", whereby only the wealthy will get mail at their doors, will create a two-tiered system breaking the fundamental premise that has always been central to the Post Office's mission to deliver to every door at a fixed rate.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this effort to help preserve door delivery for all our constituents.

## INTRODUCTION OF HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2017

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 3, 2017*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, the Health Insurance Industry Antitrust Enforcement Act of 2017 would eliminate the antitrust immunity provided under the McCarran-Ferguson Act for price fixing, bid rigging, and market allocation by health insurance issuers and medical malpractice insurers. The purpose of this bill is to extend antitrust enforcement over health insurers and medical malpractice insurance issuers as to the most egregious antitrust violations. Such insurers currently enjoy broad antitrust immunity under the McCarran-Ferguson Act. This immunity has shielded insurance companies for decades for activities that would otherwise constitute illegal and grossly anticompetitive conduct. Our Nation's antitrust laws exist to protect free-market competition and this bill will help to restore competition to the health insurance marketplace.

The House Judiciary Committee held numerous hearings on the effects of the insurance industry's antitrust exemption. It has become clear that the exemption is not needed to enable the insurance industry to provide services to their policyholders, and that policyholders and the economy in general would benefit from increased competition among insurance providers. Indeed, this is why four members of the Antitrust Modernization Commission recommended repealing the McCarran-Ferguson antitrust exemption in the Commission's 2007 report. Commissioners Jonathan Jacobson, Debra Valentine, and John Warden wrote that the exemption has "outlived any utility [it] may have had," and Commissioner John Shenefield wrote that it is "among the most ill-conceived and egregious examples" of antitrust exemptions and that its repeal "should not be delayed."

The bill I introduce today is intended to root out unlawful activity in an industry that has grown complacent by decades of protection from antitrust oversight. And, particularly in light of efforts to undermine the Affordable Care Act, repealing this unjustified antitrust exemption for health insurers will further ensure more affordable health insurance for Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.