

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S
FAILED POLICIES IN THE
NORTHERN TRIANGLE

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to speak. I thank Representative CLYBURN for allowing me a few minutes to address a pressing issue before he assumes control of this Special Order hour.

Last week, the President of the United States made politically motivated announcements that he will seek to cut U.S. aid to Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, which together are commonly known and referred to as the Northern Triangle countries. In making his decision, the President cited asylum seekers—moms, children, seniors, and young men—who make up the migration patterns from these nations that reflect themselves at the southern border.

As it turns out, Mr. Speaker, I was in the region with some of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle when the President articulated his plan to freeze foreign aid for this part of the world. This aid has effectively helped curb violence in El Salvador, forge economic hope, and furnish essential health and education programs there as well.

While on this trip with key members of the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary Committees, we met with leaders from the region and El Salvador and discussed the relationship between the United States and their respective countries with great optimism.

I will admit, Mr. Speaker, the manner in which our President views and discusses our regional partners stands in stark contrast to the security objectives and economic commonalities we discussed with his Central American counterparts.

When our President rambles on about "evil people" pouring into our country and the millions and millions of dollars we are just giving these governments, comments that are not only racist in scope but patently false, he fails to understand that this very aid is our best approach and our best tool in addressing the migration patterns to the southern border.

With our assistance, these countries can make tangible progress toward building an environment where their citizens feel safe, industry prospers, and people receive the essential services they need and deserve.

□ 1945

When my colleagues and I were in Mexico, a country that perhaps has received more of the President's verbal attacks than any other country in the world, we discussed budding economic zones in the country and the sweeping development initiatives its new President Lopez Obrador has undertaken.

We discussed the fact that less than 12 percent of the folks going back from

the southern border to their countries of birth are from Mexico.

We discussed the curtains of economic development that the Mexican President plans to put forward—not a wall, curtains of economic development: a rail line in the Mayan coast; reforestation of the southern border of Mexico; and infrastructure, very ambitious infrastructure projects close to the northern border.

Perhaps we should look at that as a guide to what we should do here in our Nation.

And having conversations about shutting down our border as we were there was not something very positive for our visit.

In El Salvador, we met with ambitious, 38-year-old President-elect Nayib Bukele. He detailed his intentions to work more closely with the United States, specifically, to review and re-evaluate Chinese influence and an agreement with China that he has inherited from the previous government.

He also informed us that, because of our help, Mr. Speaker, homicide has gone down 50 percent in El Salvador. At one point, 104 people per 100,000 people were being killed, the highest homicide rate in the world. It is now down 50 percent—still a war zone, but down 50 percent. Young people are being recruited away from the gangs.

What they really need now is a shot in the arm for economic development and jobs. That is what will help with the migration patterns that reflect themselves at the southern border.

And this young President has captured the enthusiasm of the young people. He campaigned against corruption and violence; yet, while we were there, the President threatened to cut the aid to El Salvador.

In fact, we should take what we did there to Guatemala and Honduras, because it is working.

And it is clear, Mr. Speaker, that this is all summed up that the President fails to share our optimism that collaboration will lead to a solution in this region.

He fails to register the miserable motivations that would prompt somebody to seek refuge for their families in an unknown country thousands and thousands of miles away. People just don't get up and leave their families and neighborhoods. They do that because they are facing violence, because they are facing abject poverty, because they are facing natural disasters.

The President fails to understand that. He fails to understand, Mr. Speaker, that Chinese and Russian influence in Central America is growing and that every step we take backwards will result in two steps forward for them and will leave a vacuum of leadership in the region.

Right now, the President is simply failing—failing the American people and failing our allies.

I look forward to reviewing this issue this week when the Foreign Affairs Committee holds a hearing on the ad-

ministration's failed policies in Central America.

We must hold him accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank Whip CLYBURN for allowing me some time to address this issue on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in lieu of our monthly Special Order hour, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING ERNEST "FRITZ"
HOLLINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) will control the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I stand in the well here this evening with my colleagues from South Carolina. We are here because our State and our Nation has lost a giant of a man, one whom I call a one-of-a-kind statesman, Ernest "Fritz" Hollings.

