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COMMEMORATING FRANCIS BELLAMY

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Francis Bellamy, one of the most influential individuals from Mount Morris, New York. Francis Bellamy is the author of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tomorrow marks the 125th anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in a magazine called *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892.

The pledge was initially written as part of a campaign to put American flags in every school in the country. In its original form, it read:

"I pledge allegiance to my flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the flag of the United States of America" were added. In 1954, Congress added the words, "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we have today.

Bellamy's words are recited millions of times every day and are ingrained in our society as an expression of national pride and patriotism.

CONGRESS MUST PASS LEGISLATION TO PROTECT DREAMERS

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program is inhumane and unAmerican. Whatever your politics on immigration, America's DREAMers did not choose their birthplace or their path early in life. They are innocents, and they have grown up as Americans. They have attended school here alongside our own children. They share our values and our principles. They believe in the American Dream.

Yes, deporting them hurts our economy, and yes, it damages our standing as a leading nation, but at its heart, this is a matter of conscience.

What kind of justice will we give to kids brought here when they were 6 years old, who grew up as Americans and who have no home beyond our shores?

To make them the targets of deportation is a violation of our national conscience.

Congress must act now to pass legislation to protect these DREAMers. A just nation must not take lightly the judgment of the innocent. Let us not discard our friends and our neighbors for the sake of political theater, not when we can instead draw strength of heart and mind and treasure from their experience, their differences, and the many values we share in common.

E pluribus unum. Out of many, we are indeed one.

BRINGING ATTENTION TO MONTANA'S WILDFIRES

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the wildfires devastating Montana. My heart goes out to those affected by Hurricane Harvey. The disaster has shown the very best of our country, neighbor helping neighbor.

That spirit is alive and well in Montana, too, as we face a massive disaster. Drought conditions are severe. Over 40 wildfires continue to rage, and more than 900,000 acres have burned so far.

As we speak, ash rains down on our homes and our schools, poor air quality threatens the health of Montanans, particularly our children and our elderly, and our livelihoods are at risk.

This photo was taken just a few weeks ago from the south summit of Mount Sentinel as fires raged towards the town of Lolo, Montana.

Sadly, this image is not unique. I met with leaders and firefighters at five wildfires this summer and witnessed the destruction firsthand.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this image and others from back home will make my colleagues more aware of the fires, the devastation they have caused, and the need for relief in the Treasure State.

CONGRESS SHOULD PASS THE DREAM ACT

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the over 20,000 DREAMers in my district on the central coast of California.

Due to the administration's pledge to end DACA, those young men and women, who have done everything right after they got to America, are now being punished for a choice that they did not make before coming to America.

Their mothers and fathers came to the central coast to work hard and contribute to the economies and communities in the salad bowl of the world and the most scenic place in the world so that their children could have the opportunity to live the American Dream in the best country in the world.

Now, it is clear that DACA doesn't just give them that dream. All that DACA does is give those children the opportunity to come out of the shadows and fulfill that dream. That is why DREAMers work in our businesses, study in our schools, and serve in the military of the only country that they know.

This is why Congress should vote on and pass the Dream Act. If we do our job, we will allow DREAMers to not only do their jobs, we will give them the opportunity to give back to the

communities and country that gave them and their parents so much.

As immigrants, they understand that obligation. Let's show them and let's show this country that Congress understands that obligation as well.

RECOGNIZING CLARION UNIVERSITY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

(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, I rise today to recognize Clarion University of Pennsylvania as it celebrates 150 years.

In 1859, the people of Clarion County created a proposal for a higher education institution in Clarion. Shortly after, the Civil War erupted and disrupted the Nation, but it did not stop the determination of the Clarion people.

On September 10, 1867, Clarion University was founded as the Carrier Seminary of western Pennsylvania. With no facilities to call home, Carrier Seminary operated as a co-educational program in the old academy building, with Reverend James G. Townsend as principal.

Carrier Seminary then became Clarion State Normal School in 1887. In 1915, the Commonwealth purchased the school, and it became a technical school of junior college rank in 1920.

It opened its doors as a college-level institution in 1929. Since then, Clarion's student body has grown to more than 5,000, its programs have received top level accreditation, and the institution has become a part of Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Clarion University on reaching this milestone, and I join all in celebrating its rich history and contributions to our area.

AMERICA CAN BE A FAIR AND COMPASSIONATE NATION

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, last week I visited Norte Vista High School and stood before a room of DREAMers who were desperate to know if they have a future in America, the only country they have ever called home. I had to look each student in the eye and say: I can't make any promises.

The question is not whether we have enough votes in Congress to pass the Dream Act. We all know that we do. The question is not whether passing the Dream Act is the right thing to do. We all know that it is.

