

As the Founder and Chair of the Children's Caucus and as a parent and grandparent, I cannot think of a situation more devastating than having the government forcibly separate a parent from her child to a place unknown, for a fate uncertain, absent any form of communication.

Everyday, hundreds of persons, ranging from infants and toddlers to adolescents and adults, flee violence, oppression, and economic desperation from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, seeking safe harbor in the United States.

They are not criminals or terrorists, they are refugees seeking asylum.

While they hope to receive asylum, none of us expected that they would be treated as criminals or that their children would be forcibly separated from them.

But shamefully that is exactly what is happening under this Administration.

A recent audit of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows that more than 7,600 children have been forcibly separated from their parents after crossing the U.S. border.

Unconscionably, this cruel and unnecessary practice has resulted in the shameful fact that DHS cannot account for the 1,475 immigrant children.

The Trump Administration's practice of separating children from their parents inexplicably turns accompanied children into unaccompanied children, with all the attendant risks and dangers, which now must include human trafficking because over 1,000 children cannot be accounted for by this Administration.

It is a documented fact that if young children are traumatically removed from their parents, their physical and mental health and well-being will suffer.

The effects of these traumatic experiences—especially in children who have already faced serious adversity—are unlikely to be short lived and can last a lifetime.

The Trump Administration's "zero-tolerance" policy does not make our nation safer or more secure, nor is it a solution to the problem of illegal immigration and refugees seeking asylum.

It is, however, monstrously cruel, inhumane, and shameful and makes a mockery of America's reputation as the most welcoming and generous nation on earth.

The last time this nation had policies that promoted the forcible separation of children from newly arrived persons was slavery.

A dark chapter in this nation's history that we should not revisit.

Today the parents of these thousands of children once removed from the U.S. will do nothing less than to find ways to reunite with their children, even under the threat of imprisonment.

A second attempt to enter the U.S. will be threatened by a federal criminal offense punishable by prison.

It would be unconscionable to prosecute parents under these circumstances.

There must be strong and aggressive congressional oversight of this Administration's immigration enforcement.

The federal government policy regarding legislation should not to create greater fear for families already traumatized by intolerable conditions in their countries.

U.S. immigration policy should not deter refugees from seeking asylum within our borders.

We should welcome mothers carrying their babies to a safe haven and assure safety of children.

As we have seen with the recent volcanic activity and earthquakes in Guatemala, we should be seeking ways to help our neighbors in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Trump Administration is utterly failing in its basic duty to treat all persons with dignity and compassion, and is making a mockery of our national values and reputation as a champion of human rights.

This crisis is not just an immigration matter nor is it just a foreign policy matter.

It is a humanitarian crisis, executed by an administration that purports to be the champion of 'family values' but whose actions do not value families.

We are a great country with a long and noble tradition of providing sanctuary to the persecuted and oppressed.

And it is in that spirit that we should act.

We can do it; after all, we are Americans.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. BENJAMIN HENRY BASCUM HUBBARD

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of the life of Mr. Benjamin Henry Bascum Hubbard, or "B.H." as he was affectionally known. B.H. served as a dedicated lawyer in the Northern Neck, and was a tireless advocate for his communitiy as a member of numerous boards and organizations that greatly benefited the region.

B.H. was born January 19, 1946 in White Stone, a small town in Virginia's Tidewater. He graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in English and earned his J.D. from the University of South Carolina. He was a founding member of the firm Hubbard, Terry, and Britt, in Irvington, and demonstrated total dedication to his clients through his work. Beyond his firm, B.H. was always striving to improve the quality of life for his neighbors and the community he loved dearly. Most notably, he was chairman of the board of Rappahannock General Hospital and a member of the Board of Directors of Chesapeake Health Services. He also served on the Board of Directors for Bon Secours Richmond Health System. One of his greatest achievements was the successful merger of Rappahannock General Hospital with Bon Secours. Beyond his work, he was known by all for his compassion, his deeply caring spirit, and his incredible capacity for service.

I am fortunate to have called B.H. a friend and I extend my deepest condolences to his wife of over 50 years, Terry; daughters Emory and Elizabeth; son, Beau; and the rest of his family. B.H. leaves a lasting legacy in the Northern Neck that has been felt by all of its residents. As it says in the book of Matthew, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Mr. Speaker, I implore you and my colleagues to join me as we honor the memory of Mr. B.H. Hubbard.

BRYLEIGH BUCHANAN EARNS 3RD PLACE IN STATE FINALS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Bryleigh Buchanan's athletic achievement. Bryleigh is a 2018 graduate of Harrisburg High School in the 15th District of Illinois. She earned the third-place medal in the high jump at the Illinois Class 2A Girls Track and Field State Final Meet for the second year in a row.

In her final high school track meet, Bryleigh just ticked the bar on what would have been a gold-medal winning jump of 5 feet, 7 inches and later settled for the bronze after reaching 5-6. I offer my congratulations to Bryleigh Buchanan on her outstanding athletic achievements and wish her well in her future goals.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II and Korean War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on June 6, 2018 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on June 6th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Robert Allen, Richard R. Atkinson, Delford Clarence Becke, Raymond V. Biliskov, Michael Bosak Jr., Patrick T. Brady, Julius E. Brasini, Jesse L. Bryant, Clifton C. Capp, Peter L. Carfagno, Percy Carroll, Anthony Cesaretti, Lloyd Keith Chapman, Edward Chatman, Walter A. Ciszak, Nealand J. Conway, John A. Cooper, Curtis Cowan, Willie C. Cross, John J. Danko, Eugene C. Donka, Peter Dykstra, Charles J. Everett, John M. Fitzgerald, Jules H. Fortin, Michael Conrad Gebhardt, James J. Godfrey, Jerry Goodman, William J. Haggerty, George A. Hartfield Jr., Harry R. Hinrich, Donald J. Hosek, Richard D. Houlihan, Alvin P. Izbicky, Robert A. Jaegers, Vilnis Jakobsons, Robert H. Keel, Joseph J. Kirasich, George R. Kleffel, Benjamin M. Kobit, Joseph C. Kremposky, Raymond J.