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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 26, 2017, at 4 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of grace and goodness, thank You for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing of strength and perseverance that each Member might best serve their constituents and our entire Nation.

May it be their purpose to see to the hopes of so many Americans, that they authenticate the grandeur and glory of the ideals and principles of our Republic with the work they do.

Grant that the men and women of the people's House find the courage and wisdom to work together to forge solutions to the many needs of our Nation and ease the anxieties of so many.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HECK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING KAYLA BARRON, NASA ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Kayla Barron of Richland, Washington, who was recently selected for NASA's 2017 Astronaut Candidate Class. Kayla was chosen 1 of 12 from over 18,000 applicants to join just 338 people who have held the prestigious title of American astronaut.

Before applying to the NASA program, Ms. Barron attended the U.S. Naval Academy, where she received several medals and unit commendations while earning a bachelor's degree in systems engineering. She went on to earn a master's degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Cambridge. She was a member of the first class of women commissioned into the submarine community as a submarine warfare officer.

Kayla is an exemplary role model for students interested in science and tech-

nology. I commend her for her hard work, and I wish her luck in her training and her future exploration endeavors.

BRING BIPARTISANSHIP BACK TO BORING

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

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to tell you about a time when bipartisanship was alive and when Congress was, well, boring for most Americans. In fact, it wasn't that long ago.

It was just in March of 2015 that Democrats and Republicans fixed the Medicare payment formula and funded the Children's Health Insurance Program. I was proud to be a Member of the body that day.

Did our bipartisanship dominate the headlines?

No.

Did it get a lot of attention at town-halls?

No, of course not. Because all of us getting along was, well, boring.

But these recent Republican healthcare proposals, they are not boring. They have been developed in secrecy, they are completely partisan, and they take us backward.

I challenge my friends across the aisle, the Republicans, to join us and fix the parts of the Affordable Care Act that need fixing because the Affordable Care Act has made a real difference for

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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millions of Americans, a positive difference. So let's get back to bipartisan-ship, back to boring, back to basics because that is what our constituents want most of all.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY 40TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Focus on the Family, a vital American institution dedicated to preserving one of the country's most foundational pillars: the family.

While I cannot attend today's celebration in person, I am grateful that my good friend, Vice President MIKE PENCE, is in Colorado Springs to mark this wonderful occasion.

It would be impossible to fully quantify the impact Focus on the Family has had in our own Nation and across the world. Thousands of marriages have been revived, children have been lovingly disciplined, and families have been reunited and strengthened.

Perhaps most important are the 382,000 lives saved through Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound program, which helps mothers choose life when faced with unexpected pregnancies.

Those 382,000 lives and, indeed, our entire Nation owe you a debt of gratitude. So to founder Dr. James Dobson, Jim Daly, and the staff of Focus on the Family, I say, "Well, done," and offer you my sincere congratulations.

HONORING LUKE NEWMAN

(Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend the life and the legacy of an outstanding resident of my community who served in World War II, which is a long time ago, but he also became an outstanding citizen, steeped in the Lutheran church, provided resources to the community where he lived and worked, so I commend Mr. Luke Newman, and I just simply say that we have enjoyed knowing him.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL SERGEANT WILLIAM BISHOP

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Florida Highway Patrol Master Sergeant William Bishop of Lake City. Sergeant Bishop was killed last Saturday while working a traffic accident on I-75 in Alachua County, Florida.

Sergeant Bishop is a 30-year veteran of the Florida Highway Patrol, and he

dedicated his life to law enforcement. He truly loved his patrol family. He also served in the United States Army, serving on the front lines all his life. That is a calling, not a job.

Many of Bishop's colleagues remember him as someone who exhibited compassion, honesty, and faith. He loved watching football, but his greatest love of all was his family, especially his son, Trampas.

His service and sacrifice to the State of Florida is a debt we will never be able to repay.

Please join me in honoring Florida Highway Patrol Master Sergeant William Bishop and all of our fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our safety.

RECOGNIZING MACKENZIE GORE AS 2016-17 GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that North Carolina is home to many great student athletes that serve as community role models.

One prime example is MacKenzie Gore, who graduated from Whiteville High School this month and has been named the 2017 Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year. Not only that, he was just recently selected third overall in the Major League Baseball draft by the San Diego Padres.

MacKenzie not only demonstrates athletic excellence, but also exemplary character and work ethic—the two primary traits necessary for great success. Very few have achieved as much as early in life. It is a culmination of years of hard work and commitment.

As with all who are in success, MacKenzie is blessed to have a big decision to make: go pro and play for the Padres or head to East Carolina University to play for the Pirates. Whatever MacKenzie decides, we are all proud of him and wish him the very best.

EVAN'S LAW

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

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, sometimes out of loss, a cause arises and the lives of others are saved. I rise today to ask for my colleagues' support of a bill I introduced today, Evan's Law.

My bill would require the Department of Defense to make windows in military residential housing safe for military families and their children by equipping housing units with fall protection and prevention devices to protect against unintentional falls by young children.

We ask our servicemembers to go into harm's way to protect our Nation and our way of life. Our servicemembers deserve to live in residential hous-

ing properly equipped with window fall prevention devices to make sure their children are safe in their own homes.

Mr. Speaker, joining me today in the balcony is Commander Jason English; his wife, Ami; and their children, Jason, Luke, Lydia, and Joshua.

Commander English and his family have been tireless advocates for residential window safety requirements in the Department of Defense. They lost their son Evan. Commander English and his family have worked to raise awareness about the danger young children face in residential housing.

I thank the English family for their hard work. I am hopeful that Evan's Law will become a part of the National Defense Authorization Act. I urge my colleagues to join me in their support.

ACCELERATING INDIVIDUALS INTO THE WORKFORCE ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 2842.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 396 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2842.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0911

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, with Mr. DENHAM in the chair. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support to talk about H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are more than 6 million job openings, the highest level since the government started tracking the data in the year 2000. At the same time, the share of Americans participating in the workforce is near a four-decade low.

Moving welfare recipients into employment is a central goal of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, or TANF. Yet only half of all TANF recipients receiving cash assistance are working or preparing for work.

Some TANF recipients have a difficult time transitioning from welfare into a job, so these types of on-the-job work experiences aid in the transition. The same goes for employers who may be reluctant to hire welfare recipients with limited work experience or other barriers to working.

So the question is: How can we bridge the gap? How do we connect out-of-work Americans with all of the employers who want and need to fill job openings?

H.R. 2842, sponsored by Congressman CURBELO of Florida and Congressman DAVIS of Illinois, encourages employers to work with State and local agencies to hire TANF recipients. States would only be able to use this money to provide benefits to those who are working, providing paychecks in lieu of benefit checks, a key tenet to welfare reform.

Employers would take the lead by partnering with State and local agencies to hire TANF recipients, providing recipients with highly valued work experience and on-the-job training, including apprenticeships.

Earn-and-learn models help people become familiar with the workplace, gain needed skills, and earn a wage.

The bill reserves up to \$100 million for 1 year from the TANF Contingency Fund, which has already been extended through the end of fiscal year 2018 to subsidize up to 50 percent of a TANF recipient's wage for no more than 12 months.

Fifteen percent of the funds would be set aside for career pathway programs, which combine work, training, and other supports to help individuals enter the workforce and move up the economic ladder.

Finally, high-quality evaluations would be used to determine whether these public-private partnerships were effective in helping welfare recipients move into jobs and retain work.

There is broad support from the employer community for helping low-skilled Americans gain on-the-job experience, and there is plenty of support here and across the country for tying government assistance to work or work preparation for those who are able-bodied.

Decades of experience tells us the most effective anti-poverty program is a job. It is helping low-income Americans earn success through the dignity of work.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to stand with Mr. CURBELO in supporting this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0915

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I strongly support H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, which is better known as TANF.

This important bill modernizes the TANF Contingency Fund to promote effective job training programs, such as subsidized jobs, career pathways, and apprenticeship programs. Research is clear. Subsidized employment, career pathways, and apprenticeship programs successfully engage people in employment, especially those who have been unsuccessful in finding paid employment through their efforts.

Further research on past TANF subsidized employment programs document that these initiatives increase employment and earnings both while individuals worked in a subsidized job as well as after the program ended. Also, studies show that States operated these programs that provided tremendous benefit at very reasonable cost.

Many States used the TANF Emergency Funds to establish effective subsidized employment programs. Using these TANF Emergency Funds in Illinois, former Governor Pat Quinn implemented the very successful Put Illinois to Work program that directly created over 26,000 jobs, helping close to 5,000 employees in Illinois. Nationally, the TANF Emergency Funds created 260,000 jobs.

Good subsidized employment programs have three characteristics that make them an attractive part of TANF: they are able to increase employment quickly; they help some of the individuals who face the greatest challenges enter the workforce and stay there; and, when funded on a large scale, they can help boost local economies. For these reasons, Democrats have proposed subsidized employment within TANF for years.

My friend and colleague from Wisconsin, GWEN MOORE, initially proposed allowing subsidized employment in TANF via her RISE Act many years ago. I embraced her idea in my Responsible Fatherhood bill, and I am pleased to join with Representative CURBELO on this effort.

If we are truly committed to helping families work their way out of poverty, we will need to do much more to strengthen TANF. We will need to ensure that States actually spend TANF money on TANF recipients. We need to improve access to education and training, critical changes that both Republican and Democratic witnesses have emphasized over and over again. We need to improve childcare so parents can actually go to work.

This bill is a good bill. It makes a small, positive step forward on our path to more comprehensive improvements to TANF. I strongly support it. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO), the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of

H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

Here in the House, we have prioritized helping Americans escape poverty, and we are working to create policies that are focused on getting individuals into jobs so they can achieve self-sufficiency.

A job is something that dignifies the human condition. It is an opportunity for every individual to make a contribution to their family, their local community, and to our country.

This bill is an innovative solution that will give more people access to that opportunity. Through proposals like H.R. 2842, we can help struggling Americans find work and get on the path to success.

This bipartisan legislation connects Americans looking for work with employers looking to fill job openings, including through apprenticeships and other forms of on-the-job training. It uses \$100 million from the TANF Contingency Fund for grants so States can conduct demonstration projects intended to assist TANF recipients in entering the workforce and maintaining employment.

Importantly, this legislation requires that States meet certain criteria to ensure they achieve their intended goal. This includes a description of how local governments will coordinate these efforts with others that assist low-income individuals.

States must also report on the outcomes of the demonstration projects and provide evaluations to determine whether such employer-led partnerships were effective.

This bill empowers States, giving them the ability to take into account their own unique challenges and design programs that meet both their employers' and job seekers' needs, rather than a top-down Washington approach.

This legislation has support from our business leaders. I include this letter of support in the RECORD.

BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE,
Washington, DC, June 20, 2017.

Hon. CARLOS CURBELO,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DANNY K. DAVIS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CURBELO AND REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS: Business Roundtable appreciates your bipartisan efforts to bring more people into the workforce who currently have few skills and lack job experience. Your bill, H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, is a thoughtful approach for encouraging companies to hire recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). We are pleased to support it.

Business Roundtable CEOs believe earn-and-learn programs help people become familiar with the workplace, gain needed skills, and earn a wage. In many inner cities, the unemployment rate for young people is distressingly high, but their prospects improve dramatically if they find a first-time job.

By supporting partnerships among business, government, and education to hire

TANF recipients, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act will give the unemployed an opportunity to work and succeed.

Sincerely,

WES BUSH,
Chair, Education and
Workforce Com-
mittee, Business
Roundtable; Chair-
man, Chief Execu-
tive Officer and
President, Northrop
Grumman Corpora-
tion.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I was happy to partner with Representative DANNY DAVIS on this effort to move individuals from welfare into long-term employment, and I am proud of the work we have done together.

I would also like to thank Chairman BRADY and Subcommittee Chairman ADRIAN SMITH for their leadership and hard work, as well as Rosemary Lahasky, Anne DeCesaro, and the rest of the House Committee on Ways and Means staff who have worked on this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, if I may add one thing. Last week, in the wake of the tragic shooting against Members of Congress, we all vowed to come together, to find common ground. The Committee on Ways and Means answered that call, and I am very confident that this House will do the same later today.

The American people expect us to have our differences, our disagreements, but they also expect us to find common ground; and Republicans and Democrats have done this today in favor of those who need it most, welfare recipients, needy families in our country. I am very proud to sponsor this legislation, to support it, and I would ask all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), who has worked on these issues for many, many terms and many years.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman and both my colleagues, though I respectfully disagree that this Congress has placed any priority on helping get people out of poverty. Indeed, when it comes to poverty in America, this Congress has largely been silent. I think the Congress itself is impoverished when it comes to ideas about how to lift people up into the middle class.

We talk here so much about the middle class, and appropriately so, but there are millions of people out there who are struggling to just climb up that first or second rung of the economic ladder and work themselves into the middle class, and this Congress is doing little, constructively, to assist them.

The need for real and meaningful change is particularly evident in my home State of Texas, where the State legislature has been so incredibly indifferent to this problem. There, one out

of every four children is below the poverty level, and over one-third of all Texans live in the shadow of poverty, meaning that their income is less than twice the poverty threshold. The Corporation for Enterprise Development ranked Texas near the bottom among all States on key measures related to financial security.

Now, here is what today's bipartisan bill does to respond to that, and it is really a story of the number one.

Of the several Republican proposals that were originally advanced by now-Speaker PAUL RYAN two years ago, some introduced by Republican colleagues and some containing good ideas, this is the one last bill standing.

With the notable exception of a budget that is devastating to opportunities for poor Americans, this is the one and only bill on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, previously known as welfare, that Republicans will even permit us to discuss on the floor of this House.

This one very modest bill does not add one new dollar to address the challenges that those who want to rise from welfare to work need. It simply segregates \$100 million from an existing fund for one year.

Now, get this: the fund from which they are segregating the \$100 million from, Donald Trump is seeking to abolish the entire fund so that no moneys for this proposal will be available after one year.

This bill gives the States no new flexibility, and no new authority. It does not authorize them to do anything that they cannot do today. Indeed, some States—and I think my colleague from Illinois referenced one of these—are already finding ways to, in appropriate situations, subsidize employment.

What this bill does is to say that on this particular \$100 million fund, as long as it lasts, until President Trump eliminates it entirely, that the States must use the money in a particular way. In other words, it seeks to restrict the States who receive these moneys to require them to use it for one particular way to assist those who are in poverty.

It is also significant that the Trump budget cuts are so far-reaching in trying to undermine efforts to raise people out of poverty, and for those who are not able-bodied, to provide them the support that they need. This bill deals with a little less than one-half of one percent of the Trump budget cuts.

I believe, sincerely, that we need a better approach, that we have ideas on both sides of the aisle that are being blocked by a determination to not address root causes of poverty.

First, we should support initiatives that strike at the early seeds of poverty, like the Home Visiting Program that will expire in a mere three months, which helps to improve opportunities for at-risk children and helps their parents be the parents they want to be; and certainly, early childhood education is a key part of that.

Second, we should increase efforts to help people gain the skills they need to secure jobs through which they can support their families at a living wage, and that is the challenge here. Sure, some employers will love to have taxpayers subsidize their workforce, pay part of the wages that they would otherwise have to pay, and sometimes this is a valuable support, particularly for people that are reentering our society after incarceration and other groups of particularly hard-to-place employees. But for many folks, the big question is, when the subsidy ends, when the taxpayer stops paying, will there be a job there? Is there a job ladder that will allow that person to work themselves up, or are they essentially participating in minimum wage employment that will not support their family and will not provide them a future?

There are in-demand skills-training programs that do work and do offer an alternative, but they are not free. They take an investment. An example is Project QUEST in San Antonio.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, Project QUEST has an 86 percent job placement rate for its graduates, who boost their incomes, on average, from \$10,000 a year before entering the program to \$40,000 a year.

I know there are similar programs in other parts of the country that do the same. They are not subsidized employment, but they are working with poor people to get the skills that they need for an in-demand job and working with local employers to find out what types of jobs are most needed. In many parts of America, our economy is being held back by a lack of qualified workers.

Then, one of the areas that is so important to all parents, but particularly to single moms that are in poverty, is childcare. President Trump is proposing not one, but three cuts to childcare, cutting out hundreds of millions of dollars of support to childcare, which stands in the way of many individuals from working their way out of poverty.

I believe that we need to be working together to try to find genuine solutions and that working together is not just here in this House, in Congress, because the big problem here is that, when we voted in 1996—and I voted for it, for moving from welfare to work—we expected the States to be partners in that effort. Today, as much as we talk about work and getting from welfare to work, exactly 8 cents out of every dollar being spent on the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program—8 cents—goes to work supports. And not very much more than that goes to childcare, and President Trump, of course, wants to reduce that.

It is only by having a comprehensive program that is really focused on the roots of poverty and assisting those

who would help themselves that the promise of that welfare law can become effective.

Unfortunately, while we did change fundamentally and end welfare as we know it, it became welfare for Republican Governors who wanted to use these Federal moneys not to assist the poor, but to assist their States fill various budget gaps. We have a great example of where block grants fail. I hope we can find ways to succeed.

□ 0930

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the efforts here today of my colleague from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) working together focusing on solutions.

Mr. Chairman, we know that, this day and age, it is very easy to identify the problems and the challenges that our country faces. It is a little more difficult to come up with the solutions and bring people together. I appreciate the efforts of both sides coming together today.

I truly believe that the solutions to our challenges are out in the communities where needy families live, and we know we have many needy families across our country for various reasons. America is a big country. And when you look at the challenges that individuals might face economically, I hope that we can come together as Americans to focus on growing our economy, growing opportunity, hoping that we see, as our number one responsibility, the need to provide for opportunity in the future.

We can't set certain and determine certain outcomes, but we can certainly measure the outcomes from our efforts here in Washington. That is why this bill, very importantly, requires States to report on outcomes through this program. We know that we need to provide more flexibility for States. This does exactly that, and, even more so, with communities.

As we do get the feedback from the States, I hope that we will heed their advice because they are the folks who are more in touch with the needs of their various communities around their jurisdictions, all 50 States.

Mr. Chairman, they are experts, and I hope that we can work together with them here, on both sides of the aisle, in Washington, but also all across America with very diverse needs for needy families.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), a fierce advocate for low-income people.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I thank Ranking Member DANNY DAVIS. I rise to express support for H.R. 2842, Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

I do, again, want to thank my dear friend, Representative DAVIS, for recognizing the importance of subsidizing jobs as something that was featured in my RISE Out of Poverty bill, and I applaud this bipartisan bill as a small step in the right direction.

Now, this bill calls for a demonstration project, which would show progress toward reducing poverty in our country through a 1-year test of subsidized employment programs. But I would note, Mr. Chairman, that it certainly does not tackle the larger shortcomings of TANF, which is in desperate need of reform.

If enacted, this bill would exhibit a great start at helping TANF recipients obtain short-term employment. However, methods to retain long-term employment through higher education and childcare options for TANF recipients are still needed.

I do want to point out, Mr. Chairman, that contrary to popular notions of welfare recipients—I have been a welfare recipient myself—people on public assistance do, in fact, want to work, but they want to work at a wage that is sustainable. They want to work at a job that includes training opportunities. They want to work at jobs that provide them with a career ladder, and they, certainly, want to work at a job that will bring them out of poverty—something that will help them work in a durable, lasting fashion.

Since I have a little bit more time than I thought I was going to have, I just want to point out that it is a little-known fact that current law under TANF actually requires welfare recipients to do unwaged work. How absurd is that? Who in this body, Mr. Chairman, would work for absolutely nothing?

I want to note that the proposed funding mechanism in H.R. 2842 does not appear in my RISE Out of Poverty bill. TANF funds are woefully inadequate already. They are pegged to a 1994 appropriations, and, certainly, this flat funding would inure to the detriment of the entire TANF program.

Mr. Chair, I urge Members to support this bill.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to close if there are no more speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to, first of all, commend Mr. CURBELO for his leadership on this issue, and I certainly agree with him that we have found enough common ground to be here this morning with a bill that we can pass, but I also agree with my friend from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), that there are many shortcomings to helping individuals actually realize the potential that they have to move beyond poverty to sustainable employment so that they can have a level of living and a level of expectation which gives them the energy that they need to keep moving forward.

There are some improvements that we certainly need to make. We can allow greater education and training. Every time witnesses come before us, they always tell us that, no matter whether they are billed as Republican or Democrat, or with no political stripe. We should improve TANF for kinship caregivers. We should remove the lifetime ban on felony drug convictions. Just imagine, that these individuals will never ever have the opportunity to experience the benefits of this program, or of this effort.

We should remove the 60-month time limit during recessions, and we should remove the ban to assist unwed teen parents and other youth who are displaced.

So clearly, we do have agreement this morning, and I am delighted to be a part of it, but I certainly hope that my colleagues will look at those unmet needs that the legislation does not cover.

I urge its support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Mr. CURBELO and Mr. DAVIS for their leadership on this issue, and then colleagues from both sides coming together in a bipartisan way so that we can help more Americans get back to work.

This bill requires high-quality evaluations to determine whether these public-private partnerships are effective in helping welfare recipients move into jobs. These evidence-based results will be used to inform future policy decisions to reform our welfare system, similar to the approach taken in the mid-1990s.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on these important issues so more Americans can earn a wage and feel the dignity of work.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-22. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 2842

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act".

SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO SUPPORT SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT FOR TANF RECIPIENTS TO ENTER THE WORKFORCE.

Section 403 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) **SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall make grants to States to conduct demonstration projects, at least one of which shall fund programs that offer apprenticeships registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), designed to implement and evaluate strategies that provide wage subsidies to enable low-income individuals to enter into and retain employment.

“(2) **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall require each State that applies for a grant under this subsection to do the following:

“(A) Describe how wage subsidies will be provided (such as whether paid directly to the employer or the individual), the duration of the subsidies, the amount of the subsidies, the structure of the subsidies, and how employers will be recruited to participate in the subsidized employment program.

“(B) Describe how the State expects those participating in subsidized employment to be able to retain employment after the subsidy ends.

“(C) Describe how the State will coordinate subsidized employment funded under this subsection with other efforts to help low-income individuals enter work as conducted by the State.

“(3) **USE OF FUNDS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A State to which a grant is made under this subsection may use the grant to subsidize the wages of an eligible recipient for a period not exceeding 12 months, and only to the extent that the total of the funds paid under this project and any other Federal funds so used with respect to the recipient does not exceed 50 percent of the amount of the wages received by the recipient during the period.

“(B) **ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A), an eligible recipient is—

“(i) (I) a recipient of assistance under the State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)); or

“(II) a noncustodial parent of a minor child who is receiving assistance referred to in subclause (I);

“(ii) who, at the time the subsidy begins, is unemployed; and

“(iii) whose income, at that time, is less than 200 percent of the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))).

“(4) **LIMITATIONS.**—

“(A) **NONDISPLACEMENT.**—A State to which a grant is made under this subsection shall ensure that no participant in a subsidized job program funded in whole or in part under this subsection is employed or assigned to a job under the program—

“(i) when any other individual is on layoff from the same or any substantially equivalent job; or

“(ii) if the employer has terminated the employment of any regular employee or otherwise caused an involuntary reduction of its workforce in order to fill the vacancy so created with an adult described in paragraph (1).

“(B) **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.**—A State with a program funded under this subsection shall establish and maintain a grievance procedure for resolving complaints of alleged violations of subparagraph (A).

“(C) **NO PREEMPTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph shall preempt or supersede any provision of State or local law that provides greater protection for employees from displacement.

“(5) **REPORTS.**—As a condition of receiving funds under this subsection for a fiscal year, a State shall submit to the Secretary, within 6 months after the end of the fiscal year, a report that—

“(A) specifies, for each month of the fiscal year, the number of individuals whose employment is subsidized with these funds;

“(B) describes the structure of the State activities to use the funds to subsidize employment, including the amount and duration of the subsidies provided;

“(C) specifies the percentage of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after the subsidy ended;

“(D) specifies the percentage of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after the subsidy ended; and

“(E) specifies the median earnings of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after the subsidy ended.

“(6) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary, in consultation with each State conducting a demonstration project, shall conduct a high-quality evaluation of the demonstration project, and may reserve funds made available under this subsection to conduct the evaluation in accordance with the following:

“(A) **EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS.**—The Secretary may not enter into a contract with an evaluator unless the evaluator has demonstrated experience in conducting rigorous evaluations of program effectiveness including, where available and appropriate, well-implemented randomized controlled trials.

“(B) **METHODOLOGIES TO BE USED.**—The evaluation of a demonstration project shall use experimental designs using random assignment or other reliable, evidence-based research methodologies that allow for the strongest possible causal inferences when random assignment is not feasible.

