

and women who labor—less than 3 percent of the Nation's population—to produce the finest, highest quality, greatest yield, most nutritious food anywhere in the world, every night on America's dinner table.

That is why we must come together—Democrats and Republicans—to improve our Nation's food supply by passing a strong, bipartisan farm bill.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, otherwise known as VAWRA.

Protecting the Violence Against Women Act is one of our top priorities in the Victims' Rights Caucus, a bipartisan House caucus that Congressman TED POE and I organized some 10 years ago.

□ 1015

The law seeks to both prevent violence in our communities and provides services to survivors of violence, in part, by encouraging collaboration among local law enforcement, traditional personnel, and the private sector organizations, NGOs. In my district, these organizations collaborate, and they have been vital in helping survivors of violence.

We must have numerous organizations working tirelessly together to support the victims of crime. In my district, they include the Marjaree Mason Center, Central California Legal Services, Choice Women Empowerment, Centro La Familia, and Valley Crisis Center. This is critical to end violence not only in our valley, but in our Nation, and that is why we must come together to end this violence, to ensure that the survivors have access to services for essential recovery.

We cannot stop, and we must end this horrendous violence once and for all. That is why we must support the Violence Against Women Act.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF
ALTON, ILLINOIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Alton, Illinois. Alton was selected from hundreds of cities nationwide to be featured on the reality TV show "Small Business Revolution—Main Street." The city will also receive a \$500,000 investment for its small businesses.

Alton has a rich history. It is home to historic buildings, and has a deep manufacturing heritage. It was the site of one of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, a route on the Underground Railroad, and home to blues musician Miles Davis and history's tallest man, 8-foot-11-inch Robert Wadlow.

These days, Alton is undergoing a small business revolution, from a self-pour craft beer taproom to a post office

converted into a small business hub. And new businesses are popping up all over. It is an exciting time for the Alton community, and they can't wait to show the Nation southern Illinois' spirit of innovation.

RECOGNIZING THE DETERMINATION OF ROWDY
LOYD

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the determination of a young man from my hometown of Murphysboro, Illinois.

Rowdy Loyd has cerebral palsy and a nerve disorder, but that has not stopped him from trying out for the Murphysboro Red Devils basketball team year after year. While he hasn't made the official roster, he serves as team manager. Going to every game all through his high school career, and every practice, Rowdy had a constant presence with the team, coaches, and our community.

Last month, Rowdy finally got the chance to see game time. Rowdy scored 10 points on the night, including a buzzer-beating 3-point shot. In Rowdy's own words:

I got a whole lot of school behind my back, and my family. I've got a lot of people that support me. So it was awesome to know that they all came to the game to watch me play.

Rowdy, we are all proud of you.

WISHING A HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO TRACY BOST

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, if I could, to take a moment. I would like to read a part of a particular proverb, Proverbs 31:10-31:

An excellent wife, who can find? She is more precious than jewels.

The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

She does him good and not harm in all the days of her life.

She seeks wool and flax and works with willing hands.

She is like merchant ships; she brings her food from afar.

She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens.

She considers a field and buys it, and from the fruit of her hands she plants the vineyards.

She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong.

She perceives that the merchandise is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

She puts her hands to the distaff and her hands to the spindle.

She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

She is not afraid of snow, for all her household is clothed with scarlet.

She makes bed coverings for herself. Her clothing is fine linen and purple.

Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them. She delivers sash to the merchants.

Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at time to come.

She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her blessed. Her husband also, and he praises her: Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.

Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Mr. Speaker, many may ask why I would read such a Scripture this day on the floor. Well, because 38 years ago, tomorrow, I married a beautiful young woman who has grown to become the very woman described in this Scripture. She is very beautiful and very charming, but most of all, she is virtuous.

With that, I want to wish her an early happy anniversary. I love you, Tracy.

IN DEFENSE OF DREAMERS AND
THOSE WHO BROUGHT THEM HERE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today in defense of Dreamers and those who brought them here. I rise in defense of them, Mr. Speaker, because, quite frankly, there was a desire for persons to come here. There was a desire for them to come and to work, and to work at wages that some considered subpar, a desire for them to work under conditions that were not the best. There was a desire for them to come, and they came.

I rise in defense of them because, Mr. Speaker, we are complicit in this behavior. We were complicit because we knew they were coming, and we wanted them to come.

I rise in defense of them because I don't believe that a country as great as the United States of America can ask young people to accept a pathway to citizenship but not give it to the people who brought them here: their parents, in most cases, but, in a good many cases, other persons who cared for them.

To ask these young people to sell out their parents, to borrow a term that we use, is more than a great nation should ask of young people; to say to them, "You can stay, but your parents may have to go," what kind of country are we if we demand this of young people who came with people whom we wanted to come, who have done us no harm, who have worked hard in our kitchens, who have worked hard cleaning our homes, who have worked hard tending our fields, who worked hard bringing in the fruits of the labor that they brought to this country?

What kind of country says, "You are going to go back," after many years of being here, and send the young people back to places of which they know very little?

Mr. Jose Escobar is a case in point. He was sent back to San Salvador. He hadn't been there in many, many years. He came here around 15 years of age.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time for this country to take the affirmative action to correct what will be an injustice if we pursue the path that the President would have us pursue. Now is the time