

For the past decade, Alberto has worked tirelessly on behalf of students and educators throughout my congressional district. His efforts have propelled Miami-Dade public schools into a position of national prominence, and it is now one of the Nation's highest performing urban school systems.

Recently, Mr. Carvalho was offered the opportunity of a lifetime to run the largest school system in the country, and that is chancellor of New York City schools, but he showed his dedication and commitment to south Florida's students and teachers when he decided to stay in Miami-Dade. As a former Florida certified teacher, I am so glad that he is staying to continue leading Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our grateful community and countless individuals who have been positively impacted by Alberto Carvalho's unwavering dedication, I want to say: Thank you, "friend," "amigo." Please stay.

WE SHOULD NOT ROLL BACK FLIGHT SAFETY LAWS

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, 9 years ago, Continental Flight 3407 crashed in western New York, killing all aboard and one on the ground.

The National Transportation Safety Board found that the cause of the crash was pilot error and poor training.

Prior to the enactment of flight safety laws, there were two levels of safety: one more stringent for the commercial carriers that we are all familiar with, and one considerably less stringent for the ones that we are less aware of. There were two levels of safety.

Now there is only one because of the courageous work of the families of the survivors who came to Congress and helped Congress enact very strict safety regulations. We have not had a commercial crash that ended up in fatalities since that time.

It is important that we not roll back these safety standards, as they are based on the National Transportation Safety Board's findings and the work of this Congress.

LIMIT SCOPE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the special counsel investigation has pushed way beyond its authorized purpose.

Recent reports indicate that individuals have been questioned about President Trump's business activities prior to his entering the 2016 campaign. The private interests of Trump family members also are being probed.

These lines of investigation clearly violate the scope of the special counsel, which is limited to: ". . . any links and/or coordination between the Russian Government and individuals associated with the campaign . . ."

In the interest of justice, the investigation must be limited. The Deputy Attorney General should do so immediately to ensure a fair process.

A rogue investigation should not be allowed to continue.

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FLORIDA HOUSE PASSES GUN SAFETY BILL

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, MARCO RUBIO's Florida State Senate got shocked enough by the Parkland shooting to pass a token gun safety bill. The Florida House has yet to act. Whatever Florida does, RUBIO's token gun bill in Washington is belied by his pending bill to eliminate virtually all of the District of Columbia's gun safety laws. Worse, RUBIO has put his D.C. bill in the Congress to raise his NRA rating for the last two Congresses. It did raise his NRA rating from B plus to A.

I have managed to save D.C.'s gun safety laws, but RUBIO's shamefully token responses in the Senate to the Parkland tragedy will be seen as one more act of hypocrisy until he stops meddling in the District of Columbia's affairs and withdraws his D.C. gun bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIANFORTE). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward Members of the Senate.

THE ALAMO—MARCH 6, 1836

(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 the early morning hours it was cold, damp, and dark in the old, beat-up Spanish mission.

It was the Alamo.

It was March 6, 1836.

It was a battle for Texas independence.

The volunteers were from most of the States and several foreign countries, including Mexico.

The small band of 186 Texians and Tejanos, led by defiant Colonel William Barrett Travis, had already repelled two attempts by Dictator Santa Anna and his army of thousands to take the garrison.

But on this morning, after a fierce battle, the enemy overwhelmed the volunteers and killed them all. Survivors were murdered.

However, Travis wrote in a letter on March 3 that "a victory by the enemy will cost Santa Anna more than defeat."

He was right. The enemy losses were staggering.

The Alamo volunteers gave General Sam Houston time to organize another army. So, on April 21, Houston and his troops vanquished and routed the enemy and secured Texas independence.

Then Texas was a republic for 9 years.

Independence was successful because the valiant, relentless Alamo defenders believed death was preferable to tyranny. Today we honor their sacrifice on the altar of liberty.

And that is just the way it is.

TRADE AND TARIFFS

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, last week I was invited to the White House to meet with President Trump and his advisers to discuss trade and the renegotiation of NAFTA. My district is the eighth largest agriculture district in the country. For districts like mine, free trade is crucial to ensuring that there are new markets for our farmers and manufacturing to sell their products and goods. That is why I urged the President to maintain and strengthen our existing trade agreements, including NAFTA, not withdraw or create new barriers to free trade.

The American economy is currently booming, thanks to once-in-a-lifetime tax reform, with disposable income seeing its highest jump since 2015. We should be working to build upon this success, not instituting protectionist tariffs that could start a trade war. In the end, the cost of tariffs are passed on to consumers and act like a new form of taxation, which could undo much of the gains we have seen since tax reform.

I urge the President and his team to reconsider the blanket tariffs discussed last week, and instead focus on fighting specific unfair trade practices that put American businesses at a disadvantage.

THE UNHRC MUST STOP UNFAIRLY TARGETING ISRAEL

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Israel is America's treasured ally in the Middle East, and we must stand up for our friends when they are being treated unfairly. Recently, we have seen the United Nations targeting Israel with six anti-Israel resolutions passed in the last year alone. This is hypocritical discrimination.

That is why I introduced House Resolution 728, which recognizes that the United Nations Human Rights Council wastes U.S. taxpayers' money by targeting Israel and reiterates that they