“(C) **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.**—The Secretary shall publish the results of the evaluation on the website of the Department of Health and Human Services in a location easily accessible by the public.

“(7) **RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.**—The Secretary shall submit recommendations to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on how to increase the employment, retention, and advancement of individuals currently or formerly receiving assistance under a State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)).

“(8) **FUNDING.**—Of the amounts made available to carry out subsection (b) for fiscal year 2018, the Secretary shall reserve \$100,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

“(9) **USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary shall use 15 percent of the amounts reserved to carry out this subsection, to fund programs that offer career pathway (as defined in section 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) services.

“(10) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Funds provided to a State under this subsection in a fiscal year shall be expended by the State in the fiscal year or in the succeeding fiscal year.”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by this Act shall take effect on October 1, 2017.

The CHAIR. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in House Report 115-187. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debat-

able for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 115-187.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 2, before the period, insert the following: “in an in-demand industry sector or occupation identified by the appropriate State or local workforce development board”.

Page 5, after line 13, insert the following:

“(C) describes the State’s policies in effect during the fiscal year—

“(i) to ensure nondisplacement as required under paragraph (4)(A); and

“(ii) to implement grievance procedures as required in (4)(B), including information on the number of grievance claims filed in the preceding fiscal year and the aggregate results of those claims;”.

Page 5, line 14, redesignate subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D).

Page 5, line 18, redesignate subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E).

Page 5, line 22, redesignate subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F).

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. Foxx) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, this amendment to H.R. 2842, Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, would make two changes to the bill. The first part of the amendment would encourage the demonstration projects created under this bill to direct beneficiaries toward jobs in an in-demand industry sector or occupation, as identified by workforce boards in their States and local communities.

Today, in this country, there are approximately 6 million jobs that remain unfilled because they require technical skills and knowledge related specifically to an industry or occupation. If we want to help participants move from government assistance and hold a job, then we must set them on a path toward jobs and industries that are currently, and will remain, competitive in the evolving 21st century economy.

The second part of my amendment would include in the reports from States that establish these demonstration projects information about their efforts to ensure nondisplacement of workers and to address grievance claims. Congress’ future decisions related to similar programs will be enhanced by having access to this information and data reported from the States.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would further strengthen the protections against displacement of current employees. I think it is a goal that we all share to make sure that this bill expands employment, rather than just changing who is employed.

I plan to support the gentlewoman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, as our economy continues to recover and evolve, it is critical that job seekers have the resources needed to gain the skills they need to compete for in-demand jobs. That was the aim of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that we passed in 2014, and my amendment encourages State agencies to coordinate with their workforce boards to continue these efforts.

My amendment also would improve the information participating States submit about their demonstration projects, providing important data for decisionmakers in the future. I thank my colleagues for their consideration and ask for their support of this amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. BOST

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 20, after "individuals", insert "including individuals displaced or relocated from a public housing authority to an alternative public housing facility or placed on rental assistance,".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

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Mr. BOST. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to provide relief to the people of Cairo, Illinois, and other communities across the country who have fallen victim to corruption in their local housing authorities.

Last year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development took control of Alexander County Housing Au-

thority in my district after decades of fraud and mismanagement. Many of Cairo's public housing units were falling apart, rating somewhere between dangerous and unlivable. All the while, the housing authority's senior staff continued to cash in: excessive pay, great benefits, large pension payouts, and big consulting contracts for former executive directors. All of this was paid for with taxpayers' money.

An investigation by The Southern Illinoisan newspaper found local residents coping with leaking roofs, moldy living facilities, broken heating and air conditioning, rats, and cockroaches—unbelievable living conditions.

This didn't happen overnight. It happened after many years of neglect. The situation is so bad that the worst housing units in Cairo are being destroyed, and families are being required to move.

Sadly, Cairo's story is not unique. Similar stories of mismanagement and fraud have occurred in housing authorities across the country. While I continue to fight for families in Cairo, we must work to help those who have been relocated at no fault of their own.

My amendment would require the State applications include plans to help these families transition to their new communities and find work. This will be an important step forward for Americans already fighting to stay on their feet.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. I want to say to everyone, if they can, to support this amendment.

I want everyone to know also that it is my hope that both State and Federal authorities pursue, in this particular case, those who have abused the system, that they prosecute them, and that they are put in situations where they are in prison, because there they will receive better housing conditions than what they left these people with.

Now, this amendment deals with the fact of allowing them the opportunity to work and to step them up into a better life. But I hope and I pray that the people who are responsible for Cairo and all these other facilities will be prosecuted to the full extent.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. BONAMICI

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 115-187.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, after line 21, insert the following:
“(D) Describe how the State will coordinate subsidized employment funded under this subsection with the Federal Work-Study Program, career pathway (as defined in sec-

tion 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) services, and other Federal programs to help low-income individuals complete education and training programs and enter the workforce.”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, the amendment I am offering with my colleague, Representative SUSAN DAVIS, strengthens coordination between subsidized employment through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF, program, other Federal workforce development programs, and the Federal Work-Study program.

The goal of the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act is to help low-income individuals gain the experience and skills necessary for long-term success in the workforce and access to family-sustaining wages. Yet studies of the long-term effects on unemployment from short-term, subsidized employment programs demonstrate differing outcomes, which is why I commend my colleagues for including robust reporting and evaluation requirements in the underlying bill.

We already know that other efforts have clear long-term benefits. Adults who attain postsecondary credentials and degrees are much more likely to be employed and much less likely to rely on public assistance. For example, about 90 percent of young adults who earn a bachelor's degree are employed. The employment rate for those who don't complete high school is just 48 percent. Not surprisingly, the vast majority—approximately 93 percent—of TANF recipients did not attain education beyond high school.

Helping more low-income adults complete postsecondary credential programs and degrees is a proven strategy for reducing reliance on public assistance and promoting self-sufficient households. This is a bipartisan goal.

Our amendment advances this goal by helping to give more low-income parents high-quality work opportunities while enrolled in postsecondary programs. Currently, the Federal Work-Study program provides part-time jobs to students. Studies show that those students who are lucky enough to get a Federal Work-Study job have higher completion rates and are more likely to work in a position that aligns with their program of study.

Unfortunately, Federal Work-Study alone cannot meet the demand for connecting low-income students with valuable, work-based learning opportunities. In fact, only about 2 percent of community college students participate in Federal Work-Study.

The subsidized employment program authorized in the bill we are debating today could help address this unmet need and target additional support to low-income student parents, helping

them attain a credential or degree and vastly improving their long-term employment prospects.

Administering the subsidized employment program in conjunction with the Federal Work-Study program requires coordination among State agencies and higher education institutions. My amendment encourages this coordination, and I encourage Members to support it.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. It requires States to coordinate efforts under this bill with other Federal programs designed to help low-income individuals obtain the necessary skills to enter employment and climb the economic ladder.

Our Federal welfare system is large, fragmented, and growing in cost. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service estimates that we currently operate over 80 programs that provide food, housing, healthcare, job training, education, energy assistance, and cash to low-income Americans. Reducing bureaucracy and streamlining a State's administration of employment and training services to low-income Americans is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as supporting the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, a number of State programs leverage Federal Work-Study funds to help TANF recipients who are enrolled in community college programs meet work requirements and get real-world experience in jobs that reinforce what they are studying.

Additionally, the Government Accountability Office has recommended improving coordination between employment and training programs, and the Department of Health and Human Services guidelines on helping TANF recipients succeed in career pathways makes recommendations for using the Federal Work-Study program in conjunction with TANF to boost the attainment of industry-recognized credentials.

There is precedent and widespread support for improving the coordination of programs that help low-income individuals gain work experience to subsidize employment. Again, our amendment does not require States to devote funds from TANF-subsidized employment programs to low-income student parents, but it does ask States to consider how they are using subsidized employment—whether through TANF or Federal Work-Study—in concert to give more people the opportunity to earn a higher education degree or cre-

dential and, thereby, a significantly improved chance at finding a long-term, living-wage job.

Mr. Chairman, I ask my colleagues to support this commonsense amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, again, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as the underlying bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chair, I am proud to support this amendment which would align the TANF program and the federal work study program.

TANF, or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, was created to help struggling families become self sufficient.

We know that the best way to achieve this goal is to give people the resources they need to find quality jobs.

This amendment would allow states to align employment efforts by coordinating with schools to help more students access work-study opportunities.

And we know that these students are not the 18 year olds of decades past—they are older students with children, dependent parents, and more financial responsibilities.

Helping these students elevates entire families; helping these families elevates entire communities.

I hope we can come together to support this amendment and support more working Americans.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR.

KRISHNAMOORTHY

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 9, before the semicolon, insert "and the percentage of such individuals whose employment is in an area that matches their previous training and work experience".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of my bipartisan amendment. I would like to thank my good friend, Congressman LLOYD SMUCKER of Pennsylvania, for helping me to introduce this amendment.

Right now what is being taught in classes doesn't necessarily align with what is needed to get a job. Yesterday, the House passed a bipartisan bill unanimously that would make sure that there is stronger alignment and collaboration between career and tech-

nical education programs and the employers that will be hiring.

Our amendment would require that States report the percentage of subsidized individuals whose jobs match their previous experience. Incentivizing States that opt into this pilot program expands on yesterday's bill to ensure that resources are being used as efficiently as possible by guiding students towards the jobs they were trained for.

Mr. Chairman, I hope everybody will support passage of our amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. This amendment provides further information to ensure we have high-quality evaluations requiring States to measure how many recipients entered employment in the same field they received on-the-job training. The more we know about how these programs work and their return on our investments is important when we make decisions down the road.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment as well as the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his support.

I urge all Members to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 21, strike "and".

Page 5, line 25, strike the period and insert "; and".

Page 5, after line 25, insert the following:

(F) specifies the number of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who concurrently received other Federal or State means-tested benefits during their subsidized employment.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Ohio

(Mr. DAVIDSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that, if enacted, would provide additional data on the performance and effectiveness of the programs created under H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

In particular, my amendment would require States to include in their annual reports to the Health and Human Services Department whether individuals who participated in this demonstration project still need additional forms of Federal or State assistance after the fact. The data point really shows whether they are truly independent of the safety net.

The most meaningful solution to poverty is a job. I believe the data point outlined in my amendment will further help Congress measure the performance of this program in the scope that should apply to all of our Nation's welfare programs: placing people into meaningful work and helping them and their families achieve self-sufficiency. We need this data to ensure the project is truly working.

When I worked in manufacturing, data was a vital component to solving problems. It showed me what worked best, what failed, and, most importantly, what needed to be changed and how to get to the root cause. The same science applies to solving problems here and to this program.

Too often we measure the success of our safety net programs based on dollars spent rather than effectiveness. Fixing our welfare system is a sentiment shared by both sides of the aisle. This is a bipartisan bill, and I believe this legislation is a great step forward.

Additionally, my office has been working on another bill, the Welfare BRAC Act, which would create a bipartisan commission to review the 90-plus means-tested programs that spent nearly \$850 billion a year. I hope one day to have a vote on that bill just as we are having one on this today.

We need more deeds and not just words. This bill is a great step forward to solving the problem. There is widespread agreement on both sides of the aisle that our safety net is not accomplishing all it needs to. If enacted, my amendment would help us here in Congress identify new methods to help our Nation's most vulnerable by getting them into the workplace.

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It is crucial that everyone has an equal opportunity to engage in our communities and contribute by earning financial independence through the dignity of work.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would require States to collect and report information on whether participants were receiving income-related assistance like health insurance; child care assistance; school lunch; or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits; rental subsidies; or perhaps even the earned income tax credit.

The information the amendment requests is not relevant to what we are trying to learn from these demonstration projects, which is whether different approaches improve earnings and employment. Asking for it is an invasion of the privacy of the individuals, with no research benefit.

Collecting this information also seems burdensome for States, and would likely require them to ask participating employers to ask their employees inappropriate personal questions that they would not ask of any other employee.

Most importantly, I am concerned that requiring States to collect information on these important work supports would make some States think that they are supposed to discourage participants from accessing these supports.

Both research and common sense clearly tell us that access to supports like child care assistance, healthcare, and wage supplements that pay for transportation and other work expenses make it more likely that individuals will succeed in work. We should do nothing that might discourage States from providing these supports to help workers succeed. We should do nothing that might cause individuals to not make use of what is available to them.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I thank Mr. DAVIDSON for his efforts.

Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. I hope that we can evaluate all of the programs that we have, coordinate among them, learn more about their effectiveness, and ultimately respect folks in need and do all we can that is appropriate to help lift themselves out of poverty.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this.

Sunlight brings truth. Truth will set you free. My hope is truth will set folks free from the trap that many people find in multigenerational poverty. We really, truly want to help solve the problem and get the information that will help us make our systems work effectively.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. KHANNA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 6, line 4, after "project," insert "including an analysis of the project's effect on eligible recipients who received additional credentialing and training during their subsidized employment or participation in an apprenticeship or career pathways program,".

Page 7, line 10, insert at the end the following: "Such recommendations shall include recommendations on the effects of additional credentialing and training provided during subsidized employment or participation in an apprenticeship or career pathways program,".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act. I would like to thank the sponsors of the bill, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CUREBELO), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

This bipartisan bill will assist low-income individuals by helping some of our most needy Americans to enter the workforce and maintain their employment. I believe one of the top priorities for Congress is to help our middle class by creating wealth in the middle class and to help the wages of the 50 percent of Americans who haven't had a wage raise since 1980.

For far too long, many Americans have seen falling incomes, which have left working families behind. My amendment is simple. It adds a requirements for the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to measure the effect that training and credentialing has on the recipients helped by this bill.

The public report and recommendations to Congress are already mandated by the original bill. This amendment will not affect the overall cost.

There is a body of research demonstrating that providing education and training to TANF recipients makes people more likely to obtain good jobs and increase their wages. They are more likely to stay employed.

The projects funded by this bill provide a great opportunity to add to this

research so we can know how to better assist TANF recipients and other unemployed workers.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Washington, (Ms. DELBENE), for her amendment to the bill during markup by the Committee on Ways and Means. That amendment requires that at least one of the employment demonstration projects must be an apprenticeship program.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment that seeks to add information that can be used to modernize our job training, credentialing, and apprenticeship program to match those seeking employment with our current job openings.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment.

This amendment simply requires that the high-quality evaluations include measurements or how many recipients participated in an apprentice or career pathway program, and any credentials earned along the way.

Earn-and-learn models—those where an individual is getting on-the-job experience, earning a wage, and learning new occupational skills—are one of the best types of workforce development models the government can support. Apprenticeships, in particular, provide a combination of occupational on-the-job training and related instruction, helping to improve worker training and address critical skill gaps that align with the needs of industry.

We know that the best way out of poverty is through work, and apprenticeships provide a pathway to obtaining a successful career.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. KILMER

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 7, line 10, after the period, insert the following: "Such recommendations shall include recommendations on how to address employment-related challenges in rural areas and among members of federally recognized Indian tribes."

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am here this morning to talk about the biggest thing on the minds of the folks that I represent: jobs.

I am glad that we are having a discussion today about how to help people land a job that they can be proud of.

Whether I am at a VFW or a county fair, in a lot of the parts of the region that I represent, this is the concern that I hear more than anything else.

Today's bill would help people who are looking for work acquire skills that help them land a bigger paycheck and a better career. I am glad to offer an amendment with a fellow member of the Bipartisan Working Group, Representative VALADAO, to make sure that the bill that is passed does some good for rural communities and for our tribal partners as well.

I know firsthand the challenges that small towns across America are facing. I grew up in a timber town in Washington State and watched some of the parents of my friends and some of my neighbors lose their jobs as mills shut down. These men and women are the hardworking Americans that want work, want training, and want careers. In short, they want a shot at a better life.

That is what this bill will do. I commend Mr. CURBELO and Mr. DAVIS for bringing it forward. With our amendment, we can make sure that shot is extended to all communities, no matter their ZIP Code.

Our amendment directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to take a look at how to address employment challenges in rural areas and those challenges facing members of federally recognized Native American Tribes. It directs the Secretary then to provide recommendations to Congress on what fixes actually work best.

When it comes to providing the training to get folks into quality jobs, we want to make sure that we are not flying blind. Our amendment makes sure that we have all the information we need to make the right decisions and give folks who want a quality job a shot at that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment.

The first hearing I held as chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources was on the geography of poverty. People often think of poverty only as they see it in cities, not realizing poverty today is more common than ever in suburban and even rural areas.

People also underestimate poverty in rural and remote areas, not knowing

the rates of poverty in these areas have, for decades, been higher than in urban areas.

This amendment ensures the Secretary takes into account rural areas and Indian Tribes when making recommendations on how to address employment-related challenges.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as support the underlying bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his support. And, again, I thank Representatives CURBELO and DAVIS for their work on the underlying bill, and the cooperation of Mr. VALADAO for working to address this challenge.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MITCHELL). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER).

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 115-187 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY of Illinois.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. KRISHNAMOORTHY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 380, noes 32, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 320]

AYES—380

Abraham	Bass	Blum
Adams	Beatty	Blumenauer
Aderholt	Bera	Blunt Rochester
Aguilar	Bergman	Bonamici
Allen	Beyer	Bost
Amodel	Bilirakis	Boyle, Brendan
Arrington	Bishop (GA)	F.
Bacon	Bishop (MI)	Brady (PA)
Barletta	Black	Brady (TX)
Barragán	Blackburn	Brooks (IN)

Brown (MD) Gonzalez (TX)
Brownley (CA) Goodlatte
Buchanan Gottheimer
Buck Gowdy
Bucshon Granger
Budd Graves (LA)
Bustos Graves (MO)
Butterfield Green, Al
Byrne Green, Gene
Calvert Griffith
Capuano Grijalva
Carbajal Grothman
Cárdenas Guthrie
Carson (IN) Gutiérrez
Carter (GA) Hanabusa
Carter (TX) Harper
Carterwright Hartzler
Castor (FL) Hastings
Castro (TX) Heck
Chabot Hensarling
Chaffetz Herrera Beutler
Cheney Hice, Jody B.
Chu, Judy Higgins (LA)
Cicilline Higgins (NY)
Clark (MA) Hill
Clarke (NY) Himes
Clay Holding
Cleaver Hollingsworth
Clyburn Hoyer
Coffman Hudson
Cohen Huffman
Cole Huizenga
Collins (GA) Hultgren
Collins (NY) Hunter
Comer Hurd
Comstock Issa
Conaway Jackson Lee
Connolly Jayapal
Conyers Jeffries
Cook Jenkins (KS)
Cooper Jenkins (WV)
Correa Johnson (GA)
Costa Johnson (LA)
Costello (PA) Johnson (OH)
Courtney Johnson, E. B.
Cramer Jordan
Crawford Joyce (OH)
Crist Kaptur
Crowley Katko
Cuellar Keating
Culberson Kelly (IL)
Curbelo (FL) Kelly (PA)
Davidson Kennedy
Davis (CA) Khanna
Davis, Danny Kihuen
Davis, Rodney Kildee
DeFazio Kilmer
DeGette Kind
Delaney King (IA)
DeLauro King (NY)
DelBene Kinzinger
Demings Knight
Denham Krishnamoorthi
Dent Kuster (NH)
DeSantis Kustoff (TN)
DeSaunier Labrador
Deutch LaHood
Diaz-Balart Lamborn
Dingell Lance
Doggett Langevin
Donovan Larson (CT)
Doyle, Michael Latta
F. Lawrence
Duffy Lawson (FL)
Duncan (TN) Lee
Dunn Levin
Ellison Lewis (GA)
Emmer Lewis (MN)
Eshoo Lipinski
Espallat LoBiondo
Estes (KS) Loeb sack
Estry (CT) Lofgren
Evans Loudermilk
Faso Love
Ferguson Lowenthal
Fitzpatrick Lowey
Fleischmann Lucas
Flores Luetkemeyer
Fortenberry Lujan Grisham,
Foster M.
Foxx Luján, Ben Ray
Frankel (FL) Lynch
Franks (AZ) MacArthur
Frelinghuysen Maloney,
Fudge Carolyn B.
Gallo Maloney, Sean
Garamendi Marino
Gianforte Marshall
Gibbs Mast

Matsui
McCarthy
McCauley
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Biggs
Bishop (UT)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Burgess
DesJarlais
Bridenstine
Cummings
Engel
Gabbard
Garrett
Gosar
Johnson, Sam
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascarell
Paulsen
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poliquin
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Robby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas
J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson

Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)

Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker

Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—32

Amash
Babin
Banks (IN)
Barr
Barton
Biggs
Bishop (UT)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Burgess
DesJarlais

Duncan (SC)
Farenthold
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gohmert
Graves (GA)
Harris
Jones
Kelly (MS)
Marchant
Massie

Messer
Olson
Palazzo
Pearce
Perry
Poe (TX)
Posey
Weber (TX)
Wittman
Yoho

NOT VOTING—19

Bridenstine
Cummings
Engel
Gabbard
Garrett
Gosar
Johnson, Sam

LaMalfa
Larsen (WA)
Lieue, Ted
Long
Napolitano
Pelosi
Renacci

Richmond
Scalise
Speier
Tiberi
Wasserman
Schultz

□ 1042

Messrs. BURGESS, WITTMAN, POSEY, and PERRY changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. WOODALL, REED, ROKITA, and LAMBORN changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON) having assumed the chair, Mr. MITCHELL, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, had come to no resolution thereon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to reiterate the announcement of February 25, 2015, concerning floor practice.

Members should periodically rededicate themselves to the core principles of proper parliamentary practice that are so essential in maintaining order and deliberacy here in the House. The Chair wishes to emphasize these points:

Members should refrain from trafficking in the well when another, including the presiding officer, is addressing the House.

Members should wear appropriate business attire during all sittings of

the House, however brief their appearance on the floor may be.

Members must refrain from engaging in still photography or audio or video recording or streaming in the Chamber. Members violating this rule may be subject to fine.

Members should address their remarks in debate to the presiding officer and not to others in the second person or to some perceived viewing audience.

The Chair wishes to stress efforts to reduce voting times.

As a reminder, Members should attempt to come to the floor within the 15-minute period as prescribed by the first ringing of the bells. As a point of courtesy to each of your colleagues, voting within the allotted time would help with the maintenance of this institution. Members are further reminded that the policy is to not terminate the vote when a Member is in the well attempting to cast a vote but that other efforts to hold the vote open are not similarly protected.

Following these basic standards of practice will foster an atmosphere of mutual and institutional respect. It will ensure against personal confrontation among individual Members or between Members and the presiding officer. It will facilitate Members' comprehension of, and participation in, the business of the House. In sum, it will ensure the comity that elevates spirited deliberations above mere argument.

The Chair appreciates the attention of the Members to these matters.

ACCELERATING INDIVIDUALS INTO THE WORKFORCE ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to House Resolution 396 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2842.

Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1048

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, with Mr. MITCHELL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 4 printed in the House Report 115-187 offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON)

on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 264, noes 147, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 321]

AYES—264

Abraham	Ferguson	Massie
Aderholt	Fitzpatrick	Mast
Allen	Fleischmann	McCarthy
Amodel	Flores	McCaul
Arrington	Fortenberry	McClintock
Babin	Fox	McHenry
Bacon	Franks (AZ)	McKinley
Banks (IN)	Frelinghuysen	McMorris
Barletta	Gianforte	Rodgers
Barr	Gibbs	McNerney
Barton	Goodlatte	McSally
Bera	Gottheimer	Meadows
Bergman	Gowdy	Meehan
Beyer	Granger	Messer
Biggs	Graves (GA)	Mitchell
Bilirakis	Graves (LA)	Moolenaar
Bishop (MI)	Graves (MO)	Mooney (WV)
Black	Green, Gene	Moulton
Blackburn	Griffith	Mullin
Blum	Grothman	Murphy (FL)
Bost	Guthrie	Murphy (PA)
Brady (TX)	Harper	Newhouse
Brat	Harris	Noem
Brooks (AL)	Hartzler	Nunes
Brooks (IN)	Hensarling	O'Halleran
Brownley (CA)	Herrera Beutler	O'Rourke
Buchanan	Hice, Jody B.	Olson
Buck	Higgins (LA)	Palazzo
Bucshon	Hill	Palmer
Budd	Himes	Panetta
Burgess	Holding	Paulsen
Bustos	Hollingsworth	Pearce
Byrne	Hudson	Perry
Calvert	Huizenga	Peters
Carter (GA)	Hultgren	Peterson
Carter (TX)	Hunter	Pittenger
Chabot	Hurd	Poe (TX)
Chaffetz	Issa	Poliquin
Cheney	Jenkins (KS)	Posey
Coffman	Jenkins (WV)	Ratcliffe
Cole	Johnson (LA)	Reed
Collins (GA)	Johnson (OH)	Reichert
Collins (NY)	Jones	Rice (SC)
Comer	Jordan	Roby
Comstock	Joyce (OH)	Roe (TN)
Conaway	Katko	Rogers (AL)
Cook	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (KY)
Cooper	Kelly (PA)	Rohrabacher
Costa	Kihuen	Rokita
Costello (PA)	Kilmer	Rooney, Francis
Cramer	Kind	Rooney, Thomas
Crawford	King (IA)	J.
Crist	King (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen
Crowley	Kinzinger	Rosen
Cuellar	Knight	Roskam
Culberson	Kuster (NH)	Ross
Curbelo (FL)	Kustoff (TN)	Rothfus
Davidson	Labrador	Rouzer
Davis, Rodney	LaHood	Royce (CA)
Denham	Lamborn	Russell
Dent	Lance	Rutherford
DeSantis	Latta	Sanford
DesJarlais	Lawson (FL)	Sarbanes
Diaz-Balart	Lewis (MN)	Schneider
Donovan	Lipinski	Schradler
Duffy	LoBiondo	Schweikert
Duncan (SC)	Loebach	Scott, Austin
Duncan (TN)	Loudermilk	Scott, David
Dunn	Love	Sensenbrenner
Emmer	Lucas	Sessions
Estes (KS)	Luetkemeyer	Shea-Porter
Esty (CT)	MacArthur	Shimkus
Evans	Marchant	Shuster
Farenthold	Marino	Simpson
Faso	Marshall	Sinema

Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry

Tipton
Tonko
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vela
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)

Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—147

Adams
Aguilar
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Correa
Courtney
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutsch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Ellison
Eshoo
Español
F.

Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Krishnamoorthi
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowe
Lujan Grisham,
M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Velázquez
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
Meeks

Meng
Moore
Nadler
Nolan
Norcross
Pallone
Pascarell
Payne
Perlmutter
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Allen
Amodel
Arrington
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano

NOT VOTING—20

Bishop (UT)
Bridenstine
Cummings
Engel
Gabbard
Garrett
Gosar
Johnson, Sam
LaMalfa
Larsen (WA)
Lieu, Ted
Long
Napolitano
Neal

□ 1053

Mr. NORCROSS changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL) having assumed the chair, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on

the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, and, pursuant to House Resolution 396, reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole?

If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 34, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 322]

YEAS—377

Abraham	Carbajal	Delaney
Adams	Cárdenas	DeLauro
Aderholt	Carson (IN)	DelBene
Aguilar	Carter (GA)	Demings
Allen	Carter (TX)	Denham
Amodel	Cartwright	Dent
Arrington	Castor (FL)	DeSantis
Bacon	Castro (TX)	DeSaulnier
Banks (IN)	Chabot	DesJarlais
Barletta	Chaffetz	Deutsch
Barr	Cheney	Diaz-Balart
Barragán	Chu, Judy	Dingell
Barton	Cicilline	Donovan
Bass	Clark (MA)	Doyle, Michael
Beatty	Clay	F.
Bera	Cleaver	Duffy
Bergman	Clyburn	Duncan (SC)
Beyer	Coffman	Duncan (TN)
Bilirakis	Cohen	Dunn
Bishop (GA)	Cole	Ellison
Bishop (MI)	Collins (GA)	Emmer
Bishop (UT)	Collins (NY)	Eshoo
Black	Comer	Estes (KS)
Blackburn	Comstock	Esty (CT)
Blum	Conaway	Evans
Blumenauer	Connolly	Farenthold
Blunt Rochester	Conyers	Faso
Bonamici	Cook	Ferguson
Bost	Cooper	Fitzpatrick
Boyle, Brendan	Correa	Fleischmann
F.	Costa	Flores
Brady (PA)	Costello (PA)	Fortenberry
Brady (TX)	Courtney	Foster
Brooks (IN)	Cramer	Fox
Brown (MD)	Crawford	Frankel (FL)
Brownley (CA)	Crist	Franks (AZ)
Buchanan	Cuellar	Frelinghuysen
Buck	Culberson	Fudge
Bucshon	Curbelo (FL)	Gaetz
Burgess	Davidson	Gallagher
Bustos	Davis (CA)	Garamendi
Butterfield	Davis, Danny	Gianforte
Byrne	Davis, Rodney	Gibbs
Calvert	DeFazio	Gonzalez (TX)
Capuano	DeGette	Goodlatte

Gottheimer
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebach
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lucas

Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham,
M.
Lujan, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascarella
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebach
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lucas

Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Visclosky
Polis
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—20

Bridenstine
Cummings
Gabbard
Garrett
Gosar
Granger
Johnson, Sam
LaMalfa
Larsen (WA)
Lieu, Ted
Long
Napolitano
Neal
Olson
Pelosi
Renacci
Scalise
Speier
Tiberi
Wasserman
Schultz

□ 1101

Mr. BABIN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 322 (passage of H.R. 2842), I did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on this vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during rollcall votes No. 320, No. 321, and No. 322 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on the Krishnamoorthi Amendment. I would have also voted “nay” on the Davidson Amendment. I would have also voted “yea” on the Final Passage of H.R. 2842—Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017, TO MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, June 26, 2017, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

NORTH KOREA MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS AGGRESSIONS

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, it has been a generation or two since the horrors of communism were routinely on the news and mentioned in our schools: people killed running for freedom from East to West Berlin, the Soviet Union's gulag archipelago designed to crush dissent and the human spirit, and Mao's brutal rule in Red China that killed millions.

This week, a new generation of Americans witnessed the barbarity of the evil of communism. I extend my condolences to the family and friends of Otto Warmbier, whose funeral was held yesterday.

Kim Jung Un and his North Korean thugs may believe Otto's torture and death somehow empowers them. They are wrong. President Reagan foretold that communism will end up on the ash heap of history, and that is where Kim is headed.

But Otto has a different legacy. One of Otto's friends told me his spirit could not be crushed and, unlike the communist thugs of North Korea, Otto's spirit will live on, especially in those who loved him.

Mr. Speaker, North Korea must be held accountable for Otto's death and other transgressions. Last month, the House passed the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. The Senate should pass this legislation and get it to the President quickly so we can begin to put maximum pressure on this outlaw regime.

RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FERMI NATIONAL ACCELERATOR LABORATORY

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last week.

Built on the prairies of Illinois, under the leadership of its first director, Robert Wilson, this national lab performs cutting-edge research in physics to help us understand the fundamental properties of matter. It is also where I spent most of my career as a high energy particle physicist before I ran for Congress.

The discoveries made in Fermilab's first 50 years will remain in the science textbooks forever. Experiments at Fermilab discovered three of the fundamental components of matter: the bottom quark, the neutrino tau, and the top quark, the heaviest known form of matter.

Unfortunately, the Republican budget proposal of the Trump administration threatens the legacy of Fermilab and national labs and scientific facilities throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, scientific research is not like highway building that can turn on and off in any given fiscal year. Scientific teams and facilities that take generations to build can be wiped out in a single budget cycle by having their funding cut.

So, Mr. Speaker, I call upon you and your colleagues to show us a budget that will maintain our country's leadership in science and technology, because destroying our scientific facilities is no way to make America great again.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COVERS MANY INDUSTRIES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday this House unanimously approved the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, to give Americans who enter the workforce the skills they need to succeed.

NAYS—34

Amash
Babin
Biggs
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Budd
Clarke (NY)
Crowley
Doggett
Engel
Española
Gallego
Gohmert
Higgins (NY)
Jeffries
Jones
Labrador
Lowey
Maloney
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Meeks
Meng

Nadler
Perry
Rice (NY)
Sanford
Serrano
Slaughter
Suozi
Titus
Tonko
Velázquez
Yoho

I was proud to sponsor that bill with Congressman RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY. It will help all Americans across all sectors and industries because all education is career education.

As chairman of the Nutrition Subcommittee of the Committee on Agriculture, I want to talk about food service careers.

Earlier this spring, I had the opportunity to visit the DC Central Kitchen right here in our Nation's Capital. DC Central Kitchen feeds the most vulnerable among us, but it fights hunger differently: it offers skills-based education, empowerment, and career opportunities that allow people to finally be free from hunger and poverty.

The CEO there said, "You can't feed your way out of poverty," and I wholeheartedly agree. DC Central Kitchen feeds the hungry, but also teaches people the skills needed to find employment in the hospitality industry. That is a CTE program: helping people find jobs that pay living wages and obtain lasting careers.

Now, that is something we can all get behind.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE REVEREND NATHANIEL DIXON

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Reverend Nathaniel Dixon. On Sunday, Reverend Dixon will be giving his last sermon at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church.

While this Sunday may be his last sermon, I have no doubt that the lives he has touched, parishioners, colleagues, neighbors, all of us, will continue to uphold the lessons he taught us and will remember the action he has taken over a long and hard-fought career.

Reverend Dixon is a true renaissance man whose life has always been committed to New York City. For 27 years, he was a music teacher and, later, an administrator, and also an executive director of the Saxrack Learning Center.

Old Satchmo, the great Louie Armstrong, once said: "Musicians don't retire; they just stop when there's no more music in them."

Reverend Dixon never stopped teaching music, and he has inculcated this love and passion into the lives of students and parishioners. "Music helps," he said, "because there is awe in them."

Thank you, Reverend Dixon, for your commitment and willingness to become a leader and a role model for many years to come in New York's 13th Congressional District.

We love you and wish you the very best.

HONORING ROCKY CARROLL, TEXAS BOOTMAKER

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in Texas, whether you are two-stepping, herding cattle, or sitting in the summer heat enjoying some barbecue, you will rarely find Texans without their boots. And, Mr. Speaker, the finest boots in Texas were made by Houston legend, Rocky Carroll.

This week, after a long and colorful life, Rocky died.

The moment I met Rocky, I was immediately struck by his swagger. He looked like an outlaw out of an old western movie. He was proud of the fact that he worked 25 years with the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

Through the course of his life, Rocky also handcrafted boots for seven Presidents, celebrities, the Queen, the Pope, and many others.

I once performed a small wedding ceremony for Rocky and his new bride, Judge Denise Collins. And right before the wedding started, in walked Rocky's friend, President George H.W. Bush. Rocky knew everybody.

And while the walls of his shop, which really looked like an old barn, were adorned with photos of famous people, most of his customers were regular folks like me.

Rocky Carroll was larger than life and uniquely Texan to the core. We will miss our dear friend, bootmaker for the Presidents, bootmaker for the stars, and bootmaker for regular folks.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF JEFFERY M. SANDERS

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, sometimes this well feels like the well of sorrow, and such is the case today.

I rise to honor a true and selfless public servant whose life was tragically taken before his time. Mr. Jeffery Sanders, a lifelong resident of Mayview, Missouri, and a firefighter, was killed in the line of duty on Monday, June 19, 2017. I have decided that I will be praying through the weekend and next week for his family.

Mr. Jacob Hayward was a man who gave a great deal to his community. He was seriously injured also in the same heartbreaking accident.

Jeff was well known in the close-knit community of 200 residents, having been a farmer in Mayview all of his life. He and his wife, Connie, raised two wonderful children, who continue to live in Lafayette County in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Mr. Sanders dedicated much of his time to Mayview and its Fire Protection District. He could always be counted on to make a fire call and help someone in need.

In all of his activities, Mr. Sanders demonstrated dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He

was actively involved in the Mayview Lions Club, the Mayview Area 4-H Club, the Antique Tractor Club, and the Odessa FFA Advisory Board, along with his work as a volunteer firefighter with the Mayview Fire Protection District. He also spent time serving on the Mayview Special Road District.

Mr. Speaker, this family has given a great deal, and we owe a great deal to them.

CONGRATULATING THE DONEGAL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Donegal women's softball team on their PIAA State softball title. They beat Cedar Cliff 9-7, but it wasn't an easy victory.

Donegal trailed 7-3 heading into the bottom of the fifth inning, but never gave up. They scored six runs that inning to take a 9-7 lead, and they never gave that up the rest of the game.

This team has been to the State tournament the last 4 years, but, obviously, this one was special. Donegal head coach Wayne Emenheiser said of the season: "This was our dream since we lost last year in the semifinals. We wanted to get back here. It was a magical season."

A victory like this is a display of years of dedication and hard work. So today I want to congratulate the Donegal players, coaches, and staff on this remarkable achievement and let them know how proud we are of them.

I would also like to recognize the families, students, faculty, and fans that supported them along the way.

□ 1115

SENATE REPUBLICANS SHUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OUT OF AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the recently unveiled Senate healthcare repeal legislation. The Republicans have shut the American public out of their debate and, with this bill, they aim to shut them out of affordable healthcare, too.

This bill sets us on a dangerous path backwards, back to a time when cancer patients could be kept out of coverage or kicked off of their insurance because the cost of their care was too high, and to a time where pregnancy could be considered a preexisting condition.

Congress must work collaboratively to bring down insurance premium costs and work together toward insuring every American, but denying millions of people access to insurance by repealing protections for individuals with preexisting conditions, gutting Medicaid, and threatening the solvency of

the Medicare trust fund all in order to give the wealthiest Americans a tax cut is wrong.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to reject this misguided proposal.

UNSEAL RECORDS INTO AGENT BRIAN TERRY'S DEATH

(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, in December 2010, U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry was killed with a gun that was traced back to the Department of Justice's Operation Fast and Furious. His family awaits answers.

Agent Terry's family recently testified before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that the Obama administration continually denied all efforts to release any additional information about his death. They are now calling on President Trump to finally unseal the records and expose the dirty secrets behind this tragic scandal.

It is shameful that the Trump administration has been repeatedly accused of collusion and coverups based on unsourced rumors, while little attention was given to the Obama administration's blatant efforts to cover up the truth into Agent Terry's murder.

Under Operation Fast and Furious, roughly 2,000 firearms were purposely sold to criminals, which were later smuggled into Mexico, and have been linked to multiple homicides.

The Obama administration stonewalled Congress, investigators, and Americans for years and, to this day, refuse to take responsibility for their mistake.

It is time for the truth. We have an opportunity to return transparency and trust to our government, and I fully support the Terry family's request for the records to be unsealed.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHECHNYA

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, during this Pride Month, I rise today to speak out about the human rights violations occurring in the Russian republic of Chechnya.

It has been reported that in that country, men are kidnapped, detained, tortured, and even murdered just because of their sexual orientation. Families have been shamed by these kidnappings and have resorted to taking their own sons' lives.

In April, I, along with 48 other Members of Congress, signed and sent a letter to Secretary of State Tillerson asking him to raise the issue of this horrible violence against innocent men with the Russian officials, but to date, neither Secretary Tillerson or President Trump or anybody else in the ad-

ministration have committed to taking action on this issue.

The United States must speak out about this atrocity, and Russia must investigate such human rights violations so that there is accountability for an end to these senseless crimes.

During this Pride Month, we here in the United States celebrate our equality. However, every month we must say and act for the men in Chechnya as we fight for equality across the globe.

THE CITIZENS OF PUERTO RICO HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR WILL TO JOIN OUR NATION

(Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, the American citizens of Puerto Rico overwhelmingly voted in favor of becoming the 51st State of our great Nation. This is the second time in the past 5 years where my constituents have expressed their will to join our Nation.

Soon I will introduce legislation to set forth the terms of admission for the new State of Puerto Rico.

Our people have, in war and peace, made countless contributions to our Nation. They have fought in every conflict since the Great War. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice, and when they do, their casket is flown back to this country draped in an American flag bearing the 50 stars, but no star that represents them.

It takes a special kind of patriotism to fight for a nation that does not treat you equally, a nation that is a champion of democracy and self-determination, yet denies those same principles to 3.4 million of its own citizens in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents have spoken, and they deserve Congress' response.

IMMIGRATION HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, during Immigration Heritage Month, I want to recognize the great spirit and desire for a better life that lives within our Nation's immigrants today and those before them.

America's immigrants have started companies big and small, contributed to their local communities, and have been our friends, family, and neighbors. But our immigration system is broken. It is failing the many children who are brought to the United States outside of their own control.

That is why I have sponsored and co-sponsored the BRIDGE Act and the Recognizing America's Children Act to protect these children who only want to live the American Dream.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we have to work together, we must work to-

gether to pass a long-term immigration reform bill that secures our borders, yes, but just as importantly, protects our children, protects the families and the workers who want nothing more than to be a part of this great country and live the American Dream.

CANCEL THE AUGUST RECESS

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

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I stood before you in this very spot not long ago urging this Congress to do the work of the American people that the American people sent us here to do. Yet, 2 months later, not much has changed. Distrust in government is still at an all-time high, and it is not hard to see why. Our Federal debt continues to approach \$20 trillion. Our Tax Code remains broken and burdensome. Threats continue to rise abroad. And here at home, by the way, our veterans are still not getting the care they deserve despite the progress that we have made this week on that issue. From my perspective, this is unacceptable.

Despite the fact that Congress, by any metric we devise, is not doing the basic job the American people sent us here to do, in 7 weeks, we are going to adjourn on a month-long vacation without reforming the Tax Code or getting our appropriations done. And just 30 days after returning from the August recess, if we don't make some hard choices, the government may shut down, cutting our constituents from access to the programs they depend on for their livelihoods.

My message is simple: let's work through the August recess because in what other job would you grant yourself a month off if you hadn't gotten your work done?

I know we need to get back home to meet with our constituents, but more than anything else, I believe our constituents sent us here to do our job, to work together to fix problems, rather than punt them to the next generation.

So, please, let's stay here and let's do the work for the American people.

WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

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

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER).

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act.

Not only is this bill critical to giving American workers the skills they need to lead in an increasingly competitive world, but also to making sure that our

career and technical education is in stride with the major advancements that have been made over the last decade.

As I travel across northeast Wisconsin, businessowners routinely tell me they are hiring, but can't find workers with the knowledge and skills necessary to do the jobs they are hiring for.

Passage of this bill helps close the skills gap and boost economic growth by equipping students with the skills they need to fill the in-demand and high-skilled jobs in our local economies.

Schools in Wisconsin's Eighth District are prepared to lead the way when it comes to closing our country's growing skills gap, and it is time that we give them the tools that they desperately need to do exactly that.

I am proud to cosponsor this important piece of bipartisan legislation. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, Solomon, who was often noted as the wisest man in the world, said: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

If you were to ask the average American citizen would they like their elected officials to come to Washington and to work together, they would all say: Of course. They should. That is what we elect them for.

Yet, often in our history, we see emotions override the mouth and we raise our voices, distrust builds, isolation results, we don't get to know each other, we don't get to work with one another. As we isolate, then a distrust builds, and with distrust, then we don't want to hear what either side has to say. Ultimately, when we can no longer exchange ideas with a deliberateness, then we fall short.

Solomon also said in Ecclesiastes: "Two are better than one, for they have a good reward for their labor, for if the one fall, the other will lift up," and "A three-fold cord is not quickly broken."

As we look at our mottoes and our institutions, we have a phrase: "Out of many, one."

That phrase is not: Out of one idea, let's create many.

It is just the opposite.

One thing that I learned in my time as a soldier in negotiating and dealing with people groups that literally could not agree, to the point that they were shelling and killing each other and each other's women and children in their villages as they burned, that even in situations like that, they could find some overlapping circles and some common ground in between.

The events of the past week are a reminder not just to Members of Congress, who oftentimes we do know each other, we do work with one another, we do serve on committees with one another. We take great pride in developing those relationships despite our differences, but we have an obligation,

because, as a constitutional representative republic, we are a reflection of the people that send us here.

It is important that the lawmakers that the American people send to Washington to do that work be those that are willing to accommodate, that are willing to assimilate the things that we agree on, because if we can't accommodate and we can't assimilate—as I have viewed in war-torn battlefields in several different places through a career as an infantry soldier, if you can no longer accommodate or be willing to assimilate certain agreed ideas, then you are left with the third choice, which is elimination.

The United States has never had that as its pretext. We got close once in a period from about 1820 to 1860. We have faced tough times before and come together. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that not just our body, as we take and deem these responsibilities with a lot of conviction, but that the American people would take their responsibility to be mindful of the words of Solomon: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

Our country is bigger than any of us. When we leave it, God willing, it will continue on. And the words that are said in this Chamber, although recorded, few read. As time passes and as we govern our lives and go about our business, we have to remember the very principles that brought us together as a nation and that I nearly gave my life for in defense.

So my hope is, as we move in the coming days and weeks, that we will work on the things where the circles overlap and we will not negotiate the nonnegotiables. If we just focus on those things, we will have more than enough work to do to actually get stuff done.

□ 1130

As a message to the American people: accommodate, listen, dialogue, be kind, and be patient. I have seen the worst thing that human beings can do to one another in my lifetime. I have watched friends die on a battlefield. I have had to take human life. I have seen horrible and horrific things that no human being should ever do. But we are not in that place. We live in freedom. We live in great enjoyment of prosperity where our ideas, our work—the sweat of our brow—can go, and we can put it to good use with great liberty. We have to tone it down.

We have to be willing to put others before ourselves and to listen. I pledge to do that as a Member, one of 435 here. I hope the American people will pledge to be as committed to the United States as we all must be if we are to secure the future for our children and grandchildren.

One of the things that we often all agree on is efficiency in government—to turn the tone and the topic of the conversation a little bit in a different direction. Efficiency in government—nothing makes us more sad and dis-

appointed than to see hard-earned tax dollars wasted by inefficiency.

In my home State of Oklahoma, for every million dollars the government wastes, we have to have 96 Oklahomans work all year long to pay all of their taxes so that we can waste it. I have often highlighted these wasteful measures in a series called "Waste Watch." We just released "Waste Watch" number 7 where we, sadly, highlight over \$50 billion worth of waste in just one item and a total of \$70 billion worth of waste on a single topic. That is something that we all care about and that we all want to pay with our taxes. That is education.

For years, Americans have been paying more and getting less from our educational system. Over the past decade, national high school student proficiency test scores in math have consistently met the minimum or were below. Reading scores for high school students, over the past 20 years, have been consistently substandard with a continued downward trend.

As test scores remain low, available funding for education is often wasted. The solution is not simply to spend more on education without correcting the habits where the waste can occur. We need to spend our dollars wisely by eliminating educational waste, as well as many other forms of waste in government, and push those dollars where they actually count—to our teachers and to our classrooms.

Additionally, we have to change the perception that more money spent always equals a better outcome. If that were the case, we would be the most efficient government on the planet.

It is my hope to create motivation to protect taxpayers and assist in educating America's children with the resources available. It is not enough to point out the problems. That is easy. Anyone can be a cynic and a critic. But we must work together to fix them so that we can make our Nation stronger. Education is vital to our children and to our future.

What are some of these things that we are talking about? Well, how about this one: researchers at the esteemed Harvard University spent \$3 million to study if people were able to smell an unpleasant odor in their urine after eating asparagus, also known as asparagus pee, according to the research. The research was funded through a research grant from the National Institutes of Health with your tax dollars.

The NIH uses Federal tax dollars to fund its research and received \$30 billion in 2016. The NIH's mission statement is "to enhance health, extend healthy lives, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability."

We would all agree with that. It is good to try to fix problems with disease, fight the common cold, cure cancer, and cure Alzheimer's, all of those things.

However, the NIH has conducted lifesaving research in the past and has been given broad authority in deciding

how to spend that \$30 billion, and now we see waste.

The NIH funds research grants to universities, and much of the NIH's funding is well justified and leads to lifesaving research. Funding a study that doesn't even explore the possible health benefits of eating asparagus but only if there is an odor after eating it does not fit into any mission of the NIH. It is akin to the taxpayers' money being flushed down the toilet.

This particular study was the result of a grant provided by the NIH to Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Its purpose was to discover whether people could smell an asparagus effect. The researchers at Harvard received more than \$3 million in 2016, to survey 6,909 people of European-American descent to find if these people's urine smelled funny after eating asparagus, and the results were published in the *British Medical Journal*.

The results concluded that a "large proportion of individuals of European-American descent cannot smell" any effect. Sixty percent of the people surveyed, 58 percent of men and 62 percent of women, stated that they could not smell any urinary metabolites produced after asparagus consumption. However, Angus Chen, a reporter for the National Public Radio, stated in his report on this study that 4,161 people "were confused by the question." Do you think? We didn't need to waste \$3 million or have 260 Oklahomans work all year long to see if there was some effect in this madness.