The question before this Congress is whether we have the political courage and the basic decency to reject our worst impulses, and protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

In a few months, I hope I can stand before that same room of DREAMers

and tell them that the answer is, yes; yes, America can be a fair and a compassionate nation, and, yes, they are free to realize the promise of this great country.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT AARON ALLAN AND DEPUTY CHIEF JIM WATERS

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Nation's police officers, who sacrifice for their fellow citizens and selflessly put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe.

Sadly, in late July, right before our August recess, our community of central Indiana suffered terrible losses.

While off duty, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Deputy Chief Jim Waters was involved in an accident involving a semitrailer. He passed away a few days later on July 27.

Deputy Chief Waters held almost every title in law enforcement in his lifetime, but he was proudest of the titles of son, brother, father, and husband. No matter the job he took on, Deputy Chief Waters was known for working so hard, yet having fun while doing so.

Also in late July, a second Indiana police officer was killed. When responding to an overturned vehicle on Marion County's south side, Southport Police Department's Lieutenant Aaron Allan was fatally shot by the driver he was trying to assist in that overturned vehicle. He, too, passed away on July 27. He was the first Southport police officer to be killed in the line of duty.

As a child, Allan always knew what he wanted to be when he grew up: a police officer. He had a compassionate heart and consistently went out of his way to help those in need, even if his job didn't require it or he was off duty.

I offer my deepest condolences to their families, the Southport and Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Departments, and all who mourn their loss and cherish their memory.

HONORING DR. ROBERT "BOB" BILLINGSLEA

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Robert "Bob" Billingslea of Orlando, who passed away on Friday, September 1.

Dr. Billingslea was the founding executive of Walt Disney's Corporate Urban Affairs and Development department, and served as its vice president until his retirement in 2012. In this position, he led the company's minority outreach efforts, and was a firm believer that diversity drives growth, creativity, and innovation.

Bob's unwavering commitment was evident by his service. He served on nu-

merous organizations and boards, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Boys and Girls Clubs, and founded the Orlando Urban League, to name a few.

When Bob walked into a room, people noticed; and when Bob spoke, people listened. Bob Billingslea was smart, impactful, and unforgettable. He made a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing time for this tribute as we celebrate the life of Dr. Bob Billingslea.

HONORING MISSOURI TASK FORCE 1 FOR THEIR COURAGE AND SELFLESSNESS

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave members of Missouri's Task Force 1, who have risked their lives to help others in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

Missouri's Task Force 1 is one of 28 urban search and rescue teams in the country. Its 210 members are trained to provide emergency response and disaster relief services at a moment's notice.

Last week, as the rains came down and the waters came up in Houston, 47 members of the task force deployed to Texas with a mission: to turn potential stories of tragedy and despair into stories of salvation and hope, and they succeeded.

In just one day during Hurricane Harvey, the team made more than 300 water rescues and evacuations. Deployed to Houston for 14 days, these skilled crewmembers risked their lives to save the lives of others in Houston. Now they are monitoring a possible new deployment to assist after Hurricane Irma.

We should all keep in mind the contributions and rescue efforts of Task Force 1. Their courage and selflessness demonstrated the best of humanity in the worst of times.

I want to thank them for putting their lives on the line to help others in their time of need. You are all worthy of our respect, appreciation, and honor.

□ 1230

CONGRESS MUST FIX OUR BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, Congress must act to fix our broken immigration system, including passing legislation to protect DREAMers.

Like many Members of this body, I was deeply disappointed with the President's decision regarding DACA, to take away the promise of possibility that DACA provided young people who were brought to this country as children—many of them just months old—by their parents and have grown up

here. They work here. They go to school here. They contribute to the quality, to the greatness of this country.

The one thing I did believe is right that the President said was that Congress ought to act. I have sat here and watched us name post offices, bring back legislation that we have passed in previous Congresses on suspension and brought them to the floor and debated them for hours. We have time in this House to stand up for 800,000 young people and give them hope that they deserve, to show that this country is as great as we say it is.

When the Speaker was elected, he said he would open up the process. Here is my challenge: Bring the Dream Act to the floor of the House of Representatives. If you believe these DREAMers should be deported, then vote "no," but give them a vote on the floor of this House. That is the moral thing to do, and we should do it now.

KEEP OUR GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONING EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act that the House is considering. This bill is a package of legislation that the Appropriations Committee has diligently worked on over the last several months that will fund our domestic and national security priorities.

This is legislation that prioritizes conservative policies, invests in proven and effective programs, and reduces unnecessary and wasteful spending. It will fund the government in a fiscally responsible way, keeping a lid on spending as we have since taking the House majority in 2010.

It will continue our work of rolling back burdensome, job-killing policies to help our economy grow even faster than we have seen over the last 7 months when we have added more than 1 million jobs.

It includes many items that the House has already passed this summer, like the largest pay raise for our troops in 8 years and the most funding to care for our veterans in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure to keep our government functioning efficiently and effectively for the American people.

CULTURE OF CORRUPTION AT WELLS FARGO

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, Wells Fargo is the Nation's third largest bank, with nearly \$2 trillion in assets. In the past several