

NOT VOTING—14

Brat	Kelly (IL)	Panetta
Chaffetz	Larsen (WA)	Perlmutter
Ferguson	Maloney	Reed
Frelinghuysen	Carolyn B.	Slaughter
Gohmert	Meng	Tipton

□ 1734

So the Journal was approved.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, and 245. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on votes 242 and 243. I would have voted "nay" on votes 240, 241, 244 and 245.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 244, HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-108) on the resolution (H. Res. 305) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

POLL SHOWS MEDIA IS NOT MAINSTREAM

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the national media's continued crusade against President Trump further demonstrates that they are not mainstream.

A Morning Consult poll found that a majority of Americans believe the media is "out of touch with everyday Americans." Most significantly, 37 percent said they trusted President Trump to tell the truth, while only 29 percent said the media is truthful.

The media's open hostility to the President continues to erode his credibility. A poll by the University of Virginia Center for Politics found that 88 percent of Trump voters agree with him that the media "is the enemy of the American people."

Let's hope the media will put aside their bias and give the President fair and objective coverage. It may be the only way for the media to rebuild their credibility.

AMERICA'S WORKERS NEED JOBS AND A RENEGOTIATED NAFTA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, President Trump claims to have brought profound change in his first 100 days in office, but thus far, on jobs, our trade deficit continues to rise.

Rather than fulfill his promise to directly renegotiate NAFTA, the President signed another "dodge 'em" executive order asking for a 6-month delay by reviewing all U.S. trade agreements. That could take forever. His NAFTA backtrack presents a serious problem for Americans who continue to lose their jobs to NAFTA's broken promises.

None will be more impacted than Americans working in the automotive sector. Last year, our country's automotive trade gap with Mexico was deep in the red again. As a result, our country imported 800,000 more cars from Mexico than we exported.

This is what it looked like back in 1993. This is what it looks like today. Is it any wonder that Americans are concerned about jobs?

In agricultural trade among NAFTA partners, 2 million small-scale Mexican farmers were thrown off their farms and out of work. This fueled the immigration crisis and subwage workers across our continent as poverty continued—no different than 1993.

America's workers don't need any more studies or delays. We need jobs and a renegotiated NAFTA now.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

(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, I rise today to congratulate our ally Israel on its 69th anniversary of independence.

For nearly seven decades, Israel has become a beacon of promise and success amid continued challenges. Since the declaration of the State of Israel back in 1948, they have consistently shown the power of democracy and strength in a volatile part of the world. The people of Israel have also proven themselves to be loyal allies to the United States during tumultuous times, serving as a constant reaffirmation of our unbreakable bond.

Their resolve cannot be understated, either. Israel consistently keeps its citizens safe, despite security threats on a daily basis. The fact that Israel continues to flourish amid constant efforts to terrorize and daunt them is a signal of the nation's strength.

So today we join those in Israel, as well as others around the world, in celebration.

Mr. Speaker, let us continue to protect and preserve the unending and unwavering friendship and relationship between America and Israel.

WE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, NOT TEAR IT DOWN

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, the Lord works in mysterious ways.

Any person today can go online and look at the speech that Jimmy Kimmel made live on television. He talks about his newborn little boy. He talks about how, within a few minutes, they had to whisk him over to another hospital to give him an emergency operation on his heart. He was very emotional.

But he didn't just talk about him and his wife and his little daughter and his newborn son. He talked about how no person, no family, or no child should ever have to be denied that opportunity for that lifesaving operation, especially right here in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, the Lord works in mysterious ways because this is the perfect time for every American to go online and look at the Jimmy Kimmel speech. It is not politics, ladies and gentlemen, it is love. It is respect not only for his little boy, but for this great country and how we can be greater. That is why we need to improve our healthcare system, not tear it down.

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Charter Schools Week, and I rise to recognize Arizona's leadership amongst the charter school community.

Over this past school year, a record number of students attended 547 charter schools in Arizona; and last week, a new survey found that five of the country's top seven high schools were Arizona charter schools, including one from my own district, Arizona's Fifth Congressional District. I am extremely proud of our charter schools.

Arizona charter schools are thriving because of two decades of tireless work from advocates to give thousands of students more educational choices and opportunities to succeed. These leaders have fostered a culture that balances autonomy and accountability to prepare their students for higher education and the workforce.

As the rankings prove, Arizona's policies are drastically improving student achievement and should be emulated by the rest of the Nation.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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