Mr. Speaker, do you want to waste \$2 billion? Then give it to the Veterans Administration. In 2008, Congress passed the post-9/11 GI Bill updating the GI Bill from 1944, creating new benefits for servicemembers like myself, such as lengthening the expiration date following separation from the Armed Forces or retirement and offering living expenses as well as tuition. Another change made the benefits paid directly to the school of choice for the veteran—and here is where it began to go awry.

Initially, benefits from the GI Bill were paid directly to the servicemember for them to decide how and where to invest in their own education. This makes sense. They were responsible enough to defend our Republic; they can probably handle the funds—as they had for decades before. This change now comes with a litany of problems.

An audit conducted from 2013 to 2014, by the Office of Inspector General, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found that a 13 percent error rate in payments by the Veterans Benefits Administration to the schools of choice for servicemembers had occurred.

To conduct this audit, the OIG looked into 650 payments for 225 students to 50 schools. They found \$128,000 in improper payments; and eight students who withdrew from their classes still received \$2,400 in stipends, and this money was never recovered for the taxpayer. Extrapolating these numbers

to the full class of students, the Office of Inspector General estimated that, over 5 years, the Veterans Benefits Administration would process about \$205 million in improper payments—and you see it continue to go on and waste \$2.2 billion.

We can do better. We must do better. We must do better by our veterans. We must do better so that we do not allow people's insatiable appetite for non-existent government funds to continue to be consumed. We are a nation that is \$20 trillion in debt.

How many of you, if you came and I asked you: Hey, could I have \$100?

And you said: sure.

And I said: okay, but great, it is going to cost you \$105 because I am going to charge you \$5 to take your hundred.

Wouldn't that be pretty much absurd and in your face? Yet that is exactly what we do with a very popular program called the Pell Grant Program. The Pell grant was created in the 1970s and has since become the basic mechanism for the Federal Government to assist lower income families with higher education costs. The legislation mandates that students receiving the funds must be admitted and enrolled in an institution of higher learning. Fine.

While the Pell grant provides great opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to attend college—something that we all think is good—the waste comes from a stipulation within the law that requires the Federal Government to pay a fee to give away their money. The \$5 payment goes directly to participating schools and is intended to help offset the cost of the Pell grant. So we let institutions of higher learning charge a fee to accept your money, the taxpayers.

While it is true that there are administrative costs involved with servicing Pell grants, schools should accept these costs as a part of doing business as they would if no Pell grant were provided and it was just your hard-earned money. If you were supporting one of your children in college, those fees would be incorporated within that same \$1,000.

For the 2015 and 2016 year, the maximum Pell grant available to an undergraduate student was roughly \$5,775. Based on the latest reports from the U.S. Department of Education for the same year or the year prior, the Nation's taxpayers provided \$30 billion to 8 million students. The average Pell grant received by students was roughly \$3,800. That all sounds good. While \$5 does not seem significant, when you put that \$5 towards 8 million students, you can see where the problem is.

It is an unnecessary and arbitrary fee that should be disallowed, and we need to restore it so that colleges and institutions do not scoop something off of the top. But people say: well, we have our administrative costs. We have overhead. We have our infrastructure. We have all of these things that we have to do.

Yes, and that is why we have allowed, for decades, the tax-exempt endowments so that as the endowments accrue wealth and they grow, they use those resources to sustain the infrastructure on the university.

We are \$20 trillion in debt. It would be great if we could not pay our bills to go to our next-door neighbor and say: Hey, I am a little short on my electric bill, can you help me?

Or: I need help on my house payment this month. Let me just get it from you.

Our neighbors would not take kindly to that. Yet we are allowing these institutions that have the endowed wealth and that have all of the ability to do the infrastructure. Yet what happens? They continue to waste money with administrative fees that only have increased by 300 percent since 1976.

Here is another one for you: How many of you would donate to a charity that had a 52 percent administrative overhead? No takers? I didn't think so. Yet that is exactly what you do when you have the National Science Foundation put forth research grants that were designed to help people in their health and fighting disease and many other things. The average fee that universities and institutions charge back to the Federal Government for these research grants is 52 percent. That borders on the immoral.

A practice in higher education grant making that is not widely known or understood by the American public is this practice of charging indirect cost as a part of a grant. So, for example, \$1 million that is coming to a university for research—we are all excited about that, it helps our communities—did you know that that university, in turn, will scoop, on average, 52 percent off of the top?

The typical grant has direct costs, and we all understand that. As they put forth their budget, they will list it with such things as researchers' salaries—fine—travel associated with research—understood. But beyond that, universities are able to claim, under our insane laws, that additional funds in the form of indirect costs are needed for infrastructure of the institution, and it is our responsibility, as taxpayers, to support that. Never mind that tax-free endowments were designed specifically for that purpose and already exist that they could use. But they never touch that wealth. They never touch that accrued wealth. They never touch that accrued interest.

The Office of Management and Budget defines indirect costs as expenses an organization incurs indirectly—and they get to define what that is. What does it translate to? Well, rather than pick on Harvard, let's pick on the Big 12, a region I come from. We will start with the University of Oklahoma.

□ 1145

Charging the government for indirect costs is expensive and, unfortunately, a

common practice among institutions of higher learning.

Here are the indirect costs for the schools in the Big 12. I am sure they are not the only ones. This is a nationwide epidemic, to the tune of \$55 billion. That is billion with a B. Even in Washington, D.C., that is real money.

The University of Oklahoma adds a 55 percent surcharge to its research on campus; Oklahoma State University adds 45 percent, and a 54 percent surcharge for instruction grant projects.

The University of Texas, 56 percent. We have a winner.

Texas Tech, 49 percent; Texas Christian, 54 percent; Baylor, 38 percent. They are a little more economical, but it is still nearly 40 percent of waste.

The University of Kansas charges a surcharge of 51.5 percent; Kansas State, 52 percent; West Virginia, 50 percent; Iowa State, 52 percent, meeting the median average.

Higher education officials rarely talk about it. When confronted with it, they will, with straight faces and degrees of education, argue that this waste is absolutely essential for them to continue.

A recent George Washington University student newspaper article revealed a higher education official's thoughts about indirect costs when he overtly referred to them as—you have got it—subsidies. He let it slip. Maybe Freudian, we don't know.

The George Washington Hatchet quoted Leo Chalupa, vice president for research, that "research is bringing in money to the university."

You think? It is \$55 billion worth.

However, Chalupa is not just referring to the direct dollars used to conduct research. We would all agree with needed research, but what we don't agree with is this indirect—more than half—plundering of what the dollars were designed and intended to do.

Let's switch to something that we should do to try to incentivize people to improve their educational experience. Sound confusing? It is—to the tune of \$7 billion was wasted.

Few Americans will argue that the Nation's schools do not need improvement. We would all say that they do. When one looks at test scores or compares American outcomes with other nations, it is easy to see that many of our K-12 schools are languishing.

One recent report evaluated testing outcomes against other industrialized nations, and America's students finished 17th out of 34—not something to be proud of. This led President Obama to direct more money at the issue, like so many previous Presidents before him, rather than looking at the underlying systemic concerns.

It is not the amount of money; it is the habit that is being created. While increasing funding can be a component of a solution, it is often not the most vital of the components. Without proper policy driving the expenditures, the money spent can become one more example of how inefficient Federal intervention in anything can be.

President Obama's Department of Education directed \$7 billion to a program known as the School Improvement Grants program, to which the Department of Energy named the 21st Century Community Learning Centers. The funds were directed to States with instructions that the funds should be directed to the poorest performing schools.

It sounds agreeable.

The measures used to identify the underperforming schools were graduation rates and readiness scores in reading and mathematics. Then-Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said, in 2009: "We could really move the needle, lift the bottom, and change the lives of tens of millions of underserved children"—something that all of us would agree on.

The School Improvement Grant program built on the race to the top efforts undertaken during the Bush administration, and the Obama administration efforts doubled the funds for the program.

The Department of Education described the purpose of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers in the following way: "This program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools."

Again, all of these sound laudable. However, according to a report released by the Department of Energy just a few days before the end of President Obama's administration, test scores, graduation rates, and college enrollment were no different in schools that had received these funds from School Improvement Grants as those that did not—\$7 billion gone.

A Washington Post article detailing the report quoted Andy Smarick, a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute: "Think of what all that money could have been spent on instead." Mr. Smarick is correct: \$7 billion in taxpayer funds were spent without any oversight or careful oversight whatsoever.

Congress must reexamine the role of the Federal Government in education because what is being done now does not work—billions upon billions of dollars.

How about if we can't solve it through \$7 billion wasted in trying to make people feel good about education and then that will improve their schools, how about we get them moving so we can fight obesity and cut down on diabetes, disease, and other things. That sounds good. Let's talk about that.

In 2010, with the assistance of First Lady Michelle Obama, the Let's Move! project began, with the hope of reducing childhood obesity in America. This is a real problem in Oklahoma. We have one of the largest obesity rates of all the States.

The program, costing as much as \$1 billion per year, focused heavily on im-

pressing upon children the need for proper exercise as well as bringing healthier food options into schools.

At first glance, it appears that the Let's Move! program produced results. In 2008, U.S. childhood obesity rates nationally were around 16.2 percent. During the next 3 years, 18 States saw those rates begin a modest decline, falling in some States by 5 percent.

This reduction could be attributed to the effectiveness of the program or a cultural change in how people view health choices and how they view their eating habits. But it should be noted, regardless, that this decline was already begun by the time the Let's Move! program was even enacted. Overall, and sadly, in the latest statistics, U.S. childhood obesity rates did not decline and, in fact, have risen to 17.2 percent in the last statistical year.

There are many, many things that we can continue to go on and talk about in waste. Let's end with this one.

Want people to eat healthy, something that sounds good? How many of you would be influenced by people dressing up like Fruit of the Loom, in outfits like green beans, grapes, tomatoes, and going to college campuses and then just seeing the sight of these people wearing these costumes say: You know, I think I need to eat some grapes or vegetables?

That is what this program did. It wasted \$14.7 million of your money. It is called the Get Fruved project.

I am not making it up.

Not only did this program waste \$14.7 million; it is still being funded by your tax dollars. The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded \$4.9 million a year for this initiative, led by students and researchers at four American universities, which are the University of Tennessee, South Dakota, West Virginia, and the University of Florida.

The Fruved website reports that its goal is:

Our students are the best teachers. This is why Fruved has sophomores and juniors at each school peer-monitoring first-year students, helping them live a healthier life during their first year of college.

That includes dressing up in these outfits. That is \$14.7 million.

There are things that the Federal Government has a responsibility for and there are things that it does not. Abraham Lincoln said it best in a paraphrase where he said: The things that we can do ourselves, the government ought not to interfere. The things that we cannot do collectively, the government might have a role.

We know the government may have a role in education, certainly, with education funding and helping our facilities and our institutions. However, we do not need to waste \$70 billion. Imagine what that could do.

We will never change this idea if the American people do not demand of us to stop such madness and waste. When people come with straight faces and Ph.D.s and argue for dressing up in outfits, we have to push back on that and

say: \$20 trillion in debt, a weakened military, roads and bridges that are falling down and an infrastructure that needs improvement, modernization in our skies for the Federal Aviation Administration.

There are so many areas that the government truly does have a function and role. We will never get to it with asparagus urine studies and dressing up as fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Speaker, my hope is that all of us as Americans can find those overlapping circles and fight this absolute absurdity of waste in government, be responsible with American tax dollars, and sustain our great Republic for the future of our children.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PAKISTAN IS PLAYING THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FASO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 30 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when our forces invaded Afghanistan in 2001, the goal was simple: remove the terrorist group, the Taliban government that sheltered the plotters of the 9/11 attacks on America, and destroy al-Qaida, a terrorist group. This was a NATO operation.

A little history is in order.

The United States was attacked. The member nations of NATO agreed that this was an attack on one nation, and NATO agreed to retaliate to the terrorist attack under article 5 of the NATO agreement. Article 5 has been talked about recently in the press.

So these 28 nations, NATO, went into Afghanistan, a haven for terrorists who sought to attack and kill Americans. That was 16 years ago. This is the longest war in American history, and yet it is still going on.

Let's examine how all of this is taking place and center on one nation, Pakistan, and their role in all of this.

The Taliban, since that attack, has waged an insurgency in Afghanistan, a neighbor to Pakistan, and destabilized the country, creating a perfect condition for terrorists to exploit in Afghanistan and spread that terrorist activity to other parts of the world.

The Taliban and al-Qaida have launched many of their attacks in Afghanistan from their neighbor, Pakistan. Recently, a Taliban sneak attack killed more than 160 Afghan soldiers, prompting the defense minister and the army chief of staff to resign.

The Taliban, a terrorist group, doesn't just stage attacks. They seize territory. The Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction said, in January, that 172 Afghan districts are controlled, influenced, and contested by the Taliban.

Al-Qaida has a long history and loyalty to the Taliban—two terrorist groups working together. Osama bin

Laden swore his allegiance to the Taliban's leader, Mullah Omar, even before the 9/11 attack on the United States.

When bin Laden was killed in Pakistan, Ayman al-Zawahiri renewed that oath and cemented ties between al-Qaida and the Taliban. Wherever the Taliban is, you will see that al-Qaida is not far behind.

Since 2010, the United States incorrectly claimed that al-Qaida had just a little, small presence in the country, limited to only 50 or 100 fighters. Well, we know now that is absolutely incorrect.

Then, in 2015, the shocking U.S. raid in Afghanistan uncovered a massive al-Qaida training camp for terrorists, rounding up over 150 al-Qaida terrorist activity individuals. This was more fighters in one raid than the U.S. claimed existed in the entire country.

By the end of last year, U.S. officials announced that 250 al-Qaida terrorists were killed or captured in 2016.

The point here is that United States intelligence has been wrong about the activity of terrorists in Pakistan and in Afghanistan, but we are getting it right now.

Along with al-Qaida in Afghanistan, we have another terrorist group—I should have brought a chart to list all of these—the Haqqani Network.

Who are these folks?

It is another terrorist group linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Haqqani Network is responsible for more American deaths in the region than any of the other terrorist groups that I have already mentioned.

□ 1200

The Haqqani Network attacks inside Afghanistan, and they have been directly traced back to Pakistan. All roads to terror lead to Pakistan.

In fact, in 2011, Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified to the Senate, "the Haqqani Network acts as a veritable arm of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency." What is that? That is the military arm of the Pakistan Government working with terrorist groups throughout the world.

The truth is, Pakistan has ties to about every terrorist group in Afghanistan, and we know that the Taliban terrorist group is based out of Pakistan.

It came as no surprise that when the U.S. drone strike killed the leader of the Taliban in 2016, guess where he was? He was in Pakistan hiding out.

There is a laundry list of evidence of Pakistan's support for terrorist groups, and I think a little more history is in order because this activity by Pakistan has been going on for years and has been below the radar. So let's just list some of the counts of the indictment against Pakistan and their terrorist activity.

Let's go back to 1980. Pakistan actively assisted countries like North Korea, Iran, and Libya in their efforts to build a nuclear weapon.

Now, where are we today?

Iran, the number one state sponsor of terrorism in the world, got some of its nuclear ability from Pakistan. North Korea, on the other side of the globe, guess what, they are developing nuclear capability, and we can trace some of their roots for their science back to Pakistan.

Since 1980, Pakistan has provided a safe haven and support, as I mentioned, for the Haqqani Network. The Haqqani Network operates many places in the world, including Lebanon, a threat to Israel.

Since the 1980s, Pakistan has hosted multiple madrassas that indoctrinate thousands of Pakistani young who join radical groups. That is a nice way of saying terrorist groups.

One Pakistan madrassa, which receives millions of dollars in state funding, has so many prominent terrorists in its alumni that it has the name of the University of Jihad.

I will continue. Since 1990, Pakistan has supported terrorist groups in Kashmir, like the Lashkar-e-Taiba, called the LeT, and other terrorist groups in its proxy war with India. These groups have carried out attacks inside India, such as the 2001 attack against the Indian Parliament.

Since the 1990s, Pakistan has allowed those terrorist groups like the LeT to openly fundraise in the country of Pakistan. Beginning in the 1990s, Pakistan provided training, advisers, intelligence, and material support for the Afghan Taliban, a specific terrorist group that operates in Afghanistan based in Pakistan.

Pakistan had forged the alliance between the al-Qaida and the Taliban before 9/11, and Hamid Gul, the former head of Pakistan's ISI, is called the father of the Taliban.

Pakistani nuclear scientists met with senior al-Qaida—this is a terrorist group—leadership in 1998, to discuss the terrorist group's desire to acquire nuclear technology.

In 1998, several Pakistani officers were killed in an al-Qaida training camp by the United States. Well, what were they doing there? They were training the al-Qaida in terrorist activities. This was a retaliation by the U.S. for the Africa Embassy bombings.

In 2001, Pakistan ISI helped revive the Afghan Taliban after it was defeated by the United States in the Northern Alliance. While Pakistan is fighting the Pakistani Taliban, it allows the Afghan Taliban, or what it refers to as the good Taliban, to operate freely in its territory.

Let me try to explain this. There is the Pakistani Taliban. It operates in Pakistan. The Pakistan Government goes after those people because they are causing crimes in Pakistan. But there is the Afghan Taliban that operates out of Pakistan that is supported by ISI and works in Afghanistan to kill NATO forces, including Americans. Pakistan says: oh, we are after terrorists. We are going after them. They are

only going after those terrorists that operate in their country against Pakistanis, not terrorist groups that operate in other parts of the world against Americans.

After the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, Osama bin Laden and many senior al-Qaida leaders fled to Pakistan. Many of them are still there. Pakistan facilitated arms purchases and foreign fighter flows for al-Qaida as the war continued.

Since 2004, eight major terrorist plots against Western countries were planned in Pakistan.

In 2008, the GAO—that is the folks who take care of our money, or at least try to track it—found that the Pakistani Government may have falsified claimed costs for providing support to the United States-led military operations. What does that mean?

We give to the Pakistan Government to help their military supposedly go after terrorists, and they give us back vouchers to say: well, this is what we did. Well, our government went through these vouchers and found out that Pakistan lied about this. They were asking for money for an activity that never occurred. So they tried to cheat the American public on these reimbursements. And there is more.

In November 2008, LeT conducted the Mumbai attack in India that killed more than 160 people with Pakistani assistance. Remember, LeT is a terrorist group.

In 2009, a Taliban leader, who had begun peace negotiations with the Afghan Government to stop the killing and the war, was arrested by Pakistan authorities for negotiating a peace talk because Pakistan did not want and does not want peace in Afghanistan.

In 2010, Pakistani intelligence is believed to have leaked the identity of an American CIA intelligence chief based in Pakistan. Of course, he had to flee the country.

In 2010, Pakistan closed the NATO supply route in Afghanistan for one week in response to NATO's helicopter strike that killed three Pakistani soldiers.

Documents leaked in 2010 revealed direct meetings between ISI and the Taliban to organize and orchestrate attacks on American soldiers in Afghanistan. That was in 2010.

I will continue. The terrorist perpetrator of the 2010 attempted car bombings in Times Square, that is in the United States, was known to have undergone weapons training in Pakistan.

In 2011, Osama bin Laden, we all know who he was, the number one terrorist in world history, well, he was found and killed in Abbottabad outside of Pakistan's version of West Point. In other words, you have a military installation, you have Osama bin Laden hiding in his big old home there, and the Pakistanis had been hiding him out. He was found there, Americans went and took him out, didn't tell the Pakistani Government because they would have moved him again.

We have evidence that Pakistan supports terrorism. What happened was, Pakistan scrambled American-made jets to go after the Americans who took out the Taliban. Fortunately, the Americans were able to get away and they were not attacked by the Pakistani Government.

To show how supportive Pakistan is, one of our helicopters, you may remember, had stealth on one of its rotors. Well, it crashed there, and they turned that evidence over to the Chinese and let them take whatever evidence they wanted to show the stealth in that helicopter.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask you how much time I have left.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 17 minutes remaining in his Special Order.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

In 2011, Pakistan jailed Dr. Afridi, who helped the United States track down Osama bin Laden, and he is still in jail.

So Pakistan claims that they are a help to the U.S. in tracking down terrorism in the world, but they are not. The evidence shows the difference. Whose side is Pakistan really on?

After the 2011 raid to kill Osama bin Laden, Pakistan, as I said, invited the Chinese to inspect the wreckage on the stealth helicopter that the U.S. forces left behind. If people are allies of the U.S., they don't turn over technology to China.

Once again in 2011, Pakistan ISI poisoned CIA Chief Mark Kelton following the Osama bin Laden raid.

In 2011, Pakistan shelling killed 42 Afghanistan civilians. Pakistan is notorious for its blasphemy laws which are used to persecute numerous minorities, including Christians. Asia Bibi, a Pakistan Christian mother of five, was sentenced to death for blasphemy in 2011.

Pakistan launched counterterrorism raids in 2014 into the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, yet turned a blind eye to the Haqqani Network and the Afghanistan Taliban operatives in the area.

In September of 2016, Pakistani terrorists attacked an Indian military base in Kashmir, killing 17 Indian soldiers. Indian officials say the terrorists were from a group backed by the Pakistani ISI and were using weapons with Pakistani markings.

In 2017, Pakistani cross-border shelling forced hundreds of Afghanistan villagers to flee their homes and further strained relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Well, no kidding.

Let me give you some other evidence, Mr. Speaker, and let me make this clear. The issue here is not the people of Pakistan. The issue is not Americans of Pakistani descent. Our quarrel and our issue is not with those folks. I represent a lot of Pakistani Americans. Good folks. Hardworking individuals.

The issue is with the United States' relationship with the Government of

Pakistan that is playing the United States. Recently, before the United Nations Security Council, H.E. Mahmoud Saikal, Ambassador, Permanent Representative from Afghanistan spoke to the U.N. He has an excellent speech. The speech is Afghanistan's relationship with Pakistan.

I am not going to read his entire speech, but I do want to make a couple of comments from his point of view about Pakistan and their terrorist activity.

He says: "In recent months, dozens of terrorist attacks across Afghanistan have claimed scores of innocent lives. In January, three simultaneous terrorist attacks in Kabul, Kandahar, and Helmand provinces killed and maimed over 160, including six UAE diplomats. In February, the Supreme Court, our symbol of justice, was attacked, causing numerous fatalities. Last week, two separate attacks in the heart of Kabul killed many civilians. Finally, just two days ago, Afghanistan's largest hospital was attacked, leaving over 140 killed and wounded, many of whom were doctors, nurses, and patients. The Taliban"—terrorist group—"have claimed responsibility for most of these attacks, but regardless of whose names are being labeled on these attacks, our own investigations have clearly established that they were generally plotted beyond our frontiers," namely, in Pakistan.

I include in the RECORD the entire speech of the Ambassador to the U.N.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

H.E. Mahmoud Saikal, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations, March 10, 2017, New York)

Thank you, Mr. President. Let me congratulate the United Kingdom on its leadership of the Council this month. I thank the Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, for presenting his first report on the situation in Afghanistan. Also, allow me to thank the SRSG, Ambassador Tadamichi Yamamoto, and Afghanistan's Independent Human Rights Commissioner, Dr. Sima Samar, for their briefings.

Given the severity of the situation in my country, I would like to dedicate my statement today to the challenging security situation, hidden agendas, the peace process and the ever-increasing necessity for regional and global cooperation.

Mr. President, in recent months, dozens of terrorist attacks across Afghanistan have claimed scores of innocent lives. In January, three simultaneous terrorist attacks in Kabul, Kandahar, and Helmand provinces killed and maimed over 160, including six UAE diplomats. In February, the Supreme Court, our symbol of justice, was attacked, causing numerous fatalities. Last week, two separate attacks in the heart of Kabul killed many civilians. Finally, just two days ago Afghanistan's largest hospital was attacked, leaving over 140 killed and wounded, many of whom were doctors, nurses, and patients. The Taliban have claimed responsibility for most of these attacks, but regardless of whose names are being labeled on these attacks, our own investigations have clearly established that they were generally plotted beyond our frontiers, on the other side of the Durand Line. This, Mr. President, is the fundamental factor which needs to be addressed.

The UN Security Council issued prompt statements condemning these attacks in strongest terms, for which we are thankful. The statements underlined—and I quote: “the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice”. It also urged “all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Afghan authorities in this regard.” This is indeed what Afghanistan has been asking for many years. My Government and people would like to know why, after countless terrorist atrocities and specific Security Council statements condemning them, we are still witness to impunity for perpetrators and orchestrators of endless violence?

