

HONORING LARRY HANLEY

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I note the passing of Larry Hanley, the international president of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

He was a big man with a big heart and a passion for transportation—not just for what it meant for his members; although, he was their tireless champion. He had a bold vision for what his union meant, to enrich tens of millions of lives every day for people who use transit and another hundred million who benefit, even if they don't ride.

He started as a bus driver and rose through the ranks to become not just the Amalgamated Transit Union president, but one of the finest of American labor leaders.

We are sad for the loss for Larry's wife, Thelma; his daughter, Monica; son, Larry, Jr.; and almost 200,000 of his members.

We are grateful for the enormous contributions he made to enrich the lives of us all.

LEGISLATION TO KEEP AMERICA'S AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY MOVING

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2460, the first piece of legislation I have introduced as a Member of Congress and one that reduces the regulatory burden on the hardworking men and women of Indiana and America's transportation and agriculture community.

The Modernizing Agricultural Transportation Act of 2019 will ensure our truckers, farmers, and producers have the flexibility needed to keep America's agriculture industry moving.

The bill ensures that transportation and agriculture stakeholders are included in the rulemaking process so that relevant stakeholders can share their experiences and knowledge.

I am proud to lead this bipartisan effort with House Agriculture Committee Chairman COLLIN PETERSON of Minnesota.

Improving our infrastructure is not a partisan issue, and it is time that we act. Sixth District Hoosiers sent me to Washington to get things done, and that is exactly what I am doing.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 2460.

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DELIVERING BETTER HEALTHCARE ACCESS TO CONSTITUENTS

(Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise to call atten-

tion to the challenges rural communities face to access basic healthcare.

In New Mexico, I have seen, firsthand, health challenges these areas face. They include expectant mothers who have to drive for hours, often across State lines, for every single prenatal appointment.

They include veterans who have to get on the bus in the middle of the night for a doctor's appointment in Albuquerque the next day.

It includes teenagers in crisis facing a long waiting list for a much-needed mental health appointment.

And it includes rural and community hospitals on the verge of closing their doors. This is what rural America faces.

Even with these hardships, we are often the first to be forgotten when legislators and healthcare experts discuss healthcare quality, access, and affordability.

So as Congress begins discussing how to decrease the cost of healthcare insurance, to lower the cost of prescription drugs, to provide mental healthcare, and protect millions of Americans with preexisting conditions, I urge consideration of the pressure points that rural communities face. That is how we deliver better healthcare access to all our constituents.

ACCESS TO QUALITY AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, May 4 marked 2 years since House Republicans passed their TrumpCare legislation to dismantle the Affordable Care Act. If passed, this reckless bill would have ripped away healthcare from millions. Thanks to Americans' tireless activism, this bill did not become law. But that wasn't the end of the crusade to protect our care.

This administration continues to sabotage the Affordable Care Act, implementing rules and gutting programs in a very cruel conspiracy to undermine it; and people with preexisting conditions are some of the most vulnerable in a very dangerous game.

Madam Speaker, the Affordable Care Act, with its strong protections, helped many of these Americans obtain health insurance for the very first time. But now, this administration is using a back-door guidance to allow junk insurance plans the ability to deny coverage to people with preexisting conditions.

That is why I am glad the House plans to vote on H.R. 986, which will stop this move and protect Americans living with preexisting conditions.

I will proudly vote for this bill.

GREAT LAKES RESILIENCY

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

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge that any long-term infrastructure agreement reached between Congress and the President must invest in the resiliency of coastal communities.

Lake Ontario is already over 11 inches higher than average, and as rain falls and water levels continue to climb, my community and others like it are bracing for yet another season of devastating flooding.

We must take proactive steps to adjust to changing weather patterns, the impacts of Plan 2014, and improve our community's ability to withstand, recover, and adapt to weather-related events.

The Army Corps of Engineers will soon be conducting a study to develop a coastal resiliency plan, and it is imperative that any long-term infrastructure agreement include significant investments in these findings.

I look forward to working with my colleagues towards a comprehensive infrastructure package that makes these investments a reality and better protects my district and the Great Lakes coastline.

QUESTIONS OF THE RULE OF LAW AND THE CONSTITUTION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, this week the Nation has seen this Congress deal with the questions of the rule of law and the Constitution. But this Congress believes that our work is for the people and, at the same time, our oversight on issues of national security are immense and important.

Yesterday, I raised a question of military presence off the shores of Iran; for no explanation has been given to the United States Congress on the need for that presence.

And having been a Member of Congress during the Iraq war and, certainly, during the war in Afghanistan, committed to the men and women of the United States military, only Congress can declare war. This administration must advise and seek consent of Congress. But those of us who are concerned about national security, with the jurisdictional committees, must be briefed, and must be made aware to protect the American people.

So I stand here today to say the rule of law is important, but the national security of this country is important. No war without the involvement and engagement of the United States Congress.

We believe in peace and diplomacy.