

Not only is respect lacking towards each other's opinions, but to others wellbeing as we have recently seen millions of women come forward with stories of sexual abuse. Not only in our Nation's history but in present day, women are treated as objects. Just within the last twenty four hours, additional notable people have come forward with their previous stories of harassment such as Reese Witherspoon, Jennifer Lawrence and Molly Ringwald, not to mention the 12 million others who have also shared their own stories on Facebook.

Looking back, maybe our principal had a point. To function not only as a school, but as a community or even a nation we must have respect. To advance our Nation from its biggest struggles and alleviate the consequences that come with it, each person must learn how to see out of another's eyes. Each person must treat one another with dignity. Respect is important to our country because it allows us to adjoin together as one. Our Nation was created upon respect and embracing one another for their differences. Each person's difference allows us to be the unique nation we are today. We must embrace and respect every opinion that each one of us has, every talent each one of us possesses and every person each one of us is.

NAME WITHHELD UPON REQUEST, BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, SENIOR

The biggest issue we face in America today is that we neglect our incarcerated population. I'm part of the juvenile incarcerated population, and as a resident I don't feel like I'm getting the appropriate treatment I need. I was already here once and the skills I learned were not enough to keep me from coming back.

Incarcerated people need to be given the opportunity and resources to identify what gets them in trouble and to work on their problems. If a person has a history of violent behaviors and is incarcerated because of his behaviors, he shouldn't be doing groups on drugs and alcohol. Instead he should be focusing his time and attention on working to better his violent behaviors so he can be successful when he gets out.

Another issue is that there are many young people in the system who do not need to be. There are almost 7,000 youth behind bars for "technical violations" of their probation. Also, about 600 youth are behind bars for "status offense," which are behaviors that are not law violations for adults, such as running away, truancy, and incorrigibility.

There are another 840,000 people on parole and about 3.7 million people on probation. I would like to see better support for these people who come out of jail. If previously incarcerated people relapse for certain types of offenses like drug and alcohol offenses, breaking curfew, or violating probation, they should be given opportunities to fix that before it becomes a pattern, rather than being thrown back in jail.

I also think they should have more adult programs like juveniles have such as short or longterm programs away from their environment. A placement that juveniles go to after being released from a locked facility is called a step down. Laraway is an example of this, where a juvenile can go and be allowed back in the community. They are given the opportunity and supports to help them find a job and enroll back in school.

I hope that policymakers and the public carefully consider better treatment within locked facilities and alternatives to incarceration for people who are not a threat to public safety. We should ask whether legitimate social goals are served by maintaining the status quo.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4708. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue Department of Homeland Security-wide guidance and develop training programs as part of the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 10:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2504. An act to ensure fair treatment in licensing requirements for the export of certain echinoderms.

H.R. 2646. An act to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2888. An act to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4547. An act to amend titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act to improve and strengthen the representative payment program.

The message also announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mrs. HANDEL of Georgia.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 534. An act to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2504. An act to ensure fair treatment in licensing requirements for the export of certain echinoderms; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2646. An act to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2888. An act to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4547. An act to amend titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act to improve and strengthen the representative payment program; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1551. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the credit for production from advanced nuclear power facilities.

H.R. 2372. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the rules relating to veteran health insurance and eligibility for the premium tax credit.

H.R. 2579. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage.

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1809. An act to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3445. An act to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4237. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Isoxaben; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9972-75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 1, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4238. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fomesafen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9972-66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 1, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4239. A communication from the First Vice President and Vice Chairman of the Board of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2017 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4240. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4241. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4242. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Board's Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2018 - 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.