

Is it time to recognize Taiwan as an independent country, a thriving democracy, our eleventh largest trading partner?

I want to bring up the South China Sea.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I will try to tighten this up.

Mr. Speaker, China, in the South China Sea, has started claiming property that is not theirs. It goes off to nine historical lines that come from antiquity, from 300 or 400 years ago. And they said: Well, we used to sail here, so this is our property.

So they started building these islands, and they went off the coast of the Philippines, and the Philippines took them to the Court of Arbitration in The Hague, and China lost the lawsuit. China ignored the ruling of The Hague, an international norm that we are all supposed to follow. They ignored it, and here you have the Spratly Islands that were little atolls sticking shallowly out of the water at low tide.

China has gone in there, and it is probably the biggest environmental insult to this world, where they have dredged up over 4,000 acres of land and they have built these land masses. I refuse to use the word "island" because that gives credibility to China.

What they have done is built—illegally, against the environment, against the ruling of international law—land masses in the East China Sea.

President Xi Jinping had the gump-tion to come here to the United States during President Obama's era in 2015, he went to the Rose Garden and claimed: We will never militarize these islands.

Yet, today, there are runways on there that can accommodate military planes. Our satellites show that there are military barracks, offensive and defensive weapons, and radar systems. I think it is pretty well militarized. They are doing that again and again and again. There are four islands they have done now.

Their goal is to go to the next chain of islands which is closer to our mainland. This is something the world has to stand up to. If not, they are going to keep continuing to march forward.

This is a photo of when they started, and this is more of the dredging. We don't have the one that shows them completed, but you can find it on the internet.

Now we are at the China of today. China has perfected 5G technology. China today has over 800 million CCTV cameras, closed-circuit television cameras, and they have put a system in place where they monitor their systems.

□ 2030

Today in China there are over 24 million citizens being monitored, and they

get issued by the Communist Party a good citizen score. But, Mr. Speaker, you don't know what your score is. So when you show up to travel, if your score is not high enough, then you get denied travel. If you go to borrow money or use your banking system, you are denied your banking system. Your kids can't go to the colleges you want them to go to because you are denied because you are a bad citizen. They have extended this and offered this to Russia; they have extended this and offered it to Maduro in Venezuela; and Iran wants this technology.

What better way for a despotic or authoritarian or Communist regime to control their citizens than the CC technology?

China uses technology to suppress their citizens to fall in line so that they serve the Communist Party. Our government empowers our people to reach their full potential.

I will close with this last thing, Mr. Speaker. China has interned over 2 million Muslim Chinese ethnic people, the Uyghurs, in what they call reeducation camps.

I want to show you this poster here, Mr. Speaker. This is a reeducation camp. That means they just go there because they want to learn new skills. This is what China is doing with the Uyghurs, the Muslim population. Not only that but they have armed crematoriums that are in place in these camps.

I've got to ask you, Mr. Speaker, when you have got a place that looks like a prison, I don't believe it is there for education. We went through World War II and the Holocaust. This Nation and all other nations said: "Never again."

Mr. Speaker, it is happening right now in China. We need to pivot away from China buying stuff, and we need to encourage our manufacturers to go anywhere but China.

I don't want a conflict with China. Nobody does. But if we stand up collectively together and we encourage manufacturers to go, then we can get China's attention via their pocketbook and we can change the course of the history of this world.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your patience, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the threat to religious liberty and religious toleration in the People's Republic of China is of grave concern. Over the past several years there has been an ever increasing intolerance of religious minorities.

Article 36 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees the freedom of religious belief. Yet the rights and safety of religious minorities in the country are very much in question.

China is the home to nearly 90 million Christians, and the country is anticipated to be home to the most Christians in the world by 2030. Yet, over the last several years, the percentage of persecution cases have risen year over year. Furthermore, the government has increasingly required churches to be state ap-

proved, churches have been razed and worshippers subjected to detainment, physical interrogation, and thought reform conditioning.

In the west, in Xinjiang Province, the United Nations has reported the government to be holding roughly one million Uyghurs without charge. Those who have escaped have testified to being repeatedly told that God did not exist and that they would only be fed after acknowledging the greatness of communism.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage this Congress and our President to take appropriate actions to promote religious freedom of religious minorities in the People's Republic of China.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5, EQUALITY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 312, MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 987, MARKETING AND OUTREACH RESTORATION TO EMPOWER HEALTH EDUCATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. SCANLON (during the Special Order of Mr. YOHO), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-61) on the resolution (H. Res. 377) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 312) to reaffirm the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 987) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal exchange outreach and educational activities, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELLEN TAUSCHER

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, tonight is a very special night for many of us. Tonight, we honor the memory of an extraordinary Representative, Ellen Tauscher, who served the Contra Costa area of California for almost two decades.

She died nearly 3 weeks ago. Tonight is our first opportunity to come to the floor and to pay tribute to her. I had the pleasure of knowing her before she became a Member of Congress and then during her years in Congress and I also had the unique opportunity to take her seat when she retired to become the Assistant Secretary of State.

So tonight, we pay tribute to this extraordinary woman. We do this in recognition of the work that she did on Wall Street, the work that she did here in the House of Representatives, and

her unyielding desire to reduce nuclear risks throughout the world.

To conduct the rest of tonight's tribute, I am turning to a woman who served with Ellen for all of the years that she was in Congress, a woman who is the leader of the Democratic Members of California, ZOE LOFGREN.

