

community, your colleagues, your country, and I thank you for your service.

NO WALL ON OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. O'ROURKE. Madam Speaker, we have the lowest levels of northbound apprehension coming across our southern border in modern history. We have more Mexican nationals going south to Mexico today than coming north to the United States. We have less than zero migration from Mexico.

In El Paso, Texas, the border community is the safest city in the United States. On top of that, there has been not a terrorist, terrorist plot, or terrorist organization that is connected to our border with Mexico.

But just in case, we are being vigilant. We are spending \$19 billion a year to secure that border. There are 20,000 brave members of the Border Patrol who patrol every inch of that 2,000-mile border.

Madam Speaker, we do not need a wall on our southern border. It is a waste of time. It is a waste of resources, and it takes our eye off of the real threats to this country.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in opposing a wall from this new administration.

CONGRATULATING XAVIER BECERRA

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank my friend and former colleague, Xavier Becerra, for his long and effective record of service on behalf of California in Congress.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra has been a true mentor and a friend to me, especially during this transition serving as a new Member of Congress.

His support and his service reaffirm that the children of immigrants and immigrants themselves have a crucial role to play in our Federal Government.

I want to congratulate Xavier Becerra on his well-deserved appointment to serve as California's attorney general. While he is no longer with us in the House, I know that his new appointment will be even greater felt across our country during these troubling political times.

I have no doubt that, as attorney general, Xavier will defend our Constitution and fight for families in California and help our State serve as a beacon of hope and progress in America.

IMMIGRATION EXECUTIVE ORDER AND CONFLICT OF BUSINESS INTEREST

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to focus on President Trump's curious executive action to deny U.S. entry of certain refugees and travelers who were cleared and properly vetted. The arbitrary and discriminatory nature of his order is odd in that he only identified seven countries to be included.

One must ask: Why were other nations excluded? Yes, excluded from the executive order are several Middle Eastern, African, and other nations where The Trump Organization has business interests, including Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Azerbaijan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia, where the majority of 9/11 terrorists originated.

We know Mr. Trump has failed to divest from his company, as ethics experts have duly noted. Every American should wonder whether he designed this executive order with his own business interests, at least, partly in mind. This is the purpose of divestiture, to eliminate any possible question of doubt or possible mal intent.

Without divesting from management and ownership, President Trump's circumstance threatens the basic tenet of the rule of law that the government and all of its actors will discharge duties in the best interest of the American people, not their self-interest or the interests of their cronies or the interest of their brand.

TRUMP'S REFUGEE ACTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. CHENEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I might say it is great seeing you in the chair. You are a natural fit. Maybe we can do something about that at some point.

It is an honor to speak in this hallowed Hall. There has been much ado made about contrived misrepresentations about what has gone on with President Trump's executive order regarding seven countries that the Obama administration designated as being problems when it comes to refugees coming from those countries.

It has been absolutely incredible. And I think some of us were talking that it really exemplifies why networks like CNN—that was the one, the only 24-hour cable news network—have lost so much to other networks. MSNBC, CNBC, and even Fox News got caught up in some of the misrepresentations, and I couldn't believe that they were spending the kind of time talking about a contrived issue.

Now, there was a problem in some innocent people being delayed and im-

properly handled, people who didn't deserve that. I am familiar with how that feels because I deal, like most of us do in this body, with TSA on virtually a weekly or even sometimes more often basis.

There is a great article here by John Hayward from January 29. Mr. Hayward says:

"The sober and logical reasons for President Donald Trump's executive order on refugees and visitors are rising above the noise after an evening of hysterical over-reactions and emotional meltdowns on the Nation's TV networks.

"Advocates of sane, secure immigration policy have long noted that it's almost impossible to have a reasonable discussion of the refugee and immigration issues, because it's been sentimentalized and politicized beyond the realm of rational thought.

"This weekend brings them another superb example of media-magnified shrieking about fascism, bleating about 'white nationalists,' howling about 'religious persecution,' false invocations of the Constitution, and theatrical sobbing on behalf of the Statue of Liberty."

We do have that water coming off the Statue of Liberty being analyzed, so that we can determine whether or not it is tears or something else.

"For readers who want to wallow in the emotion, examples can be found in this handy dossier of hysteria compiled by the Washington Post. But clear-eyed adults prefer to examine plain facts about Trump's executive order:

"1. It is NOT a 'Muslim ban.'"

I have the executive order here. Unlike those in the Senate and those in the media, who were just excoriating President Trump and anyone involved in this executive order, I actually read it, unlike those people. I read the executive order.

□ 1745

And because I read the executive order, I understood there was no ban against Muslims, no ban against Islam. It was very straightforward. And Hayward's article points that out.

He said: "You will search the executive order in vain for mentions of Islam, or any other religion. By Sunday morning, the media began suffering acute attacks of honesty and writing headlines such as 'Trump's Latest Executive Order: Banning People From 7 Countries and More.'"

And that was from CNN. And, Madam Speaker, I am very pleased that CNN finally got around to having a more truthful headline.

"Granted, CNN still slips in the phrase 'Muslim-majority countries' into every article about the order, including the post in which they reprinted its text in full, but CNN used the word 'Muslim,' not Trump. The order applies to all citizens of Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. It does not specify Muslims. The indefinite hold on Syrian refugees