

MAKE HEALTHCARE INSURANCE WORK

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it was a year ago this very day that Republicans in this House voted to eliminate healthcare for millions of Americans, something we knew at that point, if it went through, would increase premiums on millions of other Americans that still had coverage. And after that vote, they all boarded a bus and went over to the White House for a big celebration.

Thankfully, that bill never became law, because had it become law, people would not have been protected with health insurance if they had a pre-existing condition. There would have been a terrible age tax imposed on people ages 50-64. It would have been a massive step in the wrong direction.

Despite the fact that that legislation did not become law, we are still seeing premium increases because of the undermining of the law of the land. The Affordable Care Act has been undermined by the Trump administration and by action by this Congress, and because of that, we are seeing premium increases again.

Forever, we heard from the other side criticisms of premium increases that were more in line with inflation in healthcare. Now, in Michigan, we see a 28-percent increase under this administration. Where is the outrage?

We ought to work together to fix the problem. The Affordable Care Act is not perfect. I am the first to admit it. Let's stop undermining the law and make it work.

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PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize our Nation's public servants and to thank them for their important contributions to our country.

In every community across America, Federal employees work to make sure our government is effective and keeps us safe. Their daily contributions to their fellow citizens, and to the cause of freedom, are simply immeasurable. In America's First District, there are many hardworking and dedicated patriots who serve the people of this Nation every day.

As we celebrate Public Service Recognition Week, which started on Sunday, May 6, and ends on Saturday, May 12, I want to express my utmost gratitude to the country's Federal employees, as well as our dedicated State, county, and local public servants for their tireless service. I am proud to represent the tens of thousands of Fed-

eral employees, retirees, and local and State government officials who live in the First District of Virginia.

The Federal workforce is full of dedicated and committed citizens who exemplify patriotism in everything they do. I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring them for their service to ensure the security of our Nation.

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, on National Teacher Appreciation Day, I rise to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of Virgin Island teachers and bring attention to the educational crisis occurring in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Ms. Michaelrose Ravalier, a teacher at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School, represented the Virgin Islands at the 2018 National Science Teachers Conference and was awarded the Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award for New Teachers.

This is the first Virgin Islander to be a recipient of this award, yet she and her incredible colleagues, including Margot Oyake and Alenia Buncome Murraine of St. Thomas, and the other St. Croix teachers, do not have adequate funding to support their duties. The Virgin Islands Department of Education reported nearly 150 personnel vacancies and 12 shuttered schools following the hurricanes last year. Virgin Island students attend school in 4-hour shifts each day.

I urge my colleagues to work with me to ensure the educational system of the Virgin Islands receives the necessary funding to allow students to learn and prosper. The best way to support our teachers is by giving them the resources they need to teach our children.

Take time today to thank every teacher who supports our children.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROBERT BURKE

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Private First Class Robert Burke from the United States Marine Corps, who gave the ultimate sacrifice 50 years ago during Operation Allen Brook in Le Nam, Vietnam. For his bravery, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. At the age of 18, he is the youngest Medal of Honor recipient from the Vietnam war.

Private Burke enlisted in the U.S. Marines in 1967, while he was still a student at Monticello High School in Piatt County, Illinois. He was sent to the Republic of Vietnam with India

Company of the 3rd Battalion, 27th Marines, where he was assigned as a machine gunner. During Operation Allen Brook on May 17, 1968, Private Burke and his company came under intense fire from the well-concealed North Vietnamese. With several of his fellow marines wounded, Private Burke spared no time. He immediately used his machine gun to launch several one-man assaults against the enemy, allowing upwards of three dozen casualties to be evacuated.

He relentlessly delivered fire to the enemy, even obtaining a casualty's rifle when his own malfunctioned. He continued to advance in defense of his brothers in arms until he was mortally wounded.

No words of gratitude can properly express how thankful the American people and the Congress are for Private Burke's selfless actions that saved the lives of so many. Private Burke gave his life for his friends and for his country. He is the truest example of bravery, and I am proud to honor him today.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE ELISE YBARRA

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life, service, and legacy of Abilene Police Department detective, Elise Ybarra.

Detective Ybarra was tragically killed last August en route to a conference focused on her life's work: fighting crimes against children. She was just days shy of her 33rd birthday and left behind a loving husband and a 10-month-old daughter. Elise Ybarra represented the best of west Texas in her service and sacrifice for our community.

The Bible teaches us that, even in the most trying of times, the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness shall not overcome it. By carving Elise's name into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, we ensure that her light will continue to shine, a beacon of valor for our entire Nation to see.

To her husband, Adam: God's peace and comfort to you, brother. To baby, Noelle: May your mom's strength and courage live on in you.

VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY

(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, 73 years ago, Nazi Germany's forces formally surrendered, marking the end of World War II in Europe.

Today, we commemorate Victory in Europe Day, or VE Day. Celebrations erupted throughout the world on May