A native of Charleston, South Carolina, he graduated from The Citadel in 1947, and the very next year, 1948, he was elected to the South Carolina Legislature. There, he served until being elected Lieutenant Governor in 1954.

I am pointing out some years here because I want to make a statement about the man Fritz Hollings.

He was elected Governor in 1958.

Now, in 1947, some interesting things were taking place in South Carolina at the time Ernest Hollings graduated college; and, in 1948, when he was elected to the legislature, a very significant court decision was handed down.

The court case was *Elmore v. Rice*, the 1948 court case that opened up the South Carolina Democratic primary to people other than Whites. This was the atmosphere within which Fritz Hollings was first elected.

And, of course, in 1954, when he was elected Lieutenant Governor, I need not tell anybody what Court decision came down that year. That was the year that the Supreme Court ruled that school desegregation had to take place. That was the atmosphere.

So, 4 years later, Fritz Hollings gets elected Governor. I was a student on the campus of South Carolina State when he was elected, and in 1960 is when I first met Fritz Hollings.

He was Governor, and I was organizing sit-ins in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and he had invited us to the State house. He gave me a great lesson that day in politics, so much so, that what we talked about in his office on that day I still have not told anybody.

Well, fast-forward. Fritz Hollings, Governor of a State with tremendous challenges. So what did he do? Did he just meander through time, as so many did in those days? No.

Fritz knew what the challenges were, and he put forth trailblazing legislation to create the South Carolina Technical Education System. That was a big deal in those days. In fact, it became a national model.

But he didn't stop there. He blazed another trail, creating the South Carolina Educational Television Corporation. That was really a big deal, and it was viewed as trailblazing innovation, like no other State had made up until that time.

But that was not his last test. In 1962, just before he was to finish his term as Governor, the courts ruled that Clemson University had to accept another Charlestonian, Harvey Gantt, as a student. Of course, there was much resistance.

Fritz spoke to the legislature and said to them on that day: We have run out of courts, and we are going to be a nation of laws. And he called upon all South Carolinians to set aside the acrimony and accept the fact that it was a new day in South Carolina and the Nation.

And, of course, Harvey Gantt peacefully integrated Clemson University. All of that was because Fritz demonstrated the kind of leadership that we would expect any public servant to give.

Fritz and I became fast friends after I came here in 1992. Of course, we interacted quite a bit down in Charleston. Of course, he got elected to the United States Senate in 1966. We interacted quite a bit.

Fritz had a tremendous wit, and I remember when I first came up here, 1993, there was a reception held because I had become, with his help, the first African American to represent my State in the Congress in 95 years. So there were somewhat interesting kinds of interactions taking place.

We go to this reception, Fritz Hollings along with then-Senator Strom Thurmond, and I was being presented to the group. One of them made a joke out of the fact that I had met my wife in jail when Fritz was Governor.

I guess I brought it upon myself because I reminded him of our first meeting and the fact that we were not exactly on the same page in those days.

So, when I yielded the mike to him, he told the group about my meeting my wife in jail when she brought a hamburger and shared a hamburger with me, and he said to the crowd: "And he has been eating out of her hand ever since." It brought a great chuckle in the crowd, and I was reminded never to get smart in front of Fritz Hollings again.

Well, we have lost Fritz. But just before he really began to fail in health, Fritz called me and said he wanted me to do something for him. He said he wanted me to put in a piece of legislation to remove his name from the Judicial Center in Charleston.

I asked him: Why do you want me to do that?

He said, because Judge J. Waties Waring was the judge who made that

decision in 1948 to open up the Democratic primary to people of color, he thought that J. Waties Waring, because of that decision and others—equalizing teacher pay between Black and White teachers, writing a dissenting opinion in *Briggs v. Elliott* that became the foundation for the 1954 United States Supreme Court decision—he said to me: J. Waties Waring is the one who is deserving of having his name on that courthouse. That is the courthouse where the *Briggs* case was decided.

□ 2000

And I said to him: Now, maybe this would pass in the House, but what would happen over in the Senate?

And he told me that he had already talked to Senator GRAHAM, and he wanted this done. I told him I would get back to him because it is not something that I wanted to do.

