

regulate commerce and lay taxes and duties with foreign nations, yet Congress has surrendered this Article I authority. Mr. Speaker, it is time to restore it.

#### STOP HOLDING OUR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HOSTAGE

(Ms. BROWNLEY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to share the story of one of my constituents. Her name is Trisha.

In December of 2017, Trisha and her family lost their home and all of their belongings in the devastating Thomas fire. Since then, the family has been working hard to rebuild their home and their lives while supporting their two young children.

Now, because of the Trump shutdown, Trisha and her husband, who both work as air traffic controllers, have gone weeks without paychecks, facing very extreme hardship.

President Trump is holding them and 800,000 other Federal employees hostage, making an already stressful time even worse.

I welcome an honest, bipartisan discussion on border security, but we cannot have a full and transparent legislative process while the American people are being held hostage. It is time to open up our government now.

#### MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

(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 congratulate Illinois State University's Mennonite College of Nursing on celebrating 100 years of excellence in nursing education.

Founded on January 23, 1919, the Mennonite Sanitarium Training School had a vision of training the Nation's best nurses. In 1982, they grew to become the Mennonite College of Nursing, thereby offering undergraduate degrees for the very first time.

In 1995, they added a graduate degree; and in 1999, the college became part of Illinois State University, where it has expanded to include even more academic offerings, including a doctorate degree.

Today, the ISU Mennonite College of Nursing boasts a state-of-the-art simulation lab and a 10,000-square-foot facility to provide students with hands-on experience in real-life situations with patient simulators.

As the husband of a nurse who is a former nurse educator, I am proud of the strong legacy of ISU's Mennonite College of Nursing and their commitment to educating future generations of nurses just like these students here. I commend them on their century of

leadership and look forward to the many achievements to come.

#### AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AFFECTED BY THE SHUTDOWN

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you a letter from Antonio, a constituent of mine affected by this shutdown. He says:

I am an air traffic controller at O'Hare Airport. This is already a stressful job, but a job that I love. This shutdown is adding an extra layer of stress to all of the controllers working around the country. With the shutdown going past a month, we are all stressing about bills, how to put food on the table, how to pay for childcare, et cetera. We don't have the luxury of escaping from the stress of this job because, when we go home, the stress just continues as worrying.

Finding out that our vision and dental benefits would be billed to us with the expectation that we pay those bills out of our own pockets, despite having no paycheck for over a month, has only added to that stress. This shutdown is going to be a massive safety risk for the flying public if it doesn't end soon.

I have more from Antonio, which I will include in the RECORD later.

#### BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF FEMA

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

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend the work of our hardworking FEMA employees and the fantastic job they do with disaster relief.

In October, my district, and many on the East Coast, were hit by Hurricane Florence and Tropical Storm Michael. I visited the town of Drakes Branch in Charlotte County to offer support after those storms. The damage was devastating, and there was work to be done all over the East Coast.

In my district alone, FEMA applications were filed in Charlotte County, Danville city, Franklin County, Halifax County, Lunenburg County, Mecklenburg County, Prince Edward County, and many others.

I commend the hard work done by FEMA in helping these areas recover, because we are recovering and are continuing to work to rebuild these areas.

I also commend the brave fire and rescue workers in all these areas, especially Meherrin Volunteer Fire and Rescue and the Drakes Branch VFD.

This is not an easy task, but for our work so far, we have been a success, and I thank the brave men and women of FEMA for their efforts.

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#### END SHUTDOWN AND PAY AMERICAN WORKERS

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, as we stand here today, 33 days into the longest shutdown in our history, hundreds of thousands of Federal employees are being forced to work on our Nation's behalf without pay.

We are all able to confidently shop for groceries and eat in restaurants because FDA food inspectors are on the job. We are able to pass through airport security and fly across the Nation because TSA agents and air traffic controllers continue to do their jobs. We can all sleep soundly at night knowing our shores are protected because the men and women wearing the uniform of the Coast Guard remain resolutely at their posts, on the job.

The list goes on and on, and all of these Federal workers, these Americans, are working without pay.

Mr. Speaker, this situation is unconscionable. It is unjust. It is immoral.

This past weekend, Jason, an 8-year-old boy from my district, presented me an impassioned letter, remarkable for its wisdom. He writes: "Dear Mr. President. . . . All of us work hard for our money. . . . I hope you see my point of view and end this shutdown."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the President to listen to Jason and the majority of the American people. End this shutdown and pay the American workers who every day keep our Nation safe, secure, and strong.

#### MARCH FOR LIFE

(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, last Friday, more than 100,000 Americans came to Washington for the 46th annual March for Life. This year's theme was "Unique from Day One."

Those who march envision a world where the beauty, dignity, and uniqueness of every human life are valued and protected.

Thanks to the pro-life movement, abortion rates across the country are at the lowest since 2013. Proudly, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania remains one of the top protective States in the Nation to provide legal protections for human life from conception to natural death, according to the Americans United for Life.

Many of my colleagues have introduced legislation in this Congress to advance the pro-life cause and to protect the unborn. I am proud to cosponsor many of these bills, including the Defund Planned Parenthood Act, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, the Sanctity of Human Life Act, the Protecting the Dignity of Unborn Children Act, and the Life at Conception Act.

Mr. Speaker, we must always be a voice for the voiceless, and we must continue to build a culture that values