

□ 1645

SUPPORTING ROHINGYA
REFUGEES

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

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the horrifying human rights abuses that our administration fails to confront.

There are more than 1.3 million Rohingya refugees who have fled the genocide in Burma. About half a million were driven out by a deliberate, coordinated campaign by the Burmese state to destroy Rohingya villages.

According to Human Rights Watch, refugees who arrived in Bangladesh in 2018 reported continued abuses by Burmese security forces, including killings, arson, enforced disappearances, extortion, severe restrictions on movement, and lack of food and healthcare.

They also reported sexual violence and abduction of women and girls in villages and at checkpoints along the route to Bangladesh. Returnees to Myanmar faced arrest and torture by authorities.

There are more than 128,000 Rohingya still in detention camps, where they have been confined since 2012.

At its peak, Rohingya refugee resettlement in the United States was 2,573 refugees in fiscal year 2015. That number has dropped to just 207 in fiscal year 2019.

We are supporting Rohingya refugees through funding programs in refugee camps, but we must do more and help them resettle here in the United States.

INVESTIGATE FALSE ACCUSATION

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

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, after the Mueller report, we now know that President Trump was falsely accused of engaging in a criminal conspiracy with Russia for 22 months. So the question is, what to do now that we are aware of that false accusation?

Democrats believe that the right approach is to tweeze through all the President's reactions to being falsely accused. Republicans believe that we should figure out what the root was of the false accusations in the first place.

As we endeavor upon that work, we see across the rotunda in the Senate that harassment of the First Family continues. Donald Trump, Jr., will be hauled before a Senate committee tomorrow because his prior testimony purportedly conflicts with the testimony of Mr. Gates and Mr. Cohen, people who are either in prison for lying or going to prison for lying.

It is past time to stop the harassment of the President and the First Family, acknowledge those who en-

gaged in false accusations for an extended period of time, and figure out how in the world such an accusation was able to be funded by the DNC, cooked up in the Obama White House, and then polluted by Russians.

We can do a lot better, and we are going to figure out what happened.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF "APOLLO 11"

(Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important achievement that changed the world as we know it.

In just over a month, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the *Apollo 11* mission. On July 20th, 1969, for the first time ever, human beings walked on the Moon.

Apollo 11 was indeed a giant leap. It inspired and continues to inspire generations to explore. The discoveries and technology that come out of America's investment in space not only help us better understand the universe but fundamentally change our modern life.

Apollo 11 is one of America's greatest achievements, and I am proud to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, as well as in both the House and the Senate, on resolutions that commemorate and celebrate this achievement.

Celebrating the *Apollo 11* mission ensures that future generations will not just remember, but also take us further into space exploration.

As a lifelong Oklahoman, I also want to acknowledge the unique contributions of Oklahoma astronauts. In each week leading up to the *Apollo 11* mission celebration, I will highlight Oklahomans who shaped our knowledge and discovery within space.

THANKING AMERICANS FOR
SPEAKING AGAINST CONGRES-
SIONAL PAY RAISES

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank the American people for sending a message to this Congress that they do not want the pay raises for Members of Congress to go through. However, their work is not done, and they need to keep it up.

They have successfully delayed the Legislative Branch appropriations bill from being considered as part of this omnibus bill that is going to be considered tomorrow, but it has only been delayed. It hasn't been removed just yet, so stay on the phones, stay on the emails, and stay on Facebook.

Get in contact with Members of Congress to let them know that their constituents don't think that they deserve a pay raise. They have more work to

do. There is much to be done, in terms of addressing the crisis at the border and continuing in the economic success that we have. Instead, we have many committees that are holding officials in contempt of Congress.

We have more to do, so I ask the American people to keep up the great work.

DEBATE OUT-OF-CONTROL
SPENDING

(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, at the start of this Congress, the new Democratic majority promised that legislation would be considered under regular order. Six months into Congress, it is evident that that promise has been abandoned altogether.

Instead, the majority has used a procedural tactic to set spending levels and circumvent the normal budget process. There is now no sign of a 2020 budget resolution coming before the House to set spending levels, so the full House has no opportunity to debate these levels as a standalone bill.

The national debt exceeded \$22 trillion this year. The American people expect us to debate and vote on a budget that will outline the direction of our Nation. However, without having passed the budget, the House will consider a massive spending bill this week that combines five appropriations bills. Altogether, the package includes nearly \$1 trillion in spending. Members will take this vote to spend with no plan or agreement between the House and Senate on an overall budget.

I call on the majority to follow through on its promise of regular order and bring a budget before the House so that we can debate the out-of-control spending and how it can be reined in and reined in now.

CHAOS ON THE SOUTHERN BOR-
DER AND CROWDSOURCING ENVI-
RONMENTAL DATA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PORTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, just so staff knows, this will probably be a bit abbreviated because of all the chaos we have going on around us.

There is something I wanted to start with. Typically, we come to the floor to spend time talking about what is happening in the country economically and demographically and what we must do to keep our promises. I sit on the Ways and Means Committee, and I do trade and tax policy.

Before we put that up, I need to touch on something that is incredibly frustrating. Being from Arizona, obviously, we have a border issue. We talk about it; we do nothing.

How many have seen the news in the last couple of days that we have gun battles going on just south of Douglas, Arizona? We may have 9 or 10 people who have lost their lives. We had a teenager get hit by a stray bullet. We have had a couple of folks—apparently, one crawled to the border and is now in an Arizona hospital. A couple are in Arizona hospitals.