Mr. President, let me be very clear. The conflict in our country is not homegrown, as some desperately and deceptively try to portray. On the contrary, it is the nexus of illicit narcotics, violent extremism, and state sponsorship of terrorism with regional dimensions and global consequences. Tragically, it has morphed into an undeclared war by a neighboring state that has for many years, and still continues to coordinate, facilitate, and orchestrate violence through proxy forces and more than 20 terrorist networks. These groups benefit from a full-fledged external infrastructure to keep Afghanistan off-balance for motives that are inconsistent with our desire to live in a peaceful and prospering region.

In earlier statements to this Council, we have emphasized, time and again, on Pakistani actions that sustain terrorist activities in our country. Today, let me quote leading Pakistani officials themselves. General Pervez Musharraf, who led Pakistan for eight years as President, proudly commented in a 2015 interview with *The Guardian* newspaper that “Pakistan’s Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) had given birth to the Taliban to counter Indian action against Pakistan”. Last year, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Pakistan Prime Minister’s Adviser on Foreign Affairs, went on record to say that Taliban leaders reside in Pakistan and that they have influence over them. A couple of weeks ago, Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, former ambassador of Pakistan to the US, Russia, China, and India and UN SRSG to Iraq and Sudan, wrote in the *Herald Magazine* of Pakistan: “after the Soviet defeat and withdrawal, we (wittingly or unwittingly) unleashed a ruinous civil war and imposed a barbaric and medieval Taliban upon the hapless Afghan people.” His words are but confirmation of the truth that “Pakistan talks one policy, but walks the other”.

Mr. Husain Haqqani, another former Ambassador of Pakistan to the US and Sri Lanka, categorizes in clear terms, in a *NYT* 2013 article, the links between Pakistan’s state apparatus and the Taliban over time, and mentions in the context of peace talks that “the Taliban and their Pakistani mentors have hardly changed their arguments or their tendency to fudge facts”. These quotes and admissions that I just read were not “rhetoric from Kabul” or “blame game” as often claimed by a known member state. This was Pakistan talking!

Mr. President, against this backdrop, in February, a series of unfortunate terrorist attacks in Pakistan killed dozens and wounded many more innocent men, women, and children. As is the case, Afghans always share the pain and anguish of our Pakistani brothers and sisters. However, the Government of Pakistan, immediately and without any regard for an investigative process or clear facts, blamed Afghanistan for the attacks and resorted to increased breaches of our territorial integrity, the closing of the

main border crossings, blockading trade and transit, and harassing our nationals traveling to or living in their country. Such measures constitute a clear violation of principles of WTO and the rights of land locked countries, including their access to sea.

From January till today, we recorded at least 59 instances of violations of Afghan territory by Pakistan military forces, including three violations of our air space, over 1375 cross-frontier artillery shellings that caused dozens of casualties, displacement of 450 families in the middle of cold winter in our eastern provinces, burning of our forests, illegal construction of infrastructure near the frontier region, and hostile maneuvering of tanks and heavy weaponry.

Mr. POE of Texas. I will just make one more comment on the speech. The Ambassador says: “Pakistan talks one policy, but walks the other.”

I will continue. The World Muhajir Congress has written a letter to the United States Congress. Who are these folks? Well, they represent the views and interests of the Muhajirs. They are descendants of Muslims who migrated from India to Pakistan at the time of the partition of India in 1947.

□ 1215

They write a letter, and the title of their letter is: “World Muhajir Congress request U.S. Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan.”

They go into detail talking about the terrorist activity of the Government of Pakistan, and not only in Pakistan, but in borders across the world. They “request Trump administration and the U.S. Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan. Pakistan army and intelligence agency ISI is mainly using this military aid”—American military aid—“to kill innocent Muhajirs, Baloch, and Pashtoons. The double game of Pakistan’s security establishment with U.S. administration must come to an end, which has put lives of U.S. and NATO soldiers in danger in Afghanistan.”

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the letter.

[From World Muhajir Congress, June 15, 2017]
WORLD MUHAJIR CONGRESS REQUEST US CONGRESS TO CUT OFF MILITARY AID TO PAKISTAN

World Muhajir Congress represents the views and interests of Muhajirs—descendants of those Muslims who migrated from India to Pakistan at the time of the Partition of India in 1947 at appropriate international forums.

Indeed, our forefathers had created Pakistan as a homeland for Muslims in India primarily to safeguards their political and economic interests. However, their idea of Pakistan envisaged a secular state where other religious minorities would be guaranteed equal rights and complete religious freedom. The founder of Pakistan Mohammad Ali Jinnah—known as Quaid e Azam—left no doubts about his vision for Pakistan when he chose a number of non-Muslims in the first Cabinet for Pakistan. In his address to the First Constituent Assembly of Pakistan, Mr Jinnah made his views abundantly clear when he said, “in course of time Hindus would cease to be Hindus and Muslims would cease to be Muslims, not in the religious sense, because that is the personal faith of each individual, but in the political sense as citizens of the State.”

Unfortunately, the British Raj had left behind a huge Indian army at the time of Partition that was mainly comprised of Punjabi Muslims. This Punjabi Army soon took control of every major institution in Pakistan and never let the true democracy flourish. Protecting the interests of Punjabis has been the primary mission of this Army since the creation of Pakistan, even if it had to at the cost of national interests. Denial of basic constitutional rights to majority Bengali population and subsequent disintegration of Pakistan’s Bengali-majority East Pakistan is just one example.

In the last few decades, Pakistan’s Punjabi-dominated security establishment has blatantly used religion, Islam, as its major tool to perpetuate its domination over other ethnic groups in Pakistan, Muhajirs, Balochs and Pashtoons in particular. The Army itself has gradually become highly radicalized and seems obsessed with the idea of dominating the entire region. The most alarming trend in the last three decades, however, has been the creation and blatant use of ‘religious proxies’ by Pakistan Army to promote its sinister agenda of Punjabi dominance over Pakistan as well as the region.

Jihadi terrorist outfits created by Pakistan Army have caused havoc in the last three decades both inside and outside Pakistan. Even though hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis have died as a result of attacks carried out by these ruthless proxies of Pakistan’s security establishment, the targets of these terrorist outfits have never been confined to Pakistan and pretty much every country in the region has suffered at the hands of these terror groups.

Whether it is the world’s “most wanted” man Osama bin Laden or the chief of Taliban Mullah Omar; whether it is al-Qaeda’s ideological founder Ayman al-Zawahiri or TTP Amir Mullah Mansoor Akhtar or 9/11 mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, they all have lived and freely operated from Pakistan. It is not even remotely possible that such notorious mass murderers could have lived and operated from Pakistani soil without the overt or covert support from ISI. In fact, thugs of every fanatic religious outfit are still freely operating in Pakistan, particularly in Karachi, very often under the overt protection of Paramilitary Rangers. We have video evidence confirming that militants of banned extremist religious outfits are allowed to freely collect donations in Karachi to wage “Jihad against America.”

The region as well as the world has suffered enough due to the mindless policies and treachery of Pakistan’s Punjabi-dominated security establishment. In fact, ethnic minorities of Pakistan have been the biggest victim of Pakistan Army and its intelligence agencies’ ruthless pro-Punjabi policies. Over 20 thousand Muhajirs have been killed by Pakistan’s state agencies since 1992 alone. Two federal governments in Pakistan were deposed on the charges of extrajudicial killings of Muhajirs in Karachi but none of the culprits was ever punished. Tens of thousands of Balochs have been killed by Pakistan’s security agencies in the country’s largest Balochistan province. Hundreds of ethnic Pashtoons too have either been killed and injured or made homeless by Pakistan Army in the last few years under the garb of security operations in the country’s northern areas.

Pakistan Army and ISI are actively silencing every sane and secular voice in Pakistan and are supporting, arming and training every jihadi terrorist outfit under the sun. In recent days, General Janjua, the former Crops Commander of Balochistan, now the country’s security czar, has facilitated legislation that now allows graduates of religious

seminaries (Madrassahs) to receive Commission in Pakistan Army. The previous Director General of ISI (now the head of Pakistan's National Defense University) General Rizwan Akhtar has even proposed to 'incorporate militants belonging to banned extremist religious outfits into paramilitary forces.'

The region is burning due to the highly unprofessional and irresponsible policies and acts of Pakistan's military establishment and ISI. The entire world is suffering. As the British Prime Minister Mrs. Theresa May said following the most recent terrorist attack in London "enough is enough." It is about time for the world to act against this madness and put its foot down.

World Muhajir Congress sincerely request Trump Administration and US Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan. Pakistan Army and intelligence agency ISI is mainly using this military aid to kill innocent Muhajirs, Baloch and Pashtoons. The double game of Pakistan's security establishment with US administration must come to an end which has put lives of US and NATO soldiers in danger in Afghanistan.

Mr. POE of Texas. So what does all this mean?

I have given 20 or 30 enumerated counts of an indictment against Pakistan, alleging them of supporting terrorism in the world.

What can we do about it?

Pakistan is not an ally of the United States. But the United States, every year, gives millions of dollars to Pakistan. Congress has even brought this up before, has tried to cut some of that money off. It has passed the House, but it has never passed and become law. And we continue to give them money.

The United States does not, and should not, continue to give Pakistan money because the money we give them goes to ISI, and that money goes to support terrorist activity in Afghanistan that kills Americans.

Why are we doing this?

But we continue to do it, for some reason that I think is absurd.

So the first thing we need to do is cut off the aid to Pakistan. We don't need to pay them to kill us; they will support killing Americans on their own. Cut off the aid.

The second thing we do is to label Pakistan a state sponsor of terrorism. That is what they are: a state sponsor of terrorism. Congress needs to label them and make that designation so they suffer the consequences for their terrorist mischief throughout the world.

And the third thing we do is we need to remove and revoke their major non-NATO ally status. That is a fancy word for: because Pakistan is a major non-NATO ally, they get certain benefits, militarily, that other countries don't get.

Revoke that. Quit giving them military aid. Quit giving them money. Designate them as a state sponsor of terrorism, and remove the major non-NATO ally status against Pakistan. There needs to be consequences for this long history, that most Americans are not aware of, where Pakistan says one thing and, like the ambassador said, does something else; and those con-

sequences need to come down to get attention.

The longest war in American history continues today, and it is a war supposedly against terrorism. But Afghanistan still is a hotbed because of what takes place and supported from Pakistan. The Afghan Government knows it, we know it, and the Pakistan Government knows it.

So there must be consequences. I think Pakistan is found guilty of supporting terrorism, and there should be action by the United States immediately to do these three things.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that it is a privilege and it is good for the House and good for America when Judge TED POE is on the floor making a case. He was a great judge, a great prosecutor before that, and we will always need his voice making a case here on the floor, especially the kind of strong case he was just making. And I want to follow up with that.

There was a story yesterday, June 22, by Kristina Wong. It says:

"James Comey may have misled Senators on May 3, when he testified to the Senate Judiciary Committee that he had never been an anonymous source in news reports related to the Russia investigation.

"By that time, he had already leaked several private conversations he had with President Trump to his friend Benjamin Wittes, editor-in-chief of the blog Lawfare and former editorial writer for The Washington Post."

Mr. Speaker, I am sure you will recall, as we see every day, evidence that The Washington Post does not just despise Donald Trump, they are actually malicious in their reporting. President Trump, as a public figure, would normally have a tough time making a case as a public figure for libel or slander because you have to prove malice. The Washington Post has proved repeatedly they are not interested in fairness or anything resembling balance. They can't stand Donald J. Trump, and they are out to try to get him in a malicious fashion.

So when anybody, especially somebody with the FBI, leaks anything to people that may have it end up in The Washington Post, they, indeed, themselves become part of the malice for our President.

The article says:

"Wittes wrote in a piece on May 18, only 9 days after Comey was fired, that the former FBI Director had shared those conversations 'over the previous few months.' He wrote:

"Comey never told me the details of the dinner meeting; I don't think I

even knew that there had been a meeting over dinner until I learned it from the Times story. But he did tell me in general terms that early on, Trump had 'asked for loyalty' and that Comey had promised him only honesty. He also told me that Trump was perceptibly uncomfortable with this answer."

Now, let me insert here because obviously Mr. Comey does not understand what loyalty means and why a President of the United States would ask for loyalty from the Director of the FBI. But what loyalty means from a Director of the FBI is: Mr. President, I will be loyal to the administration. I will not go out and leak things to the media and I will not go out and stab you in the back every chance I have, even though I have these friends that hate your guts. And I know when I leak things or share things to people that can't stand the President, it is going to hurt him and it is going to be disloyal.

That is what loyalty is. It is outrageous for someone to try to make an obstruction case out of a President asking for loyalty.

Look at what the Obama administration did. They prosecuted more people that they alleged were leakers than all other administrations put together. They were aggressive in prosecuting disloyalty.

Donald Trump, on the other hand, as President of the United States, wasn't threatening to prosecute the way the Obama administration obviously had done. And he didn't try to make an example of everybody by having them prosecuted if they leaked anything. Otherwise, Comey would be standing before a judge answering charges right now; and maybe that should come later.

All he was asking for is: I need you to promise me loyalty.

And the very question of a President just asking for loyalty ended up being a source of evidence that Mueller—not Mueller. That is another case altogether. There is plenty of evidence about him—that Comey is probably the most disloyal FBI Director since J. Edgar Hoover was taping Presidents himself and having them watched and spied on.

So it is amazing, as smart as James Comey is—I have questioned him a number of times, so I know how smart he is. But as smart as he is, he couldn't figure out that loyalty would mean you don't run—try to make your President look bad after a simple meeting where the President just asked: Would you be loyal? I am not asking for the Moon. I am not asking for anything outrageous. I am simply asking: Would you please be loyal?

And even as President Trump was, apparently, asking for loyalty, this disloyal, dishonest Director of the FBI was already turning wheels in his head: How can I hurt this President? I know a reporter that hates Trump, who worked for the Trump-hating Washington Post. Even though he is not there now, he will know how to help me hurt Trump.

I mean, even as the President is asking for loyalty, that is what he is getting in the mind of the FBI Director.

So is it any mystery when we look back at the case history we have talked about here on the floor about how Comey manipulated John Ashcroft into recusing himself so Comey could push his own dear friend and godfather of his child, Patrick Fitzgerald, into being special counsel to go after the Bush administration?

Clearly, Comey and Fitzgerald were hoping to nail Karl Rove's and Dick Cheney's hide to the wall. That is what they were after.

And how do we know?

Because on day one—well, of course, the fact that Comey would push the godfather of his child into that position tells you all you need to know, but there is plenty more.

They both knew that Richard Armitage had leaked Valerie Plame's identity as a CIA agent. And they knew that there was no need for a special counsel or a special investigation. Yet they spent millions of dollars and man-hours trying to get beyond that and find some way to nail somebody they didn't like.

You would call that dishonesty or disloyalty because honesty would have had Comey and his dear friend and godfather of his child immediately going public on day one.

This would be honesty, to go forward and say: We know that the godfather of my child here, Patrick Fitzgerald, was appointed to find out who leaked information about Valerie Plame and her dishonest husband, Joseph Wilson, who lied to the CIA and lied to Congress, but we still need to know.

And guess what. We already know on day one who leaked it. It was Richard Armitage. There is no need to squander taxpayer dollars and there is no need for the government to pay massive amounts of money to Patrick Fitzgerald to do this investigation.

□ 1230

We are honest individuals. We are coming forward, and, yeah, maybe it wasn't all that honest for me to put my dear close friend, Fitzgerald, in this position, but I am going to be honest now. We don't need this investigation.

But that is not what they did. They were disloyal and dishonest to the American people, to the Bush administration, and to justice. They asked for expanded jurisdiction, made it seem like they were on the trail of something big.

No, they weren't on the trail of anything big. They had nothing. They wanted to try to get somebody prosecuted, and that way they could try to justify the massive amount of expenditures for nothing, for no good reason, that they were about to go through.

Eventually, they prosecuted Scooter Libby for allegedly being inconsistent with something he said—same thing they went after Martha Stewart for.

There was no insider trading that Martha Stewart engaged in. And I

know she is not a fan of Republicans—seems like a very nice person when I talked to her—but she was treated grossly unfairly. There was no insider trading. So they keep talking to her until they find they think she said something inconsistent so they could get a conviction, get a scalp under their belt, figuratively speaking, and claim they had done some great good. Comey was underneath, behind the scenes in that as well.

So it is amazing to me how anybody could try to be accusatory of someone, a President that said: Can you please promise me you will be loyal?

He didn't ask for anything illegal, nothing unethical, but apparently—you know, I didn't know Donald Trump. I supported TED CRUZ for over a year for President. But I have come to understand, this man has amazing instincts with people, amazing business acumen, figures out when something makes sense and something doesn't make sense.

One of the other Members of Congress just this morning was saying: You know, I never realized until I had seen the President in person, the man really has a big heart.

Okay. It was kind of surprising to some folks. But you get the inkling of it the more you are around him. And you see the way he treats kids, and we saw the way he treats children. You know, we saw the way he was so good to all kids. It didn't matter—he didn't care if they were Democrats' kids or Republicans' kids.

But I do recall, 8 years ago, one of my friends from Texas had a daughter, had her little book and pen, saw kids lined up getting an autograph from President Obama. So she ran over to get an autograph, and she came back in tears because she said when he got to her, he said, "I am not signing yours," and walked away. Her parents assured her it was nothing personal. He just obviously had some kind of emergency.

But then later on, before the congressional picnic was over, she saw other children lined up getting an autograph. She ran, got to the end of the line, and once again, when President Obama got to her, he said, "I told you, I am not signing yours." It took a long time to get over that.

But a lot of the people that saw the way President Obama treated some kids—not all of them, but some—saw the way President Trump didn't care anything about their background, what party their parents supported. He was just a gracious guy, obviously showed a big heart for kids.

So it would be understandable that somebody in business, doing multi-million-dollar deals, would need to know people were going to be loyal. And I have come to know enough about Donald Trump and his intuition about people he is dealing with, if he asks someone to be loyal and that person hedges their bets, said, well, I will be honest—I haven't asked him, but I am willing to bet when James Comey re-

fused to say he would be loyal but said he would be honest, I would be willing to bet you Donald Trump knew immediately this man is not going to be loyal or honest, and that is exactly what has happened.

James Comey has been both disloyal to his country, to the FBI, and to the President he was serving. He admitted leaking information. And some of us believe that if President Trump had not tweeted out, making reference to potential tapes of their conversations, that the disloyal, dishonest former Director of the FBI would probably not have been as honest as he was about some other things that were said.

But for anyone in the media to make some kind of big deal, potential obstruction of justice charge, just bringing up "I need you to be loyal; tell me you will be loyal" is absolutely outrageous.

I would expect every President, surely, if they were a good President, at one time or another needed to ask for a pledge of loyalty, not that you are going to lie, not that you are going to commit a crime, but you are not going to run out and leak stuff more than once the way James Comey did. You are going to be loyal to me. And if there is a problem, you come to me. You don't go leak it to your leftwing friends.

And also being loyal, I would think, would include that, if you believe there is a need for an independent counsel, a special counsel, and that you are a critical witness, that being loyal and being honest would—and being ethical would require that you not look forward to having one of your best friends in the world, Bob Mueller, being the special counsel.

My friends, my very dear friends, JIM JORDAN, MARK MEADOWS, JODY HICE—I have an article from yesterday. I have been talking about this for a week or so with different people, but we do need an independent counsel. We need a special counsel. And courts have made clear, Congress cannot appoint an independent counsel. It is an executive branch function. It is a violation of the separation of powers.

It has been made very clear: Congress can appropriate for independent counsel, they can make laws that create an office of independent counsel or a special prosecutor, they can do all those things, but they cannot, Congress cannot appoint an independent prosecutor, a special counsel. That is an executive branch function, and everyone in the executive branch derives their power, any that they have, from and through the President of the United States.

We know, there is no question about it, President Barack Hussein Obama regularly and intentionally obstructed justice, but we know that for a President to obstruct justice the way President Obama did was legal. He has the power to legally obstruct justice a number of ways, whether it is at the very end, just an outright pardon, or whether it is a dictation of policies the

way President Obama did: We are not going to go after and prosecute this group of people that have come in and committed crimes from other countries.

Some of us felt like it was terrible judgment, but President Obama had the legal authority to obstruct justice in directing the Justice Department not to pursue and prosecute certain groups of people or even individuals. He could pardon them outright before or after investigation. The President has that power. So does President Trump.

But as my friends point out in this article, Mr. Comey misled the American people in the early weeks of the Trump administration by furthering the perception that President Trump was under investigation when, in fact, he was not. He, again, did this willfully and intentionally, and, I would add, he did it disloyally and dishonestly.

They point out that Comey recently admitted that, after being fired from the FBI, he had a friend leak an internal FBI document to *The New York Times* detailing a conversation Comey had with President Trump. Comey testified under oath that he had ordered the leak to help create public momentum for the appointment of a special counsel, which we now know is Comey's mentor, predecessor, dear friend, Robert Mueller.

Unless anyone be confused—and I have even heard our great Speaker of the House say: Yeah, well, you know, the fact is his credentials are impeccable. We trust him.

Well, anybody who looks into Mueller's situation deeply enough will not say that his credentials are impeccable. He served honorably, heroically in Vietnam, but as FBI Director, he set a policy in place that would run people out of the FBI that had years of service and experience as supervisors. One article pointed out, he had run off thousands and thousands of years of experience.

I would submit it is because his egotistical narcissism would not allow him to have anybody that knew more than he did so they could question or offer suggestions contrary to what Director Mueller wanted. That is why he cost the FBI millions of dollars. And because of his poor leadership, his purging of the FBI training materials so that all these new people, after he ran off the experienced people that knew what radical Islam was—they had been trained to recognize it—ran them off, had younger people in there who were not allowed to learn what radical Islam was, so when the Orlando shooter or Tsarnaev or any of these others that were on the radar were investigated by Mueller's trained FBI, they didn't know what they were looking for. Because of the poor training—it wasn't intentional by Mueller that they would end up costing people their lives, but that is what happened.

An article points out: "On May 7, 2014, the House of Representatives passed a resolution calling for a special

counsel to investigate the IRS targeting of conservatives for their political beliefs. Comey and Attorney General Eric Holder blocked the appointment. This despite the fact that the lead investigator they assigned to the case, Barbara Bosserman, was a max-out contributor to President Obama's reelection campaign.

"This is the type of unequal justice the Americans despise. No special counsel in the IRS targeting investigation. No special counsel for the Clinton email investigation. But if it's about protecting Comey's reputation and hurting President Trump, then of course there has to be a special counsel."

"Throughout 2015 and 2016 there were calls from Congress for a special counsel in the Clinton email scandal."

I mean, for heaven's sakes, when you have someone go out and destroy known evidence that has been subpoenaed with a hammer, now that is illegal obstruction of justice.

But, no, Comey didn't want that investigated. Oh, no, his dear friend Hillary Clinton, the dear couple that was so close to Loretta Lynch that she would order him to misrepresent what the FBI was doing, that she would get on a plane knowing he is the spouse of somebody they are supposed to be looking at prosecuting, that there is plenty of evidence to show she violated the law many times, criminal law many times, oh, no. But this Justice Department refused, even after it was revealed that Attorney General Loretta Lynch met privately with Bill Clinton less than a week before the FBI interviewed Hillary Clinton.

□ 1245

No special counsel was established, even allowed, or even recommended, even after some unusual Justice Department immunity deals, the deals the Justice Department made with Comey there as Director when he, apparently, was a big enough shot he could do his job and Loretta Lynch's; say, I'm not going to let anybody—what he said was no good prosecutor, in essence, would prosecute this case.

That was a lie, but he went before the public to say it to help his friends, the Clintons or, rather, better friends of Loretta Lynch and the President.

Boy, if President Trump had ever gotten the loyalty from James Comey that President Obama got, in numerous cases, undeservedly, people would be recognizing prior criminal activity for what it was and is.

Anyway, in one of the hearings, Mueller was asked about this incredible, horrendous activity of persecuting conservative organizations, refusing to allow them to form because they could go against President Obama in the next election. The Obama administration clearly used the IRS as one of its most effective campaign operative groups, and it worked. They were able, in 2012, to prevent conservative groups from forming and from coming after Presi-

dent Obama for problems he had created.

But with all the national furor over the IRS, Mr. Mueller was supposed to be so fair, so impartial. He is asked: Okay. Well, we're told we don't need a special counsel because you, the FBI, are all over this. You don't need any special prosecutor. You've got this under control. Who is the lead agent?

He couldn't answer the question.

He is asked: Okay. Well, how many agents have been assigned to the case?

Mueller could not answer that question.

He is asked: Have any victims been interviewed?

The answer again was: I don't know.