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

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELLEN TAUSCHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise really on behalf of the entire California delegation to honor our friend and former colleague, Ellen Tauscher, who passed away much too soon last month at the age of 67.

Ellen was a trailblazer in virtually everything she did in her remarkable life, and her passing is a great loss not only to California, not only to our country, but to the world.

I met Ellen when she ran for office, but I got to know her here. I recall so well Democratic Congresswomen—and there weren't as many of us at the time—all telling their own personal story and all of us being kind of surprised that we came from modest beginnings. Ellen was born in Newark, New Jersey. Her father was a shop steward at the UFCW, and he was at the Shop Rite store in Union City. Her mom, like my mom, was a secretary. But, she went on, because this country gave her an opportunity, she got a great education, and, of course, then, as will be said later tonight, became one of the youngest and one of the first women to become a member of the New York Stock Exchange.

She excelled in the issue of childcare. She wrote a book and did some technology about that before she ran for office.

But I ran into her in 1996 when I had been in Congress just a short time, and she decided and actually was recruited to run against a very conservative gentleman who had been in the House, but was really more conservative than his district, especially when it came to being pro-choice and the need to do something sensible about gun violence. I remember Ellen had a parade when she ran for office, and people were cheering her on. I thought: This woman is going to win this seat.

Sure enough, she did.

She was so popular and so different than the predecessor. People were talking about Tauscherism in the State of California, using her last name as an -ism. Really what it was was a very sensible, business-oriented approach, heavily interested in technology but wedded with good values that reflected her constituency: pro-choice, pro-education, pro-equal rights, pro-LGBTQ

rights, and that was what she brought to this body.

We remember her for the mark that she left on this institution. She continued to lead on the Armed Services Committee where she chaired the Strategic Forces Subcommittee and was a leading figure on arms control policy.

She also worked on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in a remarkable way. Not only was she a national leader on environmentally sustainable transportation policy, as a founding member of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Caucus, she also delivered for her district. It really mattered to her that she got a widening of the Sunol Grade on 680 which made a difference, not only for her district but for mine, as people were trying to commute between the two regions.

She got a fourth bore for the Caldecott Tunnel so that commuters could get around. She played a leadership role securing funding for the BART extension to the San Francisco Airport and her work to get the Army Corps to fund the dredging of the Port of Oakland.

I am particularly excited by the work we did together for the Lawrence Livermore National Lab as well as the Sandia Lab. She was so interested in the National Ignition Facility. She saved the funding, she was there at the groundbreaking, she was there when we opened the facility, and she really believed that the science that was going on there would change the world, and I still believe that it will.

But here in the House I think all of us will remember her as the presiding officer. Ellen was completely unflappable. I can remember when we had the worst, most contentious issues, we knew it would be okay because Ellen would take the dais and she would preside. She would help people calm down, focus on the disagreements, and adhere to the rules of the House. Nothing could shake her ability to preside in a wise, thoughtful, and very calm way over the House of Representatives.

We had such fun with her. Women Members went out to dinner with her and shared stories. She never put up with nonsense. She was very matter of fact. She had a wicked sense of humor, but she was someone with tremendous integrity. Of course, as we know, that integrity, expertise, and vision was recognized when President Obama nominated her to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. She was confirmed and left the House.

She did important things in that office. She helped negotiate the New START Treaty with the Russian Federation—the first agreement signed with Russia in nearly 20 years—and it was ratified by the U.S. Senate.

After leaving the Department of State, she continued to make contributions. She served on the Board of Regents for the University of California.

She continued to make sure that the science at Lawrence Livermore National Lab was protected and also at Los Alamos. She continued in her efforts to make sure that the cutting edge was always protected as a member of the Board of Advisors of SpaceX, eHealth, and other important technology businesses.

These achievements really don't do justice to Ellen's legacy. I know from our many good times talking with her, her funny irreverence and her smart insight, the one thing that she loved more than anything else on this Earth was her wonderful daughter, Katherine, who I hope is watching tonight. We loved Ellen Tauscher, and she loved Katherine.

Not every Member who planned to be here this evening was able to. We will make sure that all of the statements are entered into the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who is the majority leader of the House of Representatives.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the dean of the California delegation and a good friend of Ellen's for yielding.

Ellen was one of my closest friends in the Congress of the United States. I think Ellen and I voted the same about almost every time the lights were turned on and the votes were requested.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOFGREN and the California delegation for organizing this tribute.

I rise to join in remembering a dear, dear friend, an outstanding colleague, and a respected public servant.

In recent days, I have been asked to describe Ellen. Words that come to mind are extraordinarily accomplished, stateswoman, a diplomat, an expert in our Nation's defense as a member of the Armed Services Committee and as a member of the State Department, and a politician in the best sense of the word. Her skill in rallying disparate interests behind a common objective was, I think, almost unmatched.

Ms. LOFGREN referred to her as presiding. She was a Democrat presiding in a House in which all respected her, which is why she was so effective. She would look to the Republican side of the aisle, and she would tap the gavel. They would know she knew what was right, and they did not want to cross her.

Her determination not to be swayed from the principles to which she always remained true was a hallmark of Ellen Tauscher. Many in the House and in our country will remember Ellen for having been one of the first women, as has been pointed out, on the New York Stock Exchange at the age of 25.

I can imagine there were a lot of old bulls on Wall Street who said, what is that young woman, that young, blonde, beautiful woman doing sitting on the Stock Exchange, a seat on the Stock Exchange?

And the answer to that question: Damn well—like everything she did.