Where is the press? Where is the discussion of what is going on? Apparently, we have a war going on in Agua Prieta, just south of Douglas, between these cartels that not only move drugs, but they also exploit human beings.

These are the very cartels that are taking humans, smuggling them and trafficking them up to the border. They are using assault weapons and killing each other. Of course, we would care about that, wouldn't we? Except it doesn't get any news here because it doesn't fit the narrative.

If you love and care for people, could we at least have an honest discussion of what the President has asked for, with some money for humanitarian aid to take care of those who have presented themselves at the border for refugee status? Understand the violence that is spilling over into my State of Arizona and what is going on.

I guess I come to this microphone just frustrated that this story broke yesterday in Arizona. Where is the national outcry? Where is the national understanding of the chaos that is happening along our southern border and the lives that are being lost? Do we or do we not care about people?

There were two things I wanted to do, and I know we are up against a very tight time, so I am just going to do one of them.

We have this theory that basically says, if you look at U.S. demographics, in 8.5 years, it is two workers, one retiree. In 8.5 years, 50 percent of the budget from this body, less interest, will be to those 65 and older.

Demographics aren't Republican. They are not Democratic. They are math.

We must do a number of things to keep the economic vitality of this society going if we are going to keep our promises. One of those things in our five points is the way we deal with regulations. We have this one area we talk about, whether it be tax policy, trade policy, or regulatory policy. Just in a couple of minutes here, I wanted to explain what smart regulation is.

So often when hearing the rhetoric, we will have: Well, we need to deregulate. We need to reregulate.

That is wrong. We all walk around with these supercomputers in our pockets. It turns out, technology is the rational place where regulation should go.

Here is my thought experiment. Let's use our own neighborhoods. We are the businesses in those neighborhoods. We need to get air quality permits for manufacturing. Does filling out a bunch of paper and shoving it in file

cabinets make air quality cleaner in our neighborhoods? Do file cabinets full of paperwork at the local, county, State, wherever our regulators are, does that make the air quality in our communities better? Of course not. It just creates a lot of documents so that we have someone to sue for the trial lawyers and those things.

I want to propose the concept of crowdsourcing environmental information, particularly for air quality. It turns out, we are living in a time where there are now sensors we can attach to our phones that are highly accurate that will do PM10, hydrocarbons, and volatile organics. What would happen in our communities if we were willing to take this tradeoff?

We are not going to make everyone fill out lots of paperwork. We are going to promote businesses, let them grow. But here is the trick: If they screw up, we catch them instantly.

Also, the clowns painting cars behind everyone's houses in their backyards, we are going to catch them, too.

This thought is very simple. We have a YouTube cartoon that is about 1.5 minutes that walks through this concept of crowdsourcing environmental data. It shows that it is time to use this type of technology. Think of the economic growth tradeoff.

We are not going to fill up file cabinets full of paperwork. Because we are going to be crowdsourcing environmental data, when there is a bad actor, or someone's scrubbers are out of compliance, or there are clowns painting cars in backyards, we will catch them instantly.

Wouldn't that be a lot more powerful, where environmental regulators of communities, States, and counties are now a quick reaction force that goes to where the bad acts are happening instead of basically being paperwork domiciles?

That is an example of smart regulation. It makes communities healthier. It makes air quality better. It still has businesses growing because they are not buried under consultants and mounds of paper. That is an example of smart regulation.

How do we drag this institution into understanding the incredible opportunities that technology is bringing in crashing the price of healthcare and making the environment healthier? In the coming weeks, I am going to come back to dive into this much deeper, but let me salt the mine a little bit for a thought experiment.

What would happen if we had technology that could protect houses of worship, schools, this body, and public buildings? It turns out that it exists today.

I want to propose that this body put together an XPRIZE for nonlethal protection of our buildings and our houses of worship. We already know there are experiments out there with pods that go on the wall, so if someone comes in and is engaged in a bad act or discharges a firearm, instantly, just like

the Taser darts, it lays them down. Yes, innocent people will get hit with them, but they don't die.

It turns out that there are technology solutions that will make us safer.

□ 1700

How do we drag the conversations around this place to understand there are really great, exciting opportunities for all of us out there, whether it be in smart regulation, whether it be the end of killing using technology, whether it be the fact we are about to get dramatically healthier, and that the cures that are about to come on the market for diseases that have been with us for so long, we are in a time of amazing disruption?

How do we future-proof our policies, and how do we get this body to stop thinking everything is either Democrat or Republican, but understand there are actual solutions, you just have to be forward-thinking with technology?

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING JOHN RUFFIER DURING PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor John Ruffier.

John Daniel Ruffier is an attorney and leader of the LGBTQ community in central Florida. John was born in Orlando, Florida, and attended Edgewater High School where he was part of the State champion men's crew team.

He went on to attend Vanderbilt University and then the University of Florida College of Law. Upon graduation from law school, John joined the law firm of Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando where he practices to this day, sitting on the firm's executive committee and leading the firm's senior housing practice group.

John has been involved in numerous community activities having served on the board of directors for both the Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless and the Hope and Health Center of Central Florida.

Along with Jennifer Foster, John founded the central Florida chapter of the Human Rights Campaign and later joined HRC's national board of governors. Following his term on HRC's board of governors, he was asked to join the board of directors for the HRC Foundation. John was also elected to the Human Rights Campaign's political board where he rose to the role of board chair in the years 2018 to 2019.

For that, John Ruffier, we honor you.

HONORING DR. GEORGE WALLACE DURING PRIDE MONTH

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Pride Month, I would like to honor Dr. George Wallace.