The reason was Mueller is not objective. He is not fair and balanced. He despises this President, like his and Comey's friends at *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, and elite circles. They have shown they are and have been disloyal to the President. They have been unjust to this President.

And Mueller, I mean, going back to when William Jefferson was being investigated, I haven't seen the articles in many years, but I do recall, because we were paying attention, when Mueller had a congressional office searched without having—there are many times Members of Congress have potentially probable cause they committed a crime, and the way it was always handled, for over 200 years, you go to the Speaker of the House, because things in a Member of Congress' office—like, at that time, nobody should have come into my office, even with a warrant from the FBI, and been able to get material that said what FBI agents were giving me information about the terrible administration in the FBI.

The only way we can have a balance of power and the only way we can have oversight is if the FBI has no right to come in and find out who the whistleblowers are, because they do come after them. We have seen that over and over.

But Mueller was out for blood. They get a search warrant. Forget 200 years of law. We are not going through the Speaker so they can preserve things that are privileged that the FBI shouldn't get. Always in the past—there have been many people prosecuted with things that came from their office, as I understood it.

I was in on one of the meetings between the Attorney General's lawyers, the House lawyers, and the FBI. They said: You know, many times we have given you—when you show us what it is, we make sure what is privileged stays privileged and give you the evidence that lets you prosecute.

But Mueller went straight there, as a smack at Congress: You better not have oversight of me, or I will come after you.

And when he was questioned about this issue that Congress was raising, his response was: Maybe it's time I appointed 400 agents to investigate Congress.

He was threatening Congress.

This is mean-spirited. This is an unfair, unjust man. And there is only one answer because he leaked out, "I am investigating the President for obstruction of justice." Now if the President fires him, oh, it will be another Saturday night massacre.

So the answer is that the President has all the authority to appoint special counsel. He has got to appoint somebody to investigate Mueller, his chummy buddy Comey, their chummy buddy Loretta Lynch, and the Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton couple so we can finally find out truth, honesty, and loyalty in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 23, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write to inform you that I hereby resign from the office of U.S. Representative, effective at 10:00 AM Eastern Time on June 30, 2017. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Utah as a Member of Congress. I thank you for your leadership as Speaker and look forward to working with you in my capacity as a private citizen to continue to find ways to improve our great Nation.

Sincerely,

JASON E. CHAFFETZ,
U.S. Representative,
Utah Third Congressional District.

MAY 18, 2017.

Hon. GARY R. HERBERT,
Governor, State of Utah,
Salt Lake City, UT.

DEAR GOVERNOR HERBERT: I write to inform you in advance of my intent to resign from the office of U.S. Representative at the close of business on June 30, 2017. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Utah as a Member of Congress. I look forward to working with you and others as a private citizen to continue to find ways to improve our remarkable State and Nation.

Sincerely,

JASON E CHAFFETZ,
U.S. Representative,
Utah Third Congressional District.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LAMALFA (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of attending a wedding.

Ms. GABBARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 26, 2017, at noon for morning-hour debate.

OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Member executed the oath for access to classified information:

Greg Gianforte

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1787. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting reports entitled "2017 Report to Congress on Sustainable Ranges", pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 113 note; Public Law 107-314, 366(a)(5); (116 Stat. 2522); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1788. A letter from the Chairman, Appraisal Subcommittee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the 2016 Annual Report of the Appraisal Subcommittee, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3332(a)(5); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1103 (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 1473(b)); (124 Stat. 2190); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1789. A letter from the Acting Comptroller of the Currency, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting an annual report to Congress containing a description of actions taken to carry out Sec. 308 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, as amended, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1463 note; Public Law 101-73, Sec. 308(c) (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 367(4)(B)); (124 Stat. 1556); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1790. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits received June 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1791. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to transnational criminal organizations that was declared in Executive Order 13581 of July 24, 2011, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1792. A letter from the Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting the 2016 Management Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines including financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)) (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1793. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Agency Response for the period of October 1, 2016, to March 31,

2017, in accordance with Sec. 5 of Public Law 94-452, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1794. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Annual Report to Congress on the Medicare and Medicaid Integrity Programs for FY 2015, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395ddd(i)(2); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, Sec. 1893 (as amended by Public Law 111-148, Sec. 6402(j)(1)(B)); (124 Stat. 762) and 42 U.S.C. 1396u-6(e)(5); Public Law 109-171, Sec. 6034(a)(2); (120 Stat. 76); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

1795. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the draft of proposed legislation titled the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018"; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Natural Resources, and Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2258. A bill to require that certain standards for commercial driver's licenses applicable to former members of the armed services or reserves also apply to current members of the armed services or reserves; with an amendment (Rept. 115-189). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2547. A bill to expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-190). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2548. A bill to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; with an amendment (Rept. 115-191, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1492. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to direct the Attorney General to register practitioners to transport controlled substances to States in which the practitioner is not registered under the Act for the purpose of administering the substances (under applicable State law) at locations other than principal places of business or professional practice (Rept. 115-192, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1492 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Natural Resources and Financial Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2548 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BERA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GALLEGU, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HECK, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SABLÁN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIREs, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of

Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. VELA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 12. A bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Science, Space, and Technology, Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 3031. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 3032. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KNIGHT (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 3033. A bill to secure the technological edge of the United States in civil and military aviation; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. KIND, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TURNER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. WALZ, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. BOST, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. CONAWAY):

H.R. 3034. A bill to posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Justin Smith Morrill, United States Senator of the State of Vermont, in recognition of his lasting contributions to higher education opportunity for all Americans; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TIBERI,

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 3035. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt private foundations from the tax on excess business holdings in the case of certain philanthropic enterprises which are independently supervised, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland (for himself, Mr. WALZ, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GALLEGU, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. ESTES of Kansas, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BACON, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 3036. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to modify the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) to include a specific block explicitly identified as the location in which a member of the Armed Forces may provide one or more email addresses by which the member may be contacted; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 3037. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the dollar limitation on employer-provided group term life insurance that can be excluded from the gross income of the employee; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 3038. A bill to provide employees with 2 hours of paid leave in order to vote in Federal elections; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 3039. A bill to designate certain Federal lands in the State of California as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate portions of the San Gabriel River and Little Rock Creek in that State as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HIMES, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 3040. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take certain actions related to pesticides that may affect pollinators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. ADERHOLT):

H.R. 3041. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to provide an exception for a de minimus amount of fish or wildlife included in interstate commercial shipments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 3042. A bill to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 3043. A bill to modernize hydropower policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. LANCE, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 3044. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand supplemental benefits to meet the needs of chronically ill Medicare Advantage enrollees under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MESSER:

H.R. 3045. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to extend the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POLIQUIN (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 3046. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude employer contributions to 529 plans from gross income and employment taxes and to allow a deduction for individual contributions to such plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 3047. A bill to correct the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units P21, P21P, P22 in Florida; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SWALWELL of California (for himself, Mr. KIND, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. BORDALLO, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. MENG, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida,

Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 3048. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction allowed for student loan interest; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 3049. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the windows in military family housing units to be equipped with fall prevention devices that protect against unintentional falls by young children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 3050. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide Federal financial assistance to States to implement, review, and revise State energy security plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 3051. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require contractors to provide certain annual disclosures during a period of loan repayment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. GOWDY):

H.R. 3052. A bill to establish the Higher Education Regulatory Reform Task Force, to expand the experimental sites initiative under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reduce college costs for students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. DeLAURO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H. Con. Res. 65. Concurrent resolution honoring David Américo Ortiz Arias, the three-time World Series Champion Major League Baseball player who played for the Minnesota Twins and the Boston Red Sox for a combined 20 seasons; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. NOLAN:

H. Res. 404. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need to create a small donor and public finance system for Congressional elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia:

H.R. 12.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 3031.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution (general welfare clause).

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 3032.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article 1.

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. KNIGHT:

H.R. 3033.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 3034.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. REICHERT:

H.R. 3035.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland:

H.R. 3036.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 3037.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, clause 1 enumerates that, "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises . . ." Further, Amendment XVI states that "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 3038.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution relating to the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States)

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 3039.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8 "The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States."

By Mr. CONYERS:

H.R. 3040.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 3041.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the enumerated powers

listed in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 3042.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 3043.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority in which this bill rests is the power of Congress to regulate Commerce as enumerated by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 as applied to waterways for the development of hydroelectric power and flood control.

By Mr. MEEHAN:

H.R. 3044.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to: Article I, Section 8, and Clause 1 and Article I, Section 8, and Clause 3

By Mr. MESSER:

H.R. 3045.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution;

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. POLIQUIN:

H.R. 3046.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 gives Congress the "Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises."

By Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 3047.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SWALWELL of California:

H.R. 3048.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 3049.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. UPTON:

H.R. 3050.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 3051.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 3052.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Con-

stitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. JONES, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MESSER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 24: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia.

H.R. 38: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 113: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 468: Mr. MACARTHUR.

H.R. 490: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. ROHRBACHER, and Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 502: Mr. COOPER and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 545: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.

H.R. 566: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 579: Mr. RUSH, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILMER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 607: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 631: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. WALKER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 754: Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BEYER, Ms. SPIER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 778: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 828: Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 860: Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 873: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. DESANTIS, and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 911: Mr. POLIS.

H.R. 959: Mr. RUSSELL.

H.R. 997: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 1044: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1045: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1057: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 1118: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1223: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1247: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. PAULSEN.

H.R. 1322: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 1368: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1406: Mr. DENHAM, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BACON, Mr. NUNES, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. FASO, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1421: Ms. NORTON and Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1444: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 1467: Mr. NOLAN and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1468: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1480: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 1515: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1552: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. BUCHSON.

H.R. 1563: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. FASO.

H.R. 1568: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 1661: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1697: Mr. CORREA and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 1698: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, and Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1699: Mr. RUSSELL.

H.R. 1776: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1779: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1810: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1811: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 1943: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 2043: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2059: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 2062: Mrs. COMSTOCK and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2193: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. HECK, Mr. REED, Mr. ROSS, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2230: Mr. ISSA, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2285: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 2295: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2327: Miss RICE of New York, Mr. ARRINGTON, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2383: Mr. WALZ, Mr. BOST, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. BLUM, and Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.

H.R. 2392: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 2401: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 2404: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 2418: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2431: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 2452: Mr. COHEN and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2550: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 2635: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2711: Mr. ESTES of Kansas.

H.R. 2712: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 2723: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 2746: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2756: Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

H.R. 2823: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 2825: Mr. PERRY, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. RATCLIFFE.

H.R. 2832: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 2862: Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 2879: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 2902: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 2909: Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALKER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 2915: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 2918: Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.R. 2921: Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 2924: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 2943: Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 2958: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2969: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2979: Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. TORRES, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. COOK, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. MCCARTHY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. LEE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BERA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2982: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2999: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3008: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 63: Mr. ENGEL.

H. Res. 30: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H. Res. 199: Mr. KNIGHT.

H. Res. 259: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H. Res. 267: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota.

H. Res. 274: Mr. NOLAN and Mr. TROTT.

H. Res. 279: Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. ROSKAM.

H. Res. 307: Mr. WALBERG.

H. Res. 317: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. WALZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. ROYCE of California.

H. Res. 342: Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H. Res. 395: Mr. KILDEE.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARCUS HOOK BOROUGH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of the founding of Marcus Hook Borough in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and to honor the contributions of generations of Marcus Hook residents to our nation's development and prosperity.

Marcus Hook was founded during the boom years of the late 1800's, and its growth has been inextricably linked with the importance of the Delaware River to the commerce of America's east coast. Its key location and access to modern infrastructure made Marcus Hook a natural location for refining and for more than 100 years the industry has been the economic bedrock of the community.

Just a few years ago, the refining industry and the family-sustaining jobs it supports were at risk. Within a few short months, the operators of the refineries along the Delaware River announced their impending closure. But Marcus Hook didn't give up. Thanks to its legacy of excellence, the skills of its workforce and the grit of its residents, the community came together. Today, the refining sector is being revitalized, and another generation of Marcus Hook families benefits from the jobs it supports.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Marcus Hook, its leaders and its residents for 125 years as a family-friendly, close-knit community and I thank the families of Marcus Hook for the honor of representing them in the House of Representatives.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF DEVON PFEIFER

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and public servant, Devon Joan Pfeifer of Weston, Connecticut, who we lost far too soon. A dedicated and loving mother, beloved community leader, and passionate activist, Devon lived her life devoted to helping the lives of others, fighting for equal rights for all, and championing opportunities for the poor and working class.

The daughter of a carpenter and labor leader, Devon embraced the struggle she found in the labor movement: fair pay and a helping hand for the least fortunate. She brought this spirit of compassion to many volunteer causes throughout Fairfield County, caring for those with disabilities and helping struggling schoolchildren learn to read. She cared deeply for

the people she helped, and encouraged everyone to do as much good as they can, for all they can, as long as they can.

A lifelong Democrat and progressive, Devon served terms as Chair of the Weston and Fairfield Democratic Town Committees and as a member of the Weston Board of Education. She worked tirelessly behind the scenes to elect Democrats to local, state and federal offices. Her work embodied the very best of local political organizing; people coming together to support a shared vision for a brighter future. She drew people in to the hard work of creating change with powerful words, an infectious laugh, and seemingly endless energy. She inspired many young people in Fairfield County to pursue public service, mentoring and grooming them into leaders, and I know that today she is proud of their progress and the great work that they do. She always served as our collective conscience, willing us to do more and to do better.

Her activism lives on through her children—Conor and Maeveleen—whom she loved so dearly and within whom she instilled a rebel attitude and fierce sense of civic duty. Devon always strove for equal rights for all people, and her love for her children made her even more dedicated to the fight to make a more equal world for them.

Fairfield County and the State of Connecticut have lost a titan. We owe a debt of gratitude to Devon and I know I, and many others, will continue to be inspired and guided by her. Her legacy is and will continue to be one of service, love, and dedication.

2017 VETERAN'S ASSOCIATE PROGRAM (VAP)

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the patriotic efforts of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch 2017 Veteran's Associate Program (VAP) and its Executive Sponsors Andrew Karp and Brian R. Carosielli, as well as William T. Golden, Co-Head of the NY Chapter of the Military Support and Assistance Group, for their steadfast and selfless commitment in helping members of the military transition into careers in the financial services industry.

Recognizing the unique experience and leadership of our servicemembers, Bank of America Merrill Lynch once again conducted a 10-week rotational program to provide on-the-job training and experience to assist veterans transitioning into the financial services industry. Ten veterans from the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines participated in this year's VAP program; all were subsequently offered full-time placement in either the Office of the Chief Financial Officer or the Global Banking and Markets division.

Efforts like the VAP at Bank of America Merrill Lynch distinguish the service of the

men and women in our military and make our country stronger.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STAN McETCHIN

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the storied life of one of my constituents, Stanley David McEtchin, better known as Stan.

Hailing from Vancouver, British Columbia, Stan passed away on June 9th after 92 years of enriching the lives of those around him. For the past few decades, the small town of Paradise, CA has known Stan as a pillar of the community whose sculpted metal artwork decorated shops and houses all across Butte County. But before his creative artwork made him a local celebrity, Stan served in an even higher calling, volunteering in his country's military in World War II.

In 1943, Stan volunteered for the First Special Service Force in the Canadian Army and served as an ammunition supplier and medic. His unit, known as the Devil's Brigade, was an elite American and Canadian commando unit that preceded modern special operations forces that we have today.

In 2014, Stan and the rest of the Devil's Brigade travelled to Washington, D.C., where they were awarded with the Congressional Gold Medal for their heroism during the Second World War—the highest civilian award in the United States.

What makes Stan special is that he is known for his Congressional Gold Medal and for his distinguished military service, but also for his creativity and his artwork that help unite his community. Most people in Paradise, California would surely tell you that his metal artwork adds a distinct personality to his small town. I consider myself fortunate to have known him—and our country fortunate to have gained such a good man from our northern Canadian neighbors. He will be greatly missed.

HONORING PAUL AND SHERY LOEWEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul and Shery Loewen, from Lakeport, California, upon their retirement from an exemplary career in the field of aviation.

Mr. Loewen was born in Amarillo, Texas, and moved to southern California with his family when he was five years old. He attended

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Glendale College where he earned his Airplane and Powerplant License, learned to fly and met Shery—whom he married in 1964. Mr. and Mrs. Loewen moved to our district in the early 1970s. In 1975, the Loewens established Lake Aero Styling and Repair, providing dozens of local men and women in our community with highly skilled jobs.

Mr. and Mrs. Loewen have sold Lake Aero Styling and Repair and are retiring after decades of developing and selling unique aircraft modifications. They are being honored by the Lake County Airmen's Association (LCAA) at Lampson Field this summer. Their products have a world-renowned reputation for quality and reliability. Thousands of Mooney Aircraft planes bear one or more of their modifications. These parts proved so successful that the manufacturer, Mooney International, later incorporated the modifications on its factory models. Additionally, Mooney Aircraft International awarded Mr. Loewen the Charles Taylor Award, which is an award given to senior mechanics who have led excellent careers.

Paul and Shery Loewen are also prominent members of our community. Mr. Loewen served as president of the Lake County Airmen's Association, and Mrs. Loewen held the role of secretary. While serving as president of the LCAA, Mr. Loewen organized and staged several successful Lampson Field Air Fairs. They have also produced several pilot-oriented travel videos entitled Flying the America's.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. and Mrs. Loewen have created their own business and have contributed to our Lakeport community as industry leaders, job creators and community volunteers. It is with great pride that I honor Paul and Shery Loewen today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOEL GODDARD FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER AND SERVICE WITH THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joel Goddard for his career with the United Auto Workers and Ford Motor Company. Mr. Goddard has been an effective advocate for working Americans and labor, and his work has resulted in significant gains for our nation's autoworkers.

Mr. Goddard began his career with Ford Motor Company in 1972, when he joined the company to work at one of the company's Ohio engine plants. He then moved to Rawsonville, Michigan, where he began as a diecast diemaker. Mr. Goddard earned his first position with the UAW as an Alternate Skilled Trades Committeeman in 1985. As a result of his knowledge of the auto industry and effective advocacy on behalf of his fellow workers, Mr. Goddard moved up in the UAW and served in a variety of high-ranking positions. He was Chairman of the Local 898 UAW branch at Rawsonville and was reelected nine straight times due to his strong leadership. Additionally, Mr. Goddard served as the UAW National Negotiating Committee's Chairman from 2002 through 2015, where he represented

autoworkers in multiple high-level negotiations and won them lasting improvements in pay and benefits.

Mr. Goddard has been an advocate and leader for the UAW throughout his career, and his deep knowledge of the automotive industry and tenacity have served the workers he represented well. As a result of Mr. Goddard's 25 years of work, the Rawsonville plant continues to provide good-paying jobs to Americans and produce high quality parts for Ford Motor Company. His commitment to a fair deal for UAW workers made him one of the longest serving Plant Chairmen in UAW history, and he continued to deliver wins for the workers he represented in negotiations. Mr. Goddard's leadership and expertise will be missed as he retires from his current position, and it is my hope that the Rawsonville plant and its workers continue to build on his legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Joel Goddard. His career with the UAW and Ford has helped preserve American jobs and protect our country's workers.

HONORING KAYLA PIPPINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Cadet Col. Kayla Pippins of Callaway High School who was named the 2017 Jackson Public Schools JROTC Cadet of the Year.

Kayla Pippins serves as the Battalion Commander for Callaway's 4th Battalion Charging Chargers. She holds a 3.25 GPA and has earned a score of 24 on the ACT. She is a model cadet, not only for her battalion but for every cadet in the JROTC program. She has consistently demonstrated profound leadership throughout her four years as a JROTC cadet, earning her schools' top Leadership Education and Training award for her grade level in her 9th and 11th grade years.

Kayla Pippins also serves as President of Callaway's Jobs for Mississippi Graduates program, and in 2015, she was selected to represent that program in Washington, D.C., at the Jobs for America's Graduates National Conference. She is very active in her community and has assisted in several community service activities such as the New Hope Baptist Church Community Health Fair, Cottage Grove Nursing Home visits, Trendsetter Mentor program for North Jackson Elementary School and Callaway's Veterans Day program. She also serves as Sunday School Secretary and an usher at her church, Hope Spring Missionary Baptist Church.

Cadet Pippins has attended Girls State at the University of Southern Mississippi and the Junior ROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

After high school, Cadet Pippins plans to attend Tougaloo College and major in social work and to attain a Doctorate degree.

Kayla Pippins is the youngest child of Faylena Pippins.

The 13th Annual JROTC Cadet of the Year Awards Ceremony was held after a rigorous competition that culminated in an oral presentation before a panel of distinguished judges. The Cadet of the Year was announced during

this formal banquet. The school-level Cadets of the Year were also honored along with the top performing Leadership Education and Training cadets for each grade level.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cadet Col. Kayla Pippins for her dedication to serving.

HONORING MR. JAY DAVID AGLI

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Jay Agli, who tragically passed away on June 13, 2017 at the age of 17. When his sister was in danger of drowning in the Connecticut River, Jay leapt to action to save her. Jay's example as a courageous and selfless brother is an inspiration to all of us.

Jay was a native of Meriden, Connecticut and an active young person in his community. He had just finished his junior year of high school at Orville H. Platt High, where he recently joined the wrestling team. He was also an enthusiastic volunteer with local groups, helping the Meriden Housing Authority Choice Neighborhood plan activities and joining the Meriden Youth Services teen group. Those close to Jay knew him for his kind and funny nature and his ability to make others laugh and feel welcome. He had a passion for cars and shared a love of art and drawing with his sister.

Mr. Speaker, Jay Agli was a bright young member of our community whom we lost too soon. His bravery and selflessness in acting to save his sister speak volumes about his character and willingness to help others. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his life and memory here today. I extend my deepest condolences to Jay's family, friends, and all those who loved him. His laughter and love will be missed, but not forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM HENRY "DOC" LONG

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of William Henry "Doc" Long, a veteran of World War II and liberator of France at Ancerville on November 13, 1944. William Long was a member of the "Greatest Generation" and a true patriot. Mr. Long graduated from Summerfield High School just eight months before the attack at Pearl Harbor. Throughout his life, Mr. Long was active in his community, church and the trucking industry. To honor his more than 70 years of service to the transportation industry, the American Truck Historical Society recognized Mr. Long with the Golden Achievement Award. He served diligently at his church, Summerfield Peace United Methodist, and on the Summerfield School Committee. He was a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner, a lifetime member of the American Legion and the former Vice President of the 315th Regiment of the 79th

Infantry Division Army Association. Mr. Long was inducted into the French Legion of Honor by a decree of former French President Sarkozy for his decisive role and personal contribution to the liberation of France during World War II. His name is on a monument in the village of Ancerville, along with other men who fought so bravely to restore freedom. Mr. Long's numerous achievements and service to his country will not be forgotten. I join with his family, friends, community and the entire Sixth District in remembrance of William Henry "Doc" Long, a true American hero.

HONORING ISHA WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Madison Shannon Palmer High School in Marks, Mississippi.

Isha Williams is the daughter of Jamesetta Strong. She is a senior at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. She participates in many activities such as basketball, volleyball, and cheerleading. In addition to her academic and athletic activities, she is a member of the Beta Club. She has received many awards for her outstanding academic performances such as an ACT Scholar (20 or above award for ACT), a Superintendent's List award, and an Outstanding Achievement award. Her goals and future plans consist of graduating from Basic Combat Training, AIT, and attending the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss University) to receive her master's degree.

Not only does she overachieve in school, but Isha also helps out in her community. She has tutored students in her Calculus class and other classmates as well. Isha has tutored elementary students after school on Mondays through Thursdays. She also has helped her friend train and exercise so that she can join the Air Force. She attended a workshop at Mississippi Valley State University, and she helped the instructor by reviewing math problems and explaining each of them to other students. Isha is an overachiever who has made a difference in helping others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Isha Williams as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

IN HONOR OF MR. BERTOLINI

HON. MIKE BISHOP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Phil Bertolini of Oakland County, Michigan, for his induction into the prestigious National Chief Information Officer Hall of Fame.

Recognized for his outstanding contributions to his field, Mr. Bertolini was selected as one of only nineteen inductees for the Class of 2017. This award is a testament to Mr. Bertolini's unparalleled ingenuity, his unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation,

and his dedication throughout twelve years of service to Oakland County.

