

PROMOTING AMERICAN VALUES THROUGH PEACE CORPS

(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. Madam Speaker, 58 years ago this week, President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order establishing the United States Peace Corps. Since then, more than 200,000 Americans have participated in international service opportunities through the Peace Corps.

International service organizations like the Peace Corps and student exchange programs operated by the Department of State play an important role in promoting the image of America around the world. These programs provide American volunteers with a chance to learn about their host country's society and values, and, in turn, volunteers share American culture and values with the people of their host country. This fosters a great understanding of and strong friendship between our country and those around the world.

The Peace Corps was created with the strong belief that Americans are willing to contribute part of their life to the country. President Kennedy said that we must not merely aim to have an economic advantage in life, but we must strive for a greater purpose. Madam Speaker, for 58 years, the United States Peace Corps has provided thousands of Americans with that greater purpose.

EXPANDING VOTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1 so that more Americans can exercise their right to vote.

On election day of last year, voters in my district on the central coast of California set a new record for turnout in a midterm election.

In San Benito County, we saw one of the highest increases in the State for folks registering to vote.

In Monterey County, the majority of registered voters voted by absentee ballot and by mail. These are service-members who filled out their ballot from where they were stationed and also folks at home who could take time to thoughtfully cast their vote.

Unfortunately, on that same election day, voters around this country didn't have that opportunity, and they had to go to polling places where they faced malfunctioning voting machines and found their registration frozen or purged.

These instances left thousands of citizens without a vote and without a voice in our democracy. That is why we need to pass H.R. 1.

The most important persons in our democracy are not those who hold office, but it is those educated and informed voters who put us in office. Let's give those types of voters more opportunity to participate in our democracy and pass H.R. 1.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, last Congress, the Judiciary Committee interviewed multiple DOJ and FBI officials about their actions regarding the 2016 elections.

People anticipate the Mueller report soon. Will he find any so-called collusion, or was the only collusion among agency personnel who hated the President and started this investigation?

Our interview transcripts were pertinent to a congressional investigation; but the 115th Congress ended, the investigation was closed, and copies were shared with certain Members of Congress.

Out of an abundance of caution, we gave DOJ an opportunity to review them for information that would endanger national security; but after many months and little progress, our patience grows thin.

The proposed redactions had nothing to do with national security and are anathema to our goal of government transparency. I am, therefore, today making one of those transcripts public.

Madam Speaker, to avoid burdening GPO with a 200-page transcript, I include in the RECORD the link www.dougcollins.house.gov/ohr so the American people can review the transcript of Bruce Ohr.

I intend to make other transcripts public soon. I am willing to consider any reasonable redactions DOJ makes in a timely manner but won't allow these transcripts to remain shrouded in secrecy.

A VICTORY FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, we are delivering a major victory for American families today, a victory for transparency, integrity, and accountability in our democracy.

I am proud to have helped introduce H.R. 1, the For the People Act, because, in every corner of Illinois, I hear from folks who are frustrated about politics. They are frustrated with the secret and dark money that enters politics; they are frustrated by the self-dealing in Washington; and they are frustrated by the culture of corruption that rewards the powerful while the voices of hardworking Americans are drowned out.

Our For the People Act will bring fundamental change to Washington.

Our bill will end the dominance of big money in politics; it will ensure that elections are fair; and it will make sure Congress is working for the people instead of for themselves, banning Members from serving on corporate boards.

Our For the People Act will make it easier to vote.

Madam Speaker, the American people sent us here to clean up the mess in Washington. Today we are delivering on that promise.

HONORING VETERAN OF THE MONTH PETER LUITWIELER

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

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter E. Luitwieler, an American hero and a true friend to our country's veterans.

Mr. Luitwieler served in military intelligence during the Vietnam war, and in January of 1968, when his compound was surrounded by enemy troops and the machine gunners abandoned their posts, Mr. Luitwieler and a brave marine manned the machine guns for hours, keeping the enemies at bay and protecting the lives of their team. For this act of bravery, he was awarded the Vietnamese equivalent of the Bronze Star.

After he retired, Mr. Luitwieler dedicated his time to fellow veterans. He now serves as a program manager for Warrior Partnerships of Eastern Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Veterans Connections, and he is a mentor to veterans going through the Tulsa Veterans Treatment Court, going above and beyond to enrich the lives of Oklahoma's veterans.

Mr. Luitwieler is an incredible example of the great men and women who have served our country every day. He is the First District's March 2019 Veteran of the Month, and I am honored to recognize him with this award.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF KRISTEN ZIMAN ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today on International Women's Day to honor a woman who has been a pillar of strength in my community during a particularly difficult time.

Last month, in Aurora, Illinois, we had five neighbors killed in a terrible act of gun violence. If you watched the news following that tragedy, you saw a woman, Chief of Police Kristen Ziman, exuding strength, compassion, resolve, and leadership following an event we never imagined would happen in our community.

