

After receiving the Army commendation medal and an honorable discharge, he returned to his hometown of Brownsville. He helped develop the area's future as assistant port director for the Port of Brownsville.

Mr. Rusteberg began his 40-year banking career at Bank of the Southwest. Shortly thereafter, he opened the first International Bank of Commerce bank facility in Cameron County in 1984.

A champion of education, Mr. Rusteberg led successful efforts for the Brownsville Independent School District to secure funding for our schools. He and his family established the very first scholarship endowment at the University of Texas-Brownsville, now University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Mr. Rusteberg has been married to Frances Hill for 48 years and has two children, William Rusteberg and Liz Rusteberg Hainley, and two grandchildren, Jessie Hainley and Will Hainley. Fred and Frances have been highly active in the community throughout the years and are blessed to call Brownsville home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to honor Frederick William Rusteberg. His character and hard work make him a tremendous role model for the citizens of Brownsville, and I am confident his contributions will continue to guide south Texas in a positive direction.

I ask my colleagues to join me, his family, and friends in commending his life of service.

JOBS BOOM BEST IN 50 YEARS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last Friday's economic numbers continue to show that policies championed by the President and Republicans are helping the American people succeed:

The economy added an incredible 263,000 jobs in April;

More than 5.8 million jobs have been created since the election;

The unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent in April, the lowest since December 1969;

The employment rate for women is the lowest rate since 1953;

The veterans' unemployment rate fell to 2.3 percent, the lowest rate on record;

The employment rate for Americans with a disability fell to the lowest rate on record;

Average hourly earnings rose by 3.2 percent over 12 months. Before 2018, wage gains had not reached 3 percent since April 2009.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICING

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the serious threat that soaring costs of prescription drugs pose to the health and well-being of families.

Americans spend more money on prescription drug prices per person than any other country in the world. The problem has grown so much that now Americans are paying more for out-of-pocket drugs every year than for hospital care. These inflated prices are sapping the strength of our economy and the health of our families.

However, this is a challenge, Mr. Speaker, we can begin to tackle in this Congress this year. We can begin to fight this battle now by targeting abusive barriers to entry for cheaper generic drugs and taking steps to simplify pricing in our overly complicated system.

That is why, last week, my colleagues and I on the Judiciary Committee voted to refer four bills for consideration that will give generic drug manufacturers greater access to our markets, increase competition, and save lives in the process.

I call on all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bipartisan measure.

NATIONAL SKILLED NURSING CARE WEEK

(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, next week is National Skilled Nursing Care Week, and hundreds of nursing home administrators will gather at State College, Pennsylvania, for the 2019 Spring Health Care Conference.

Hosted by Central Pennsylvania Educational Resources, the conference will allow nursing home administrators the opportunity to exchange ideas and gain information from knowledgeable speakers.

This year's theme for National Skilled Nursing Care Week is "Live Soulfully," which will celebrate skilled nursing centers and their residents and staff by showcasing how they achieve happy minds and healthy souls.

Whether it is planting, cooking, reading, or listening to music, these centers pay it forward by helping individuals find happiness to improve quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, before coming to Congress, I worked nearly three decades as a recreational therapist, a rehab services manager, and a licensed nursing home administrator. I know firsthand how important quality of life is and how each and every person at a nursing home can impact the lives of residents.

National Skilled Nursing Care Week thanks and celebrates caregivers for

their tireless work to care for others. They truly make an impact.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 6, 2019, at 11:14 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 693.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY) at 4 o'clock p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

TAIWAN ASSURANCE ACT OF 2019

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2002) to foster security in Taiwan, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2002

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Taiwan Assurance Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) April 10, 2019, marks the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (Public Law 96-8).

(2) Since 1949, the close relationship between the United States and Taiwan has benefited both parties and the broader Indo-Pacific region.