Since becoming the head of Oakland County's IT department, Mr. Bertolini's application of new innovative technologies revolutionized the function of county government. Incorporating programs designed to increase government efficiency and communication, Mr. Bertolini and his team has received numerous honors and awards for their work. In 2012, he was recognized as a White House Champion of Change and has even had the opportunity to travel abroad as part of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Dedicated to the people of Oakland County, Mr. Bertolini has built his career on his devotion to serving others, and, understanding the responsibility and leadership required, he did not waiver in taking on this important Chief Information Officer role on behalf of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Bertolini's induction into the Chief Information Officer Hall of Fame is a great honor for not only him, but Oakland County and the great State of Michigan. He should be seen as an example of an ideal public servant, one who puts the needs of his community before his own.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude and congratulations to Mr. Bertolini as his hard work, service, and outstanding performance receives the nationwide recognition that it deserves.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TRENTON TRIB FOR ITS SUCCESS ON THE DATE OF ITS NEW OFFICE OPENING

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the writers and staff at the Trenton Trib for their work providing state and local news to the Downriver community. The newspaper provides important coverage of events and editorial perspectives to Trenton and residents in nearby areas.

Founded in 2010, the Trenton Trib is a monthly newspaper that covers current events and distributes information about the City of Trenton and the surrounding areas. The newspaper has grown and developed a loyal following since its establishment, and today boasts a monthly circulation of approximately 10,000 to residents and businesses throughout Trenton. The Trib covers local issues, including achievements by residents and events like the annual Trenton Summer Festival. The paper's columnists, Kathy Kane and Joe Hoshaw, also contribute original content and perspectives to provide context to issues facing the city. Additionally, the Trib issues an annual "Goodfellows" newspaper whose proceeds provide gifts and food to those in need during the holidays. Collectively, these efforts have helped inform the public while serving the community at large.

The Trenton Trib has filled a crucial need in Downriver by providing regular community-oriented news to area residents and businesses. The monthly publication both informs residents by providing unique local coverage and per-

spectives from Trenton residents and helps address issues in the community through its philanthropic initiatives. The growth and development of the Trenton Trib has enabled it to provide better coverage of area events while increasing circulation to better serve the city. The success of the publication is a credit to the hard work of the Trib's staff and underscores the continuing demand for high-quality local news, and it is my hope that the newspaper continues to effectively serve the area's residents in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Trenton Trib. The Trib's staff have served the community well through their coverage of local news and events.

STRENGTHENING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concerns with H.R. 2353, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for 21st Century Act, also referred to as the CTE Reauthorization Act. This bill reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins Act) to help more Americans enter the workforce with the skills necessary to compete for and succeed in high-skilled, in-demand careers. The bill also makes several other changes and funding modifications to the current program.

Louisiana highly values vocational and technical education and includes these skills in all public schools. These contributions are vital to Louisiana's Fourth Congressional District. With more than 25 schools in our district focused on careers in technical education, I am proud to represent many hardworking Louisianians who are skilled in hands-on labor. For these reasons, I cannot in good conscience support this bill knowing it could result in Louisiana losing critical funding over the next several years.

As well-intended as this legislation may be, it will not benefit all states equally. A study conducted by the Congressional Research Service examined the bill's modified formula for allocating grants under the Perkins Basic State Grants Program, and found that Louisiana will lose money in nearly every scenario it calculated. In fact, according to this analysis, Louisiana would face some of the most significant decreases among all states in each scenario examined. Decreasing our state's funding level for technical career education would be a great detriment to our efforts and exactly the opposite of what H.R. 2353 is intended to do.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great concern that I oppose the current CTE Reauthorization Act. I believe we can do better by the constituents in Louisiana's highly-skilled workforce. Moving forward, I will do everything in my power to work for our students and teachers of the technical education field to ensure they are not left behind and are provided the resources they need to keep our communities strong and our economy growing.

HONORING THE LATE MR. L.
PIERCE CARSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late L. Pierce Carson. He passed away on May 20, 2017 at the age of 76. He was an impressive journalist who had a remarkable career at the Napa Valley Register. He possessed a cheerful and energetic personality in the Napa community and was a champion for local food, wine and art.

Pierce was born in Trenton, New Jersey in 1940 and attended Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania before serving our country in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966. After returning home, he began his career with the Napa Valley Register, a position he held for nearly fifty years before his passing last month. He will be remembered as a mentor of young journalists and for his sponsorship of the Tri-High Gazette, a student run section of the Register. Mr. Carson wrote about and loved Napa. In recent years, he found a second home in Prague where he enjoyed living part of each year.

In his nearly fifty years of work as a journalist, Mr. Carson showed himself to be a friend and champion of Napa Valley food, wine and art. For many years, he served on the board of the Napa Valley Symphony and made it his priority to review their performances. Pierce could always be counted on to lend his writing talents to good causes. Over a twenty-five year period he volunteered for the Napa Valley Academy Awards party to raise funds and awareness for AIDS and HIV prevention and treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Pierce Carson was generous, kind and an excellent writer. He brought our Napa Valley community together. His newspaper stories taught us the value of friendship, culture, generosity and good wine. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his life and legacy here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF ERNIE ANASTOS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a widely respected public servant who is set to retire on June 30th. Through his inspirational leadership he has touched the lives of thousands of students in San Diego County.

It is fitting that at this time, as we celebrate the graduation of thousands of students across the nation, that I should rise to speak of Superintendent Ernest (Ernie) Anastos.

Ernie is a graduate of Brandeis University, and holds a master's degree in Special Education from Bridgewater State College. He has been a dedicated educator for over 45 years.

Ernie's life of public service began in 1972, as an elementary school teacher. His years of experience lent to a successful transition into school administration.

He served Sweetwater Union High School District for 20 years, working at Chula Vista High School, Hill Top High School, and Mar Vista High School. Ernie was named principal to National City Middle School in 1992, and to Rancho del Rey Middle School in 1997. Under his direction, both schools achieved the title of California Distinguished Schools.

His time at Sweetwater Union High School District also included a term as the Area Superintendent in charge of Instructional Support Services and Student Support Services from 2002 to 2005.

Ernie was named the Superintendent of Lemon Grove School District in 2005. On April 28th, 2017, the Association of California School Administrators named Ernie as Superintendent of the Year in the San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Under his leadership, Lemon Grove School District has created a number of highly successful, specialized schools including the Dual Immersion Academy at Mount Vernon Elementary, the San Miguel Arts Academy, and the Lemon Grove Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Ernie has been a stalwart in the push for quality public education.

The Lemon Grove Academy campus is an example of the success that arose as a result of Ernie's inventiveness. Ernie sought to create schools that could serve as community centers. Through a partnership with UC San Diego, and the Lemon Grove Library, a joint-use facility was created which featured medical and dental clinics to serve students and their families.

As I reflect on Ernie's career, I am inspired by his dedication to promoting student achievement. I am truly encouraged by his commitment to bettering the lives of those around him.

Ernie's dedication to students, commitment to excellence, and ingenuity truly made him a remarkable leader. Under his guidance, Lemon Grove School District has emerged as a mecca for innovative education. I wish him congratulations on his upcoming retirement.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST
HOWARD HERMAN HARGROVE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable person, U.S. Army Specialist 7 Retired Howard Herman Hargrove.

A native of Manson County, North Carolina, Spec 7 Hargrove moved to Mississippi in December 2005 to be near his only daughter, Gail Hargrove Marshall Brown. The late Spec 7 Retired Hargrove was a dedicated resident of the Second Congressional District in Clinton, Mississippi for five years.

Spec 7 Hargrove took great pride in exercising his right to vote and in serving his country. He served in the United States Army from January 14, 1948 to March 31, 1972 on several tours of duty. His military service included the Korean Conflict, from 1950 to 1951 with the 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Field Artillery Battalion and the Vietnam War where he served two tours in Vietnam and was proud to be honorably discharged without "a scratch or a wound".

Spec 7 Hargrove was among the thousands of Korean War Veterans who gathered in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon on June 30, 2000. The ceremony was held at the Korean War Memorial on the National Mall to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of that war. The veterans were honored by President Bill Clinton who told them that this nation will never forget their bravery, service and sacrifice.

During his time as a Clinton, Mississippi resident, Spec 7 Hargrove actively attended Holy Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, pastored by the first female pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, Rev. Dr. Audrey Lynne Hall, who affectionately referred to him as "Papa Hargrove." During one of the church's Men's Day programs on Father's Day, Hargrove was recognized by the Pastor and the Church as its "Oldest Father".

As a member of Holy Temple, he contributed generously to the church financially. During a time when the small, but growing church's Kitchen Ministry was in need of a new stove, Spec 7 Hargrove found it in his heart to purchase a commercial stove for the church which is still being used by the Kitchen Ministry today. He also contributed financially to a Metro-Jackson Karate program at one of the local YMCA.

A quiet, friendly man, who believed heavily in the love and unity of family, Spec 7 Hargrove succumbed to complications due to Alzheimer's on June 27, 2010 at 2:30 a.m. in the VA Medical Center (Hospice Unit) in Jackson, MS. He had battled the horrific Alzheimer's disease for nearly half a decade.

His daughter, Gail, salutes his memory and legacy by being a strong advocate in the fight against Alzheimer's. She said, although he had forgotten who she was before he deceased, he never forgot the fact that he had proudly served his country in the military.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Specialist 7 Howard Herman Hargrove as a remarkable person who made a difference in his community and our country.

IN MEMORY OF HORACE SELLERS
MERRILL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the life of Mr. Horace Sellers Merrill of Heflin, Alabama. Mr. Merrill passed away on February 17, 2017 at the age of 80.

Horace was born on October 15, 1936 in Micaville to Emory Joseph and Grace Allen Merrill. He graduated from Cleburne County High School in 1954 lettering in baseball and football. He attended Southern Union Junior College in Wadley, Alabama on an athletic scholarship until an automobile accident ended his athletic career in 1957.

Horace started work at Dixie Mines Mica Mining Company and married Mary Inez Thompson of Anniston, Alabama on June 1, 1963.

Mr. Merrill always held a strong interest in politics. In 1964, he was elected Circuit Clerk

of Cleburne County and served for 12 years. During this time, he participated in the Lions Club, Jaycees and Athletic Boosters Club and was president of each. He also assisted in the organization of the first youth baseball program in Heflin, where he officiated and coached in the 1960s and 1970s and was the public address announcer for Little League Football and junior high football games.

After completing two terms as Circuit Clerk, he was elected Probate Judge and Chairman of the Cleburne County Commission in 1976, a position he held for one six-year term. While serving as Probate Judge, he led the effort to purchase land and develop plans for the construction of the State of Alabama Welcome Center and Rest Area on I-20. He had a vision for a county-wide water system to service all citizens of Cleburne County through the Dyne Creek Watershed project that was supported by Congressman Bill Nichols and Senator Howell Heflin that he was not able to complete before the end of this term.

Mr. Merrill was an active participant in the Cleburne Baptist Association, and served as an officer and pastor of several churches. His pastorates included Happy Hill, Cedar Creek, Pinetucky (Interim), Chulafinnee and Edwardsville Baptist Churches. As a member of Heflin Baptist for over 50 years, Mr. Merrill served as a Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, Church Training Director and Sanctuary Choir member.

Horace and Mary enjoyed 53 years of marriage and were blessed with two children and four grandchildren: Alabama Secretary of State John Harold Merrill (Cindy) and Audrey Merrill Gillis (Stephen), Pelham Brooks Merrill, Alexandra Grace Merrill, Mary Kathryn Gillis and Sarah Sellers Gillis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the life of Horace Merrill. He will be greatly missed.

MODIFICATIONS OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION FROM ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1551, which improves the Section 45(J) nuclear production tax credit (NPTC), as authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation and thank Congressman RICE of South Carolina and Congressman BLUMENAUER of Oregon for their leadership on this issue.

The NPTC encourages the development of advanced nuclear power plants that make strides in safety and reliability but is limited to the first 6,000 megawatts of new generating capacity constructed by 2020. Since passage of the Act, more advanced reactors, including small modular reactors (SMRs), have moved steadily through the research and development stage and could be ready for commercial deployment by the middle of the next decade.

Once approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), these technologies will provide reliable, carbon-free baseload elec-

tricity with safety features that nearly eliminate the possibility of a radiological release. The first SMRs in the United States will most likely be in the West. Arizona energy providers like the Salt River Project and Arizona Public Service are both evaluating the potential use of small modular reactors as they replace aging generation capacity.

When the NPTC expires in 2020, it will likely do so without reaching the megawatt cap. H.R. 1551 makes the remaining credit available beyond 2020, providing a powerful incentive for the next generation of advanced nuclear and SMR projects. I strongly support these efforts and encourage you to consider the positive impact these changes would have on incentivizing a new generation of safe, reliable, and carbon-free advanced nuclear power.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation and to move America toward energy independence.

HONORING L. J. "JAY"
TEMPLETON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. L. J. "Jay" Templeton upon the occasion of his retirement as the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena and Calistoga. Mr. Templeton has dedicated his career to serving young people, and has had a tremendous impact on our community.

A native of Washington State, Mr. Templeton graduated from Glacier High School and received his Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Washington in 1973. Mr. Templeton began working for the Boys and Girls Clubs in 1969. He has held nearly every position in the organization, from a rank-and-file program assistant to the highest leadership roles. He became Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs in 2012.

Mr. Templeton received the Masters and Mentors Award in 2013 based on his contribution to the Boys and Girls Clubs movement over a sustained period, successful mentoring of Academy members, and demonstrated excellence in the Boys & Girls Clubs profession.

Mr. Templeton is retiring not only as the Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs, but from a 47-year career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. He is a model professional and executive—always keeping his focus on planning, development, leadership, and programming. He has received numerous awards and accolades over the course of his career. He has influenced the lives of thousands of children who have grown to become productive members of their own communities.

Mr. Speaker, Jay Templeton has led a dedicated and distinguished career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. I am proud to have such a man working and living in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
DAVID E. WILMOT

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Major General David E. Wilmot of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. General Wilmot distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service from October 24th, 1985 to July 30th, 2017, while serving as an Assistant Surgeon General and National Guard Bureau Surgeon, Headquarters Department of the Army.

His lasting contributions include an exemplary career as a family practice physician, flight surgeon, commander, and deputy headquarters surgeon, in numerous assignments across the Active and National Guard components of the U.S. Army. He quickly established himself as a unique combination of Soldier, leader, clinician, and key strategic thinker, culminating in service as the Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff, Quality and Safety for U.S. Army Medical Command/Office of the Surgeon General, a position he was hand selected for.

His singular Warrior centered focus on reducing harm and enhancing the quality care through compassion, excellence, transparency and accountability resulted in better and safer care for Military Health System beneficiaries across the globe. He performed with consummate distinction in all of his assignments, the impact of which stems from his capacity as a proven senior healthcare executive, and dogged champion for quality care and patient safety. The distinguished accomplishments of General Wilmot culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of his country and reflect great credit upon him, the Army Medical Department, the United States Army and the Department of Defense.

General Wilmot is a native of Brownsburg, Indiana and married to Mrs. Lori Wilmot.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major General David E. Wilmot as he and his family proceed to the next chapter in his remarkable career and continue to serve our great Nation.

HONORING MR. DAMIEN GREEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable young man, Mr. Damien Green of Clinton, Mississippi.

Damien Green was born on October 15, 1999 to Ms. Jessica Green. He's currently a member of Jackson Revival Center Church, where he serves on the Media Team. He is a part-time employee at Metro 24 Bowling Center and MS Braves. During his spare time, Damien enjoys bowling and traveling.

Damien, a 2017 graduate of Clinton High School, was the Captain of the Bowling Team (Clinton Kingpins) and the Director of Football Operations of Clinton High School's 2016 to 2017 6A-State Championship.

With such honor, Damien has signed the first Bowling Scholarship ever given at Clinton High School (Clinton, MS). He will attend Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, MS, where he will major in Mathematics.

Damien learned the sport from his grandfather, Gregory Green. Greg, an accomplished bowler in his own right, is the Owner of Metro 24 Bowling Center (formerly the Cotton Bowl Lanes) on Lynch Street. Damien has been bowling seriously since he was 10 years old and has been on the Clinton Bowling Team since the 7th grade. Damien's bowling average is in the low 200, personal best is 277 and a perfect score is 300. Damien is ranked the No. 2 bowler in the district and the No. 6 bowler in the State of MS. With so many accomplishments over his years, he was awarded the Highest Average and Team Leader of Clinton High School's Bowling Team.

Damien's bowling Coach, Charlie Melton said, "Damien has been making a name for himself for the past couple of years". Coach Melton went on to say that the scholarship is a "huge incentive" for other members of the bowling team as it will make them work harder to achieve the same accomplishment. Of the scholarship, Damien said "It gives me an opportunity to do something that I love, and I am going to take advantage of that opportunity. It shows that my hard work did not go to waste."

With a cheering and supportive family, school district and church family, Damien is excited about doing his best. He tells his mom constantly that "The best is yet to come," and she is definitely his number one fan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Damien Green for all of his hard work, leadership, accomplishments and becoming a part of history, here in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF MR. JEFFERY M. SANDERS, A RESIDENT AND FIREFIGHTER IN MAYVIEW, MO

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true and selfless public servant whose life was tragically taken before his time. Mr. Jeffery Sanders, a lifelong Mayview, Missouri resident and Mayview firefighter was killed in the line of duty on Monday, June 19, 2017, following an on scene accident while wrapping up another call alongside a state highway. I will be praying throughout the coming days for his family, friends, and our community during this difficult time, as well as for Mr. Jacob Hayward, a fellow Mayview firefighter seriously injured in the same heartbreaking accident.

Jeff was well known in the close-knit community of two hundred residents, having been a farmer in Mayview all of his life. He and his wife, Connie, raised two wonderful children who continue to live in Lafayette County in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. Although he was most proud of being a good husband, father, and grandfather, for more than thirty years, Mr. Sanders dedicated much of his time to the Mayview Fire Protection District. He could always be counted on to make a fire call and help someone in need.

In all of his activities, Mr. Sanders demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He was actively involved with the Mayview Lions Club, the Mayview area 4H, the Antique Tractor Club, and the Odessa FFA Advisory Board. Along with his work as a volunteer firefighter with the Mayview Fire Protection District, he also spent time serving on the Mayview Special Road District.

While it is impossible for mere words to capture the essence of a person's life, for these reasons and many more, it is my privilege to honor and celebrate the life of Mr. Jeffery Sanders. Mr. Speaker, please join me and our colleagues in expressing our deepest and heartfelt sympathies to Connie, all of the Sanders family, the members of the Mayview Fire Protection District, and the community of Mayview for their loss. We join together to honor his professionalism and sacrifice and express our appreciation for his endless commitment to serving the residents of Mayview and the State of Missouri. He was an unparalleled role model to his family, peers and the entire Lafayette County community and we are better because of his life with us.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT SCOTT FORBES

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Sergeant Scott Forbes from Melrose, Massachusetts. On June 27, 2017, Master Sergeant Forbes will retire from the Air Force Reserve after 22 years of service to his country and his community.

During his service, Scott was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. He most recently served with the 58th Aerial Port Squadron at Westover Air Base as an air transportation craftsman.

Scott, his wife Susan, and their children Abygal and Jackson are valued members of our Melrose community. Scott and Susan grew up in Melrose, where they both attended high school. As a young man, Scott decided he would continue the tradition of service passed on by his late father Bill Forbes, who fought for the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. The Forbes family tradition of service extends beyond their military contributions. Today, just as his father before him, Scott continues to serve families in our community as an alderman in Melrose.

Scott, Susan, and the entire Forbes family exemplify the contributions of generations of service members and military families who have protected our country and continue to make our communities great places to live, work and raise a family.

HONORING GREATER FAIRVIEW MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the congregation of

the Fairview M.B. Church which was organized in 1918, under the leadership of the late Rev. Mark Burns; in an old store-front building on the corner of Amite and Jefferson Streets.

Following the lead of the Holy Spirit and with bare necessities such as wooden apple boxes and planks for seating, Rev. Burns moved forward with (2) deacons, Bro. Jeff Mason and Bro. John Camel; a church clerk, Sis. Ella Patton, and following her death Sis. Olive Patton. After 6 years of hard work and self-sacrifice by the faithful few, enough monies were raised to purchase a lot on Mississippi Street from M.A. Lewis. By 1924, the membership had grown to about 25 members and the church was officially built.

Rev. Burns was called to another assignment, and the late Rev. Willie Pickens, was called to carry on many unfinished task. He was a very good orator and the church grew mightily under his leadership. Following Rev. Pickens, the late Rev. N. Trouvillion, was called to service for a short time, and then came a Rev. Jackson. In 1930, the Rev. F. W. Coleman was called as pastor. He was a young dynamic man just beginning in the ministry. During his 14 years of service, much was accomplished; different auxiliaries were organized, and many more souls were added to the church. Directly following Rev. Coleman, the Rev. R. L. Varnado former pastor of Ridley Hill Baptist Church of Madison County was elected and served 8 years of which the church continued to grow in souls and finances.

In 1953, the Rev. R. H. Walls, former pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church of Madison, succeeded Rev. Varnado. During his tenure, the church roofing was updated, the siding painted, a walk-way was installed, and an organ and piano were purchased. The Deacons Ministry grew under the beginning administration as followed: Brothers Jess Moss, John Camel, Sam Patton, Hemphill, Alforna Lewis, Charlie Spencer, Harvey Miles, Buster Jones, Joseph Walker, Vertis Kersh, Cleveland Jorner, and Albert Smith.

On April 27, 1962 by the Spirit of God leading, the Fairview church called Rev. S.L. Spann, Sr. as pastor. Through the mighty hand of God he led the church from the building on Mississippi Street to 2545 Newport Street. Just a little over a year later that building was upgraded and the original 65 members that came from Mississippi Street were now 300 strong.

After settlement on Newport Street, Fairview Church began to really grow and the name was changed to Greater Fairview Missionary Baptist Church. Through the leadership and teachings of Pastor Spann, the Word of God was being planted deeply in the hearts of men and they were being urged not to just congregate but to participate; to use the talents God had bestowed upon them in love and with purpose. Many new ministries were established to accommodate and involve everyone in this newly growing fellowship. The needs were met through the establishment of Matron's and Junior Matron's League, Juniors Usher Board, Laymen's and Jr. Laymen's Association, Missionary Society and the YWA Association, all training tools for the young people. The Sunday school grew to 10 individual teaching classrooms. Rev. Spann understood the importance of proper training and in order to reap a productive harvest someone had to plant the "Right(eous) Seeds".

To aid in priming the soil for planting of the Word, soul stirring music was needed, so several choirs were established: The Senior Choir, under the direction of the late Sis. Rebecca Jordan; the Youth and Junior Choirs were led by Sis. Lannie Spann; and Sis. Mary Davis was pianist for the Male Chorus and Chancel Choir, which later became the Inspirational Choir. The church also in-acted an After-School Tutorial Program, led by the late Bro. George Coleman, then by Sis. Velma Spann, and finally by Deacon Charles Smith. The students were not only taught the 3R's but also offered a holistic approach to their student studies.

Greater Fairview became a true source of spiritual revitalization for the Shady Oaks community and the people that were being drawn through her doors by the pure God-given preaching of Pastor Spann, and the strong spiritual messages through songs sung by the choirs, and all the teachings through love were aids in growing this congregation. The Young Adult Choir was a great draw to the community and church alike; recording its' first album in 1973 and touring the country representing Christ and the church respectively.

Greater Fairview continued to grow in leaps and bounds and the unadulterated word of God continued to come forth encouraging, admonishing, and changing the lives of many. Under Spann's leadership many Sons were called, nurtured, and equipped for service using Godly precepts, fatherly teachings. and examples, they are as follows: the late Rev. Annia Collier, the late Rev. John Hunter, Rev. S.L. Jamison, Rev. Timothy Taylor, the late Rev. Ray Bowman, Rev. H. L. Sylvester, Rev. Robert Clark, Rev. Lonnie Wesley, the late Rev. Keith Brooks, Rev. Christopher Golden, Rev. Kenneth Whitten, Rev. Charlie Jackson, Rev. Johnny Smith, Rev. Bobby Burks, Rev. Willie McDowell, Rev. Dr. John McCarty, Rev. Larry Davidson, Rev. Matthew R. Spann, Rev. Charles Bell, Rev. Charles H. Spann, Rev. Fredrick Green, and Rev. Frederick Hanskins.

In 1992, Dr. Spann was led by the Holy Ghost to build a new sanctuary, and the project began with total support from the church and its leaders. The building was dedicated the 3rd Sunday in October 1995. Many said that Dr. Spann was too old for such a great undertaking, and that he probably wouldn't see it come to fruition. But, to the dismay of many he did see it and led the congregation into the new church on that rainy October day in 1995, and brought many stirring messages for another 4 years, until retirement in 1999.

