

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, while deportation policy is a component of immigration and should most appropriately be considered by the House Judiciary Committee, I appreciate my friend raising awareness on this issue.

The concerns expressed here today are echoed by many communities across the country who were distressed by the administration's actions. I commend the gentleman from California for highlighting this matter and urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. I rise today in support of this amendment to provide protections for Vietnamese, Laotian, and Cambodian people who came to the United States as war refugees. I thank my colleagues, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CORREA, and Ms. LOFGREN for their work on this crucial issue.

Decades ago thousands upon thousands of Vietnamese, Cambodia, and Laotian refugees fled strife, war, and persecution in their own countries and made America their home.

They started families, built businesses, and formed communities.

They have become part of the American tapestry—contributing to a nation that welcomed them and is now their home.

My district is one of the most diverse in the nation, and home to some of the largest Vietnamese and Cambodian communities outside of both countries.

As the co-chair of both the Vietnam and Cambodia congressional caucuses, I am intimately aware of the problems these refugees have faced since arriving in America.

One of the most pressing problems since the current administration took office is the deportation of members of the Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian communities across the nation.

Previous Democratic and Republican administrations put in place safeguards to prevent these refugees from being forced to return to countries that don't want them. These protections are now under attack by the current administration.

These refugees fled war and persecution. America opened its arms and accepted them. We cannot turn our backs on them now.

They are our neighbors, our friends, and our family. Often the case, they also have spouses and children who are American citizens.

Deporting them back to countries ruled by authoritarian governments is inhumane and will separate Americans from their loved ones.

I support this amendment to uphold and acknowledge these refugees' contributions to our nation and to protect them from deportation.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROUDA) having assumed the chair, Mr. VAN DREW, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1607

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my sponsorship in the Fairness to Pet Owners Act, H.R. 1607.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, all Americans, all people have the right to accessible and affordable healthcare.

While I am proud that we have recently passed five bills that improve and strengthen healthcare accessibility, lower prescription prices, and protect access for those with pre-existing conditions, we still have much more work to do.

Healthcare is the people's issue. When polled, 75 percent of Americans listed it as the most important issue to them, and not just healthcare, but affordable, accessible healthcare. We must fight to improve our healthcare system.

We must fight the opioid crisis.

We must fight to lower prescription prices, and we must unite to make sure that Americans do not go into debt because they or a loved one has an emergency or are diagnosed with a terrible illness.

The only way we are going to make real change, the only way we can protect people is if we work to come together to really form real solutions.

My message should be clear: healthcare is truly a right.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is an interesting process we have for appropriating money. Some people are wondering why there were so many requests for a recorded vote, because nor-

mally most will go by a voice vote. We don't have to gather everybody together to vote. I think it is important. I know Members are not supposed to mention this when they are asking for a recorded vote, but we have a crisis on our southern border.

Last month, there were over 144,000 individuals that came into the United States across our southern border illegally. That would seem to be a crisis. As I mentioned early this morning, around 9 o'clock, in my 1-minute speech, some of us had just returned from being at Normandy for the 75th anniversary of D-day.

What an incredible thing that is to contemplate. And, of course, for those who know history thoroughly, World War II, be aware that there was even a dress rehearsal for D-day. There were no live rounds that were utilized, and yet, the Allied forces lost hundreds of military members during that fiasco of a practice for D-Day, which some attributed as being partly the reason that General Eisenhower, as the Supreme Allied Commander, had written out a resignation letter and given it to his subordinate that tendered his resignation with instructions that if D-Day went poorly, to please submit his resignation to his superiors.

He didn't know how it was going to come out. They tried to prepare, but there are different estimates: 150,000, some up to 170,000, some 158,000 were involved in the D-Day landing at Normandy in France.

Those courageous individuals that came ashore—some tried to come ashore and didn't make it that were dropped off too far out. Some had landing crafts that were sunk, but they were trying to come ashore, and did come ashore, and there were thousands of casualties as a result.

Some of the stories bring tears to your eyes as a person contemplates what they went through. I had not been to Normandy before this weekend, and I am very grateful to Speaker PELOSI for inviting former members of the military to accompany her to Normandy. It was amazing.

I have never been to Pointe du Hoc, but having attended Texas A&M University, I knew all about, at that time, Colonel Earl Rudder's heroic actions as he took the first group of what were then called Rangers—and have been called Rangers since—who trained at Fort Benning, Georgia, for most of that training, where I spent 4 years.

He took them up the cliffs. Their goal, their job, their order was to take out the big cannons that were doing so much damage to the Allied forces. They fought their way up the cliffs, got to the top, and found out those big guns had been pulled back down the hill, so then they had to fight their way down the hill. But they did eventually take out those guns.

There were a lot of mistakes made, as there are in any conflict, but the determination was to try to soften the German forces before our troops came