

government, and end this shutdown. But since House Democratic leadership has refused to come to the table and negotiate in good faith, the least we could do is ensure our Federal workers don't suffer because of Washington's dysfunction.

Last week, only six Democrats joined every Republican to vote to pay our workers. This vote took place moments ago, and 10 Democrats joined us again. We have heard speeches today on the floor, in the media, and all over the news by Democrats who claim to empathize with Federal workers who have gone unpaid. But when they had the chance today to pay them, for the most part, they have declined.

We need to listen to the people, pay our Federal workers, secure our borders, and end this shutdown.

SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Mr. Speaker, working families in Utah are now facing another lost pay period. Through no fault of their own, they are suffering from the last Congress' failure to pass bills to fund government operations and our inability now to get an agreement to end the shutdown.

This weekend, I heard stories firsthand. Family members are facing medical issues due to the stress of wondering when a spouse will be paid. IRS workers worry about missing the training they need to be ready for processing tax returns. Air traffic controllers are working hard to keep airplanes in proper airspace over the Salt Lake Valley but are going without normal staff backup and equipment maintenance.

One individual who has been in government service for 30 years as a member of the military and as a civilian has applied for other jobs, knowing that he is likely not going to get hired. Employers see too much uncertainty.

Small businesses are hurting because their customers don't have money to eat at local restaurants or shop in local stores. The shutdown is harming the entire American economy and every American.

As one worker said to me: Our jobs have nothing to do with the border.

They have had enough of political games. I support border security, and I support Dreamers, but we need to end the shutdown so that they can get back to work.

REMEMBERING MARSHALL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the Marshall County community to honor and remember the precious lives of Preston

Cope and Bailey Holt. Preston and Bailey were victims of a tragic shooting at Marshall County High School in Benton, Kentucky, on this day last year.

Marshall County High School is comprised of a truly compassionate group of students, parents, and alumni who have demonstrated the resiliency of this community in the wake of such devastation.

Preston Cope and Bailey Holt remain in our hearts as we remember and honor all that these young, bright individuals brought to their families, friends, school, and community.

(1615)

TRUMP SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today addressing the damaging impact of Trump's senseless shutdown in the State of Michigan and in the 14th District.

Thirty days and Trump continues to hold the American people hostage over a wall that Mexico was supposed to pay for. Over 5,000 workers in the State of Michigan continue to suffer.

My constituents are suffering the hardships because of this shutdown. A constituent from Southfield, Michigan, wrote:

I have worked for the Federal Government for over 30 years. I have given 100 percent in my career with the IRS, and now I am facing the possibility of not being able to pay my mortgage because of this shutdown.

Our Federal Government is supported by a devoted workforce who are feeling like they have been taken for granted and used. This is unacceptable. Our hardworking Federal employees deserve so much better.

This shutdown is causing chaos and pain for our dedicated Federal workers in America. It must stop.

BRING THE COUNTRY TOGETHER FOR THE STATE OF THE UNION

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

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my objection and disappointment with the decision that was made to disinvite the President of the United States to address this Chamber for the State of the Union.

I would like to commend Majority Leader STENY HOYER, who, just yesterday, said he would welcome the President here to the Chamber this upcoming Tuesday.

This decision that was made is not one to bring this House together. That is a decision that is not one to move our country forward. I object. And many others in this Chamber do as well, and I believe many Democrats do.

Then I hear that we are about to leave again? I say we stay here. We should all be in one room. No phones,

no pay, no one is leaving the room until we have a deal and there is white smoke.

That is how to lead, not to set us backward, as we are seeing again by the Speaker's decision today.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

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

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, this week is National School Choice Week. It is when we shine a light on the educational opportunities when they are tailored to the individual student.

I was raised by four academics, and they would be the first to tell you that, in order to empower young people to develop into the type of adults who can solve the problems of tomorrow, their educational experiences need to be tailored.

No parent, no teacher, no student wants an ill-fitting educational experience.

Education is the great equalizer. It is the combat multiplier. It is the path that leads toward American dreams.

God bless the American student. God bless the American teacher.

READING OF THE CONSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Chair for the opportunity to address the House today as we come together as Members of the House and read our U.S. Constitution.

Long-time British Prime Minister William Gladstone in 1878 said: "The most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by brain and purpose of man." That is how he described the U.S. Constitution.

For 2 centuries the Constitution has dedicated the structure of our remarkable Republic and created the operation of the consent of the governed and the protection of a free people's individual rights.

All of us who work here in the people's House marvel at its daily majesty, of James Madison's checks and balances, separation of powers, and the institutional hybrid of Federalism.

Today, we gather at the heart of the Capitol, the heart of Article I, the first branch, to read our governing document:

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Article I, Section 1: