

instructed him and, just as important, paid heed when coaches guided teammates. Few were more motivated to do the work necessary to succeed.

These traits serve him well as he strengthens the legacy of a great high school baseball program, one of the most respected both in Texas and nationwide. Coach Carter has excelled not because he's a guru of offense or a deacon of defense. He's not a pitcher's coach or a fielder's coach. He's a baseball coach who knows that the road to victory is paved by mastery of every facet of this complex game.

The fruits of Coach Carter's labors are in every strikeout, double play, and sacrifice bunt. They're in every win celebrated and every loss with lessons to learn from. They're in the eyes of teenagers he's helped mold into young men who learn the value of teamwork and how to reach their fullest potentials, both on and off the field of play.

Most important, Coach Carter has never lost sight of the beauty of our national pastime. A game that has no clock yet demands blazing speed. The rare sport where the offense scores the runs but the defense has the ball. Where all the important things happen at home. A game played in back alleys, open fields, ramshackle parks, and glossy stadiums that transcends social boundaries and unites a great nation. Where one and all are excited by the most magical words in all of sports: "play ball!"

I congratulate Coach John Carter for this richly-deserved honor. I'm proud of him, like I am of all my children, and I wish him nothing but success as he continues leading the Round Rock Dragons boys' baseball team to victory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, 2018, I was unavoidably detained and missed recorded votes No. 289 and No. 290. Had I been present,

On Roll Call No. 289, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 299—Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018, I would have voted YES.

On Roll Call No. 290, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 5783—Cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies and Watch Act of 2018, I would have voted YES.

BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. I'm proud to be a co-sponsor of this bipartisan legislation that will help Vietnam veterans who served in the terri-

torial seas of Vietnam and were exposed to Agent Orange get the medical care they need.

However, these are not the only veterans who have not received needed care for exposure to Agent Orange. That is why I'm grateful that H.R. 299 includes the text of my bill, the Fairness for Korean DMZ Veterans Act, which expands eligibility for disability compensation for veterans who served at or near the Korean DMZ and are suffering from herbicide-related conditions.

Evidence shows that test spraying began six months earlier than the date on which regular spraying began in the Korean DMZ, thereby exposing veterans to the herbicide during the test period. This legislation will allow veterans exposed during this time period to receive the health care they have earned.

This issue was brought to my attention by Garfield Harper, a veteran who lives in Burlington County and was exposed to Agent Orange while serving at the Korean DMZ.

As the son of a veteran who served during the Korean War and Representative of more than 50,000 veterans, I believe we have a moral obligation to provide quality care for these veterans.

I would like to thank the co-author of this bill, Congresswoman ESTY, Chairman ROE, Ranking Member WALZ, and the 46 bipartisan cosponsors of my legislation for helping to move this bill forward. I would also like to thank the VFW and the American Legion for their help drafting this legislation and rallying support here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this broadly bipartisan legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, 2018, I missed votes in the House in order to visit a migrant children detention facility in Texas.

Had I been present, I would have voted: AYE on Roll Call No. 289—the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, H.R. 299, and AYE on Roll Call No. 290—the Cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies and Watch Act of 2018, H.R. 578.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 25, 2018, my flight from Texas to Washington, D.C., was delayed. As a result, I was unable to return in time to take Monday evening's first vote. However, I did arrive to vote on the second vote—H.R. 5783.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 289—H.R. 299.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 289 and 290 on Monday, June 25, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

STUDY SHOWS CRISIS IN AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to the Out of Reach 2018 study recently issued by the National Low-Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). The findings of this report are sobering, although perhaps not shocking: in no state, county, or metropolitan area in the United States can a full-time minimum wage worker afford a modest two-bedroom rental home, without spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent alone. Furthermore, there are only 22 counties nationwide where a full-time minimum wage worker can afford a one-bedroom rental home.

According to the study in the Chicago area I represent, an employee, working 40 hours per week, would need to earn at least \$22.69 per hour to afford a simple two-bedroom rental home. Today, a worker earning Illinois' minimum wage of \$8.25 must put in 99 hours of work per week to afford rent and have enough left over for other necessities. At the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, a worker would have to put in, at least 122 hours per week—the equivalent of three full-time jobs—to reasonably afford rent at the fair market price.

Think about the impact on individuals and families. The NLIHC reports that many low-income renters are forced to settle for substandard rental housing options, where property maintenance is not a priority of property owners. Even still, many Americans are forced to spend more than half of their limited incomes exclusively on rent, leaving them without enough resources to pay for essentials such as child care, health care, or transportation. Family life takes a hit when mothers and fathers must work so many hours away from their homes, often leaving their children alone. What purpose does it serve to create more and more minimum-wage jobs, if Americans must work two or three of them just to be able to afford a place to sleep?

According to this study, not only do minimum-wage working Americans feel the burden of the high housing cost, so too do senior citizens and those with disabilities living within our communities. The NLIHC study found that 71 percent of extremely low-income households spend more than half of their incomes on housing alone. Persistent underfunding has resulted in 3 out of 4 low-income households, eligible to receive federal aid, to be left unassisted.

Now, as the FY2019 appropriations process moves forward, think about what we can do to