Well, I called Senator GRAHAM. He told me that Senator Hollings had called him. But I still would not do it. I called Senator Hollings back and I asked him, in a second conversation, was I going to be able to depend upon him to hold when the bill was introduced because I anticipated some reactions that would be unfavorable, and in his Gullah-throated way, he assured me that he would stand firm.

I then called the Congressional Research Service and I asked them: Has anything like this been done before? Has anyone in the history of this great country ever asked that his or her name be removed from a Federal building in order to accommodate someone else?

They came back to me several weeks later and said, no, that had never been done before.

We put forth the legislation. It passed the House and the Senate, and I joined with Senator Hollings and others at the ceremony removing his name from the Judicial Center in Charleston, South Carolina. Today, the name of J. Waties Waring is on that building.

Fritz Hollings, a one-of-a-kind statesman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CLYBURN for inviting the delegation to participate in honoring the late Senator Ernest F. "Fritz" Hollings.

Every day, when I travel across South Carolina, I am reminded of an extraordinary achievement of Senator Hollings, when he served as Governor. He helped establish the technical college education system to develop trained workers in manufacturing. This enabled South Carolina to recruit new industry, foreign and domestic.

As Governor, there was no auto production, there was no tire production in our State. Today, because of the highly skilled, trained workers, South Carolina is the leading exporter of cars from any State in America. Two years ago, this was \$10.4 billion of product. South Carolina is now the largest man-

ufacturer and exporter of tires of any State. Thousands of jobs have been created.

Our citizens will always cherish the vision of Senator Hollings to help families have fulfilling lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Hollings family and his many friends.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Horry County, South Carolina (Mr. RICE).

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Fritz Hollings dedicated his life to service. Whether it was serving in World War II, as Governor of South Carolina, or as a United States Senator, the legacy he leaves behind is simply amazing. He embodied what it meant to be a part of the Greatest Generation. He truly had a servant's heart.

During his Governorship, he was a champion of the civil rights movement and helped ensure the peaceful integration of South Carolina schools. He is also credited with creating the State's technical college system which, to this day, helps people connect with jobs and opportunities. He also helped develop the Charleston Port, which has turned South Carolina into a world-class exporter and one of the most competitive places to do business in the country.

An absolute titan in the United States Senate, he spent nearly 40 years advocating for policies that would benefit South Carolinians and Americans.

Though I never had the pleasure of serving with him, I know that he brought South Carolina spirit to Washington with his sharp tongue and quick wit.

He will be missed, but we can find comfort that he is reunited in Heaven with his beloved wife, Peatsy.

I am honored to join my colleagues and all South Carolinians in celebrating his remarkable life.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN).

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I rise to remember and pay tribute to the late Senator Fritz Hollings, who was a true statesman through and through.

As Governor Henry McMaster said on Saturday, learning of Senator Hollings' passing: "One of South Carolina's greatest lions roars no more." Those are powerful words to describe Senator Hollings.

His life was dedicated to the service of South Carolina and the United States, and the positive impact he made on our communities will be felt for years to come.

I heard fine words from Mr. CLYBURN earlier; he talked about his career. But Senator Hollings' career spanned for many decades, beginning with his graduation from The Citadel to his service as an artillery officer fighting for freedom during World War II. Like many in the Greatest Generation, he put his life on the line for our country at a very young age.

He then moved into service on behalf of the constituents of South Carolina

in a variety of roles, including Lieutenant Governor, Governor, and, most notably, here in the Halls of Congress, where he spent decades—36 years, I think—serving as a United States Senator.

He became well known as a national figure, a trailblazer, a respected fighter and champion for the American people in so many areas, including commerce and defense.

I met him in 1987 when I was working for Senator Strom Thurmond.

He will go down as one of the most effective Senators on record, and it is safe to say, there will be no one else like Senator Hollings.

Beyond his work ethic and advocacy for South Carolina, he was known as a genuine person, respected by folks from all walks of life, from every political party and from all 50 States.

His decades of work left South Carolina and our Nation better off; for that, there is no doubt. He was the true embodiment of selflessness and public service. His legacy will be felt for generations to come.

My prayers and condolences are with his loved ones, as well as appreciation for all he did for the lives of all of us.

God bless his family as they mourn the loss of a true giant, selfless public servant, and, definitely, a dedicated leader.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM).

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Majority Whip CLYBURN for yielding and for his service to the rest of the delegation of South Carolina.

This weekend we lost the most transformational leader South Carolina has ever seen. Fritz Hollings left his mark on our economic development, our education system, civil rights, desegregation, and countless other areas. There is no doubt we are all better off because of his service.

Hollings was once referred to as a “Senator from central casting,” and, in many ways, he represented the ideals of public service: service to his country in uniform during World War II, to the Lowcountry in the State house, and to his State as Lieutenant Governor, Governor, and U.S. Senator.

He was a true statesman who exemplified character, courage, integrity, and honor. The action he took was often not easy or politically popular, but it was always with what was best for South Carolina in mind.

As we honor his life over the coming days and weeks, I hope we can all pause to reflect on how his legacy can guide us now more than ever. Hollings made a lifelong career out of fearlessly doing what was right, working across the aisle to reach remarkable achievements, and always putting the people of South Carolina over politics. We need that sort of leadership now more than ever.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE).

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to also add my condolences to the Senator’s family.

I remember, as a young boy growing up interested in politics, that I was always struck by his thoughtfulness, the demeanor in which he held himself in an era where we were in full-contact politics all the time. Senator Hollings was an extraordinary American and a great patriot, and I join with my colleagues in offering condolences to the family and remembering his extraordinary legacy.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to close this tribute tonight by acknowledging that this is the 50th year since Fritz Hollings’ hunger tour.

A lot of people may remember, in 1969, Ernest Hollings embarked upon a tour—or several tours of South Carolina. The first one was on Charleston’s East Side, and it was my great honor to lead him, along with Sister Mary Anthony, on that tour so that he could see some of the anxiety, some of the wanting that was present in his hometown.

He went from there to other places throughout the State, most especially, Beaufort, Jasper County. Many people may remember, he, after a tour with a Dr. Gatch in Beaufort County, Fritz wrote a book called “The Case Against Hunger.” That book was eye-opening to a lot of people.

In fact, he made the case for significant expansion of community health centers throughout the South, and he made the case for what we now call the WIC program: Women, Infants, and Children. It was that book and that tour; and 2 years later, I took a tour with his classmate from The Citadel, John Carl West, who was my mentor in government.

When West became Governor, he then took a tour. He wanted to retrace some of Fritz’s steps and redouble the efforts to eradicate poverty.

Poverty is still with us. Ill health is still with us. Hunger among children is still with us.

I am going to be moving, at several points this year, to memorialize Fritz by calling upon my colleagues to redouble our efforts for children, for women, for infants, for the poor.

□ 2015

I would hope that as we think about Fritz, we will think about that passage of scripture found in Matthew 25 where we are told that it is incumbent upon us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and do right for those who are less fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1644, SAVE THE INTERNET ACT OF 2019; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2021, INVESTING FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MORELLE (during the Special Order of Mr. CLYBURN), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-37) on the resolution (H. Res. 294) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1644) to restore the open internet order of the Federal Communications Commission; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2021) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and to establish a congressional budget for fiscal year 2020; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS THE NATION’S PREMIER INSURANCE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 30 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be on this floor and to hear the eloquence of JIM CLYBURN talking about a legend in Senator Fritz Hollings.

Mr. Speaker, it gives us pause this evening, and I am honored to be joined by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, a young man who has served his Nation with dignity as well, as we talk about something equally important and near and dear to Fritz Hollings’ heart as it is to all America: Social Security.

We have introduced a bill. On Wednesday at 2 o’clock we will be having our fourth hearing on the subject matter of Social Security. We are honored to see that that is going forward, because there haven’t been hearings for some time on the matter of expanding Social Security.

Under the leadership of NANCY PELOSI and now RICH NEAL on the Ways and Means Committee and a return to regular order, we are focusing on the needs of the American people, and nothing is more important than Social Security.

Let me start by underscoring something that should be intuitively obvious to everyone, but oftentimes is overlooked: Social Security is not an entitlement. Social Security is the insurance that people have paid for.

How do we know this? We know it simply because you only have to look as far as your pay stub, whether it is weekly, biweekly, or monthly, under the definition of FICA.

FICA stands for the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. Whose? Yours.

Citizens all across this Nation understand that they have contributed to this program.