During the period of Dr. Spann's; honorable position as Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Charles H. Spann served as Interim pastor of the church for approximately fifteen (15) months. Following the formation of a Search Committee by the church; who was charged with the responsibility of selecting a new pastor. Rev. Charles Bell and Rev. Bobby Burks served together as Pulpit Facilitators. Amazingly, these temporal positions for these three (3) Sons of the House provided them with leadership experience and ultimately prepared them; for they were soon called to serve at churches of their own. The words, "A Church Where Love Prevails over Hate." became more prevalent in the process to find a new leader.

As in life when assignments are complete they must all move on, and Pastor Spann's assignments were completed on November 9,

2001 after 38 years of service to Greater Fairview Church, the Shady Oaks Community, and the State of Mississippi. He was called home to a just reward, leaving the church sad- den yet rejoicing in the fact that they had been taught how to love each other to an un-meas- urable magnitude, and in the midst of sorrow his teachings could be accessed to help them through the dark hour. But feeling the dis- connect, just 9 months later in August 2002, God called Mother Spann home too, leaving the church with a legacy of memories of a hallmark of quiet, gracious, and humble char- acters in the midst of servitude.

After an arduous process of fasting, praying, and listening to several candidates for pastor, it was decided by a vote that Rev. Danny R. Hollins, a native of Pochahontas, MS and the tenured pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist Church, become the next leader, the majority con- ceded and he was elected.

Rev. Danny R. Hollins preached his first sermon on the 5th Sunday of July 2001 and was installed as pastor on the third Sunday in October of that same year. Greater Fairview grew over the next few years as the word con- tinued to go forth. They never lost our vision and zeal for ministry and many other min- istries were added.

In 2004 the church purchased 34 acres of land on Boling Street for future development. During the 2005 Hurricane Katrina aftermath, the church became a refuge center, and pro- vided shelter for 60 members of one family from Slidell, La. and later to a Hispanic family, from Houston, Texas, when Hurricane Rita hit in September of that same year. The creed of "Meeting people where they are." was truly tested and taken to the limits while helping neighbors.

The Church adopted in 2006 Johnson Ele- mentary School, Morrison Academic Advance- ment Center in 2007, Dawson Elementary and Northwest Middle Schools in 2010, and also became a satellite program with the Con- tinuing Adult Education Program, of Jackson State University, where many of the members obtained a college degree. Finally, in October of 2010, ground was broken for the long an- ticipated development. The Fairview Learning Academy, along with the Recreational Out- reach Center, was built.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greater Fairview Missionary Baptist Church.

CONGRATULATING QUALITY OF LIFE HEALTH SERVICES, INC. ON ITS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Quality of Life Health Services (QOLHS) on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. This Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), was founded by Dr. Roberta O. Watts to provide health care to the most vul- nerable populations.

QOLHS, based in Gadsden, Alabama, is the state's largest community health program. The organization's network extends from the north- ern area of Alabama in Geraldine to Phenix City in the southeastern corner of Alabama.

QOLHS's network consists of 24 health cen- ters. Fifteen of those locations are in Ala- bama's Fourth Congressional District—which I am honored to represent.

I am proud to be a long-time supporter of QOLHS, helping to support numerous federal grants, attending the groundbreaking and grand opening of a school-based program in Gadsden, and joining in other events over the years.

Quality of Life serves over 55,000 patients each year and shows a profound commitment to the communities it serves. Let me end by congratulating Dr. Watts for her years of dedi- cation, and a very special congratulations to Wayne Rowe—who has served as CEO for the past 35 years. I look forward to continuing to work with QOLHS in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL CONGRES- SIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Justin Smith Morrill Con- gressional Gold Medal Act of 2016. This legislation would honor a true American hero by post- humously awarding the Honorable Justin Smith Morrill with the Congressional Gold Medal. Mr. Morrill was elected to six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and six terms in the United States Senate, making him the longest serving Member of Congress in the 19th Century. During his tenure, he chaired the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Buildings and Grounds, he served as the principle advocate for financing and constructing the Thomas Jefferson Build- ing of the Library of Congress and planned the location of the U.S. Supreme Court Building. He also raised funds to complete the then-un- finished Washington Monument and advo- cated for the Smithsonian Institution through- out his service in Congress.

His greatest achievement was authoring the Morrill Act of 1862, which created the land- grant university system. Today, land-grant col- leges and universities award nearly 1 million degrees annually and perform more than \$37 billion in research. Additionally, almost 30 years later, Senator Morrill authored the Morrill Act of 1890, which created the flourishing sys- tem of historically Black land-grant colleges and universities. I am proud to be a graduate of Washington State University, in my humble opinion, the premier land-grant university in Senator Morrill's system. I have seen first- hand how the system of colleges and univer- sities created by Senator Morrill has changed countless lives and shaped communities across the nation.

Justin Smith Morrill is a man who has pro- vided generations and millions of Americans— particularly those from working class families and rural communities—with access to higher education throughout the nation. His achieve- ments have inspired American history, values, and culture, and will be recognized and hon- ored by generations to come. For these rea- sons, and many others, I urge all members to

join me in supporting this legislation to bestow Senator Justin Smith Morrill with a Congressional Gold Medal, a fitting honor for a great American hero.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAYMOND
V. WALENDZAK

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Raymond V. Walendzak, who served for over 20 years as the Chief of the Oregon Fire Department. Ray passed away in his Oregon home surrounded by his family on June 7, 2017.

Ray was born in Toledo, Ohio on September 27, 1941 to Joan and Stanley Walendzak. He played football and wrestled for Clay High School, from which he graduated in 1959. Ray continued his education at Findlay College, and then joined the United States Air Force and served in West Germany.

In 1968, Ray became an Oregon firefighter, where he began his service in the department's maintenance division, became a fire prevention officer, a district chief, and the assistant chief. Ray's father also served as a firefighter, which helped Ray bridge the differences between the different generations who were serving as firefighters. He appreciated the traditions of fire service, and also the need to modernize fire service with technology.

Ray became Fire Chief in 1986 and retired in 2007 for a total of 39 years of fire service. While Fire Chief, Ray made sure his department was current in training and technology, and made sure that the department had the right equipment. Ray has said that his biggest achievement was getting a fire training facility built in Oregon.

His passion about the fire-fighting community led him to serve its various organizations which include serving as the past president of the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association, Lucas County Fire Chiefs Association, Oregon Fire Fighters Association, Ottawa County Fireman's Association, and, for over 26 years, as past president and secretary of the Northwest Ohio Volunteer Fire Association.

He had received the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association's Distinguished Service Award, and was inducted into the Ohio Fire Service Hall of Fame. Ray served as a Governor appointee to the State of the Ohio Board of Emergency Medical Services for 12 years. He was inducted into the Clay High School Hall of Fame in 2014.

Ray's commitment to his community did not just stop with the fire department—it extended through his service to his church, St. Ignatius, and through many of the civic organizations he was a member of: the American Legion Christ Dunberger Post No. 537, Knights of Columbus, Swiss Club at the GAF, and the Clay Boosters.

Ray dedicated an enormous amount of time to the youth of his community, where he was a longtime coach of youth baseball through the Oregon Recreation Department. Ray also served as a football coach at Oregon Clay High School. His dedication to the young

members of his community led him to run for four terms on the Oregon Board of Education where he also served as Board President.

Ray will be remembered for his dedication to his chosen profession of Fire Fighting and for his dedication to the Oregon community at large.

We offer Ray's children, Dean, Donald and Dennis, his six grandchildren, his family and friends, our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of what Ray had meant to each of the institutions that he served.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE MT.
MORIAH BAPTIST UNION ASSO-
CIATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable historical Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association.

The Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association was organized in 1908, by Dr. C.P. Bohannon and he served as the first moderator for the Mt. Moriah MB Union Association for twenty-three years. Thirty congregations united themselves together in an effort to keep alive the hope of a people for the work of service to our Lord has been the strength of this body. Together, we can accomplish what one congregation may not achieve alone. Therefore, strength is generated through unity.

The association represented in the National Baptist Convention, USA, INC., the General Baptist State Convention and Moderator Bohannon Challenged the local churches of Mt. Moriah by say "our missionary activities in foreign land carried on." Moderator Bohannon passed in 1939 and vice moderator A.M. Robert completed his term. Other moderators followed; Rev. William H. Turner (upon his death, Rev. B.J. Edwards, as Vice-Moderator, carried out his term); Rev. J.C. Batteast, Rev. J.C. Hentz, Rev. Amos Sims and the newly elect, Rev. Larry Hervey. In May 1972, Sarah Kimble donated land to the Mt. Moriah District Baptist Association. In July 1982, Moderator Batteast led the association in the purchase of the Davidson Elementary School building in Water Valley to serve as a site for the work of the Association. The facility served the Association's for 18 years.

In March of 1999, the Association Board, under the leadership of Moderator J.C. Hentz, made the decision to build a new headquarters on the land donated by Mrs. Sarah Kimble. The vision of the forefathers has become a reality. The Mt. Moriah District Missionary Baptist Association headquarters was erected in 2000. On May 2008, the Association building was destroyed by fire. Mt. Moriah District Missionary headquarters was rebuilt in 2009 under the leadership of Moderator Sims, and stands today as a testimony of the power of vision among God's people.

In recognition of the challenging need of enlistment of ever growing constituency of the Baptist Churches affiliated with the General Missionary Baptist State Convention, USA, for the purpose of developing a strong and sound progressive denomination to fulfill the "Great Commission" enunciated by Jesus Christ, the

head of the church. We, the messenger of the Mount Moriah District Missionary Baptist Association pledge its future to carrying forward of programs of religious educational training in church membership, evangelism and mission as sponsored by the General Missionary Baptist State Convention of Mississippi, through its several boards/committees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association for their dedication and outstanding service to their communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN
LANESBOROUGH, MASSACHU-
SETTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lanesborough, Massachusetts as they celebrate their 250th Anniversary on June 25th. The continued dedication of the congregation of St. Luke's was pivotal in the church becoming the oldest active Episcopal parish in Western Massachusetts.

The origins of St. Luke's Episcopal Church begin in 1767 when a small group of Church of England members would meet in a private home to worship together. From there they moved to a school house where they continued their worship until they were able to move their small congregation to a wooden church located in the center of town in 1769. During these early years, the church seldom had a pastor and was kept alive by the dedication of its lay members. In 1862, the parish built the "Old Stone Church," an impressive Gothic Revival structure that was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. Along with many of its original 19th century fixtures, the Old Stone Church also boasts a 450-pipe, hand-pumped organ that was crafted by William Johnson of Westfield, Massachusetts. The organ has gone through several restorations and is currently the fifth-oldest organ in use in Massachusetts.

In 1898, the congregation moved into a new structure called the Village Church and temporarily ceased operating out of the Old Stone Church. A major restoration effort in the 1980s, aided by the Massachusetts Historical Society, and returned the church to functional condition. Since then, the Old Stone Church serves as the parish's summer home as a place of worship for parishioners during the summer months, while a second building, the Village Church is the parish's winter home.

Mr. Speaker, St. Luke's Episcopal Church serves as a vital link to our region's history and still has much to offer to its parishioners even after all these years. As they celebrate their semiquincentennial, I wish them all the best in continuing to preserve their rich history and community involvement that has been the legacy of St. Luke's.

IN MEMORY OF SKIPPER PERRY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina lost a devoted public servant with the death of former State Representative Skipper Perry. He was a courageous early pioneer for the Republican Party, helping develop the two-party system in South Carolina. On June 21, 2017, a Service of Worship Celebrating the Life, Death, and Resurrection was conducted at First Baptist Church in Aiken, South Carolina, by Reverend Dr. Fred Andrea, III, Instrumentalist Joyce M. English, and Soloist Vince Cloud.

The following thoughtful obituary was appropriately published in the Aiken Standard on June 20, 2017:

Robert Spence (Skipper) Perry, Jr. of Aiken died peacefully Father's Day, surrounded by his beloved wife and family.

A lifelong resident of Aiken, Skipper was the son of the late Robert Spence Perry, Sr. and May Seigler Perry. He is survived by his wife, Anne Straus.

In addition, Skipper is survived by his two sons, Stanley (Meg) of Charlotte, NC and Richard (Kristin) of Washington, DC. He leaves four grandchildren; Spence, Anne Healey, Liza May and Burke. He is also survived by his brother, William Perry (Rosaline) of Naples FL, Mary Ann Gunneson (Dave) of Chattanooga, TN, Susan McCarty of Aiken, Jeannie (Earle) Robinson (Earle) of Augusta, GA, Addison deAurora (Eric) of Savannah, GA, and the late Otto McCarty, brother-in-law.

Skipper's life was remarkable for its deep devotion to family—enjoying contact with a brother or sister every day. His family was the warm embrace that sustained him every day of his life.

He repaid that gift by devoting himself to the public good—whether in elected office or in the service of those who were unable to help themselves. He ministered to the sick—most among us. He offered support for the mentally and emotionally disabled. What you know of his public deeds pales by what he did for countless individuals privately and unnoticed.

He redefined the role of grandfather as an active participant in their lives, interested in even the smallest details of their routine.

Skipper was honored recently as the Aiken Chamber "Man of the Year". He has also served in the South Carolina State Legislature, Mayor Pro Tempore City of Aiken, City Council of Aiken, President Aiken Center for the Arts, President Mended Hearts of Aiken, Founding member and Chairman of the Tri-Development Center, Chairman of the Adult Development Center, Founding member of the Historic Aiken Foundation, President of the United Way of Aiken, President Aiken Symphony Guild, Chairman of the Heart Walk, President of Pinecrest Elementary PTA, Chairman of Palmetto Amateur Golf Tournament, Sertoman of the Year, Order of the Palmetto, President Aiken Jaycees, President of the Aiken Sertoma Club, American Legion Post 26, and Announcer Aiken Polo Club.

Skipper was larger than life. He milked every ounce of living from life until the moment of death.

The family will receive friends from 5:00–8:00 PM Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at Shellhouse Funeral Home, Inc., 924 Hayne Ave., Aiken, SC.

Funeral services will be held 1:00 PM Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at Aiken First Baptist Church with The Rev. Dr. Fred Andrea, III officiating. Interment will be held immediately following at Historic Bethany Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers will be Aiken Sertoma Club, American Legion Post 26, and the Mended Hearts of Aiken.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to Aiken Center for the Arts, 122 Laurens St SW, Aiken, SC 29801, Mended Hearts of Aiken, PO Box 976, Aiken SC 29802 and the American Legion Post No. 26 (Boy's State Program), 602 Hampton Ave NW, Aiken, SC 29801.

HONORING KENNEDY ALLYSA WRIGHT**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Madison Shannon Palmer High School in Marks, Mississippi.

Kennedy Allysa Wright is eighteen years old and a senior at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. She was born in Clarksdale, MS, but she grew up in Marks, MS. She has two siblings, Shadrick Wright, IV and Kaitlyn Wright. Her dad, Shadrick Wright, III works for a local factory and her mother, Cathy Wright, is an LPN II. When she graduates from high school, she plans to attend Mississippi State University and obtain a master's degree in Biological Sciences.

Throughout her tenure at Madison Shannon Palmer High School, she has participated in many organizations and a sport. She has held leadership positions such as President of the FCCLA, Vice President of the Student Council in her eleventh grade year, President of the Student Council in her twelfth grade year, and Treasurer of the Beta Club. She has also participated in other clubs and sport such as the Science Club and Powerlifting.

Along with her participation in various clubs and organizations, she has received many awards for her impressive academic standing and citizenship. She has received many academic awards, such as Highest Average, Superintendent's List, and Perfect Attendance. She has also placed second and third in many of the powerlifting competitions. For her Citizenship Award, she participated in many volunteer and community service projects. She has packed lunches for the needy, donated blood and clothing items, and helped the elderly. She has also been assisting her peers in applying for college.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Kennedy Allysa Wright as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

COMMENDING THE WORK OF GEORGE AND GLORIA SMITH**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend George and Gloria Smith for all of the great work they have done in our commu-

nity to raise awareness and funds for mental health research.

After the tragic loss of their son, Adam, the Smiths established AdamFest in their son's honor—an annual event to raise awareness and resources for mental health research. The Smith's steadfast beliefs and courage in a time of tragedy has inspired strength within our community, and for that I am very grateful. As a mother of three sons, my heart aches for the Smith's loss—and I deeply admire and share their resolve to ensure that no other family endure the pain they have felt. Their story is the reason awareness and research for mental illness is essential, and why events such as AdamFest are so important.

I am extremely grateful to be a part of such a strong community and I hope that we can continue to come together and share our support for one another. Mr. Speaker, again I want to formally thank George and Gloria Smith for all of the great work they have done for our community.

IN CELEBRATION OF MARY N. LONG'S 76TH BIRTHDAY**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to an extraordinary nurse, activist, advocate, and pioneer, Ms. Mary N. Long, who is celebrating her 76th birthday on Monday, June 26, 2017. On this day, there will be a celebration at Paschal's Restaurant in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mary N. Long was born in Guthrie, Kentucky in 1941. She moved to Atlanta in 1960 to attend the Grady Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing and went on to graduate in 1963. Soon after, Mary embarked on what would become a distinguished career. Starting as an ambulatory care nurse at Grady, she gained extensive experience while volunteering at Atlanta's free clinics and assisting local health organizations. She soon became an influential figure at Grady, developing the hospital's satellite clinics while at the forefront of Grady's participation in Economic Opportunity Atlanta's health affairs to reach the greater Atlanta community.

In 1971, Mary developed and became the first Coordinator of the Central Referral Department at Grady. This program provided both information resources for those unfamiliar with the hospital system and advocacy within the community regarding policies and procedures so that proper treatment was readily available for patients. Her dedication and devotion built the program from the ground up and her work reflected such.

While working at Grady, she became involved with the Georgia Nurses Association (GNA), and its philanthropic organization, Georgia Nurses Foundation (GNF). As an active member and chairperson of GNA's Government Affairs Commission, Mary became the first minority woman to be their advocate at the Georgia legislature. In 1981, Mary was the first African American to be elected as the President of GNA where she served two terms. As a member of the City of Atlanta's Homeless Task Force, she was instrumental

in the partnership between GNF and the city that led to the establishment of Atlanta's first clinic for homeless.

In 1985, Mary Long became the Vice President for Legislative Affairs for the Arthritis Foundation and was later promoted to the Foundation's Group Vice President for Public Policy and Advocacy in 1996. In addition, she was elected to the American Nurses Association (ANA) Board of Directors and served as ANA's Second Vice President.

While Mary has made tremendous contributions to health care issues, she also made great strides in other areas. For example, she was active in the movement to pass the Equal Rights Amendment in Georgia. She has an extensive record of service at the local, regional, and national levels. Her work has transcended through organizations such as the YMCA, Atlanta Food Bank, Atlanta Habitat for Humanity, and the Atlanta Women's Foundation. She has received numerous awards for her groundbreaking innovation, actions, and creative thoughts. As an active member of her church, Trinity United Methodist in Atlanta, she has held onto her faith the entire journey.

As a friend of long standing, I have had the great privilege of witnessing Mary's work and the impact she has had on our state and nation. She has established a legacy of providing support for underrepresented groups on health care issues and I am very grateful for her tireless advocacy to improve the health care system in Georgia as well as her steadfast sup-

port for patients and their families. A woman of great integrity, her efforts, her dedication, and her expertise in her field are unparalleled.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and my wife, Vivian, in honoring an outstanding citizen, advocate, and cherished friend, Ms. Mary N. Long, for the inspiring life that she leads. We extend our best wishes to her as she, her family, and friends celebrate her 75th birthday.

HONORING KAYLA MICHELLE
RIGGS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious young woman, Kayla Michelle Riggs. Kayla has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Kayla Michelle Riggs was born on May 16, 1992 in Vicksburg, Mississippi to Jeffrey and Sherry Riggs. She attended her Elementary, Junior High School and High School in the Vicksburg/Warren School District.

Kayla graduated from Vicksburg High School in 2010 and went on to attend Northwest Community College in Oxford, MS for

one year. She transferred to the University of Mississippi in 2011 and Graduated with a Bachelor of Science in the field of Criminal Justice in 2014.

In 2014, Kayla started her criminal justice career with the Mississippi Gaming Commission and started to work on her Master's Degree from Delta State University. In April 2016 she resigned from the Mississippi Gaming Commission to work on her Master's Degree.

In July of 2016, Kayla join the United States Army in the military occupation skill of Infantry and was placed in the delayed entry program until the United States Army could set a date for the first integrated class of women in the infantry military occupational specialty. In December of 2016, she finished her Masters Work in the field of Criminology and Social Science.

On January 30, 2017, Kayla reported to the United States Army reception station on Sandhill at Fort Benning, Georgia. Then on February 2017, she started in the first enlisted integrated female infantry basic training and advanced individual training class. She received the Infantry Blue Cord on May 18 and graduated on May 19, 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Kayla Michelle Riggs for being a part of a historic class, and her dedication to serving our great Country and strong desire to achieve.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 4 p.m., on Monday, June 26, 2017.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 23 public bills, H.R. 12, 3031–3052; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 65; and H. Res. 404 were introduced.

Pages H5138–39

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H5140

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2258, to require that certain standards for commercial driver's licenses applicable to former members of the armed services or reserves also apply to current members of the armed services or reserves, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–189);

H.R. 2547, to expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–190);

H.R. 2548, to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–191, Part 1); and

H.R. 1492, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to direct the Attorney General to register practitioners to transport controlled substances to States in which the practitioner is not registered under the Act for the purpose of administering the substances (under applicable State law) at locations other than principal places of business or professional practice (H. Rept. 115–192, Part 1).

Page H5137

Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act: The House passed H.R. 2842, to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the ef-

fectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 377 yeas to 34 nays, Roll No. 322.

Pages H5114–25

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–22 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill.

Page H5117

Agreed to:

Foxx amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that encourages better coordination with state workforce development efforts and adds to the reporting requirements in Section 5 to describe efforts by the State to ensure nondisplacement and establish grievance procedures;

Pages H5118–19

Bost amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that ensures that states include in their applications how they will use the funds to help individuals who have been displaced or relocated from a public housing authority to an alternative public housing facility or placed on rental assistance;

Page H5119

Bonamici amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that requires states to coordinate the subsidized employment program authorized in the bill with other federal workforce development programs, including the Federal Work Study Program;

Pages H5119–20

Khanna amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that directs HHS to measure the effect of

training and credentialing in its evaluation to the public and recommendations to Congress;

Pages H5121–22

Kilmer amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that requires the Secretary to address employment-related challenges in rural areas and among members of federally recognized Indian tribes in the recommendations provided to Congress; **Page H5122**

Krishnamoorthi amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that requires states to report on the number of individuals who are in a career that matches their training (by a recorded vote of 380 ayes to 32 noes, Roll No. 320); and

Pages H5120, H5122–23

Davidson amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 115–187) that directs states to include in their end of the fiscal year report the number of recipients who received additional federal or state means-tested benefits during their subsidized employment (by a recorded vote of 264 ayes to 147 noes, Roll No. 321).

Pages H5120–21, H5123–24

H. Res. 396, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2842) was agreed to yesterday, June 22nd.

Announcement by the Chair: The Speaker addressed the Members on matters of decorum in the House.

Page H5123

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, June 26th for Morning Hour debate.

Pages H5125, H5137

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Chaffetz, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Third Congressional District of Utah, effective at 10 a.m. on June 30, 2017.

Page H5137

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5122–23, H5124, H5124–25. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a markup on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2018. Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2018, was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

EXAMINING THE EXTENSION OF SAFETY NET HEALTH PROGRAMS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining the Extension of Safety Net Health Programs”. Testimony was heard from Jami Snyder, Associate Commissioner for Medicaid/State Children’s Health Insurance Program Services, Texas Health and Human Services Commission; and public witnesses.

THE EXPLOITATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY: EXAMINING ILLICIT ACTIVITY IN THE ANTIQUITIES AND ART TRADE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance held a hearing entitled “The Exploitation of Cultural Property: Examining Illicit Activity in the Antiquities and Art Trade”. Testimony was heard from Alyson Grunder, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State; Raymond Villanueva, Assistant Director for International Operations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, Department of Homeland Security; and a public witness.

EXAMINING ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING ATTORNEY ADVERTISING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice held a hearing entitled “Examining Ethical Responsibilities Regarding Attorney Advertising”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2018, 4 p.m., SR–232A.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, markup on Defense Appropriations Bill, FY 2018, 7 p.m., H–140 Capitol. This hearing will be closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

4 p.m., Monday, June 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, June 26

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

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