Chief Ziman leads the second biggest police department in our State of Illinois—no small feat considering that

there are only 219 female chiefs in the more than 14,000 police departments nationwide.

Chief Ziman's compassionate leadership and barrier-breaking approach to law enforcement inspires us all across the Fox Valley region. We truly are Aurora strong.

Her strength and her service to our community makes us so proud, and I look forward to watching all the little girls in our community grow up knowing they can be anything they want to be, from a police chief to a Congresswoman, because they grew up seeing it firsthand.

There are women like Chief Ziman lifting all of our communities all over the 14th District and all over our country, and I am so glad to celebrate them today.

FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a tradition that has come to define a small town in rural Florida.

Every winter, Plant City transforms for the Strawberry Festival, an event to celebrate the annual strawberry harvest.

When the festival was founded in 1930, it was a way for the residents of Plant City to not only mark a new crop of strawberries, but also was one of the few times a year locals could eat strawberries, due to their short shelf life.

Today, the 11-day event attracts guests far beyond Plant City, and the strawberry growers in the community now supply virtually all winter strawberries grown in the United States. This success comes at the hard work of growers in Plant City.

These entrepreneurial men and women work tirelessly to bring us the strawberries many of us enjoy, and I want to take this opportunity to thank them for all that they do for us. Strawberries have become the lifeblood of Plant City, and our community wouldn't be what it is today without them.

I also want to take this time to congratulate Kendall Gaudens, who was crowned this year's Strawberry Festival Queen. Kendall joins the illustrious ranks of many great women before her, including Florida's current attorney general, my friend Ashley Moody.

I also want to congratulate Madilyn Conrad, who was named first maid, and Kennedy Cullins, Jada Brown, and Olivia Frazier, who were selected for the court.

□ 0915

CONGRATULATING THE McFARLAND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. COX of California asked and was given permission to address the House

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

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the McFarland High School girls basketball team. Undeclared in regular season Division IV play, our girls were moved up to Division III for State. Undaunted, the team's motto is "relentless," and that is what they have been.

On Tuesday night, our girls brought home the school's first Southern California Regional Championship. They are a textbook example of what can be accomplished through hard work, practice, and teamwork.

Led by coaches Johnny Samaniego and Gino Barajas, the girls: Lucia Barajas, Heiry Bojorquez, Neli Diaz, Angelica Gonzalez, Emily Gonzalez, Julie Hernandez, Adilene Lopez, Shania Perry, Lucia Rocha, Kathy Rodriguez, and Pilar Samaniego are now playing Oakland High School, represented by my friend and colleague, BARBARA LEE, in tonight's State Championship game.

I ask my colleagues to join me in sending them the best of luck. We are so proud of our girls and their families.

Go Cougars.

FUND THE POLITICIANS ACT

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

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, today I raise my objection to H.R. 1, the so-called For the People Act. This act should really be called the Fund the Politicians Act. It is a Federal takeover of our election system. It opens up our precious election system to fraud, and it violates free speech rights.

This bill would allow for the funding of politicians' campaigns. They would be given a 6-to-1 match with government money for their campaigns. I don't believe Americans want their money going to help pay for more robocalls from politicians that they don't even support.

It also will give \$25 to citizens to give to a campaign of their choice. What a terrible use of our tax dollars.

It also opens up our system to fraud by requiring that they have to allow for online registration, same-day registration, and it nullifies all the State protections. No Secretary of State was even consulted about this bill.

And finally, it violates our free speech rights by requiring the publishing of the names and addresses of donors to organizations who may speak about a candidate.

This bill is terrible. Every vote should count, and no government money should go to line politicians' campaigns.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. UNDERWOOD). Pursuant to House Resolution 172 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of

the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1.

Will the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) kindly take the chair.

□ 0917

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, and strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and for other purposes, with Ms. DEGETTE (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, March 7, 2019, amendment No. 69 printed in part B of House Report 116-16 offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 70 OFFERED BY MR. NEGUSE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 70 printed in part B of House Report 116-16.

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title I of the bill, insert the following:

PART 8—VOTER REGISTRATION MINORS

SEC. 1081. ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

(a) ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS.—Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (k), as redesignated by section 1004, as subsection (l); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (j), as inserted by such section 1004, the following new subsection:

“(k) ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State may not refuse to accept or process an individual's application to register to vote in elections for Federal office on the grounds that the individual is under 18 years of age at the time the individual submits the application, so long as the individual is at least 16 years of age at such time.

“(2) NO EFFECT ON STATE VOTING AGE REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed to require a State to permit an individual who is under 18 years of age at the time of an election for Federal office to vote in the election.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to elections occurring on or after January 1, 2020.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 172, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Chair, I am proud to offer an amendment today to ensure early registration, or pre-registration, for all 16- and 17-year-olds