

concerned about the PRO Act, a bill that will harm both job creators and their employees.

The PRO Act would amend the National Labor Relations Act and repeal right-to-work laws. Right-to-work laws protect employees from being fired for not paying monetary support to a union they don't want to join.

The PRO Act also takes away employers' rights in National Labor Relations Board cases by taking away their standing and giving employers no recourse to the NLRB.

My district is home to over 2,100 small franchise business owners that could be negatively impacted by this bill. It will hurt businesses like Arrington Enterprises, Inc., which operates Dairy Queens, Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits, and Exxon stores in Franklin County.

Aside from delivering a quality product, Arrington Enterprises, Inc., has collected close to \$18,000 for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and donated \$4,800 to local schools so far this year.

In closing, this bill would hurt local businesses and local workers.

WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I am not in the habit of praising the President from this perch, but I do want to say that I am very pleased that we are not in yet another shooting war in the Middle East today.

I think we came very, very close, and I appreciate that the President had the courage to stand down some raids that, undoubtedly, would have led to a response and led to another war in the Middle East.

I know he does that at the risk of being criticized for potentially damaging American credibility, but we are not in a war today. That is an argument for history.

What is not an argument for history is that any aggression, any military action against Iran, must be approved by the Congress of the United States. It is clear in the Constitution that a decision to go to war must be made in this building.

I urge my friends on both sides of the aisle to reflect on the reason for that. If we are going to sacrifice blood and treasure, the Representatives of the people must make that decision, not one individual at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Now is the time for us to consider whether another Middle Eastern war makes sense for the people of the United States of America.

OBSERVING ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Alzheimer's disease affects more than 5 million Americans. It is also our Nation's most expensive disease.

We have got to continue working toward finding a cure for Alzheimer's; but, in the meantime, we have to cut down on preventable hospitalizations and lower the cost of care. That is why I cosponsored the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act last Congress, which President Trump has since signed into law. This bill will help educate community members and doctors on dementia detection, diagnosis, and symptom management.

This Congress, I cosponsored the bipartisan Younger Onset Alzheimer's Act, to ensure younger people dealing with dementia or other symptoms have access to the counseling and support they need.

I urge my colleagues, family, friends, and neighbors to do their part and know the warning signs of Alzheimer's disease. Education and awareness can make a huge difference in a person's life.

STOP BUSTING THE BUDGET CAP

(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, I rise today in opposition to the appropriations minibus that we will be voting on this afternoon.

Like the first appropriations package, this legislation is being considered without reaching a budget agreement, and it would bust the budget caps by over \$350 billion in fiscal years '20 and '21.

Not only is the majority spending out of control on programs we currently have, but they are creating new programs in these bills. This circumvents the authorization process and compounds the debt problem.

Last week, I submitted an amendment to eliminate funding for one of these new pilot programs that would use Americans' hard-earned tax dollars to provide legal representation to those arriving at our southern border. My amendment would have reallocated that funding to assist victims of human trafficking and address school violence, both issues growing at the local level in our communities.

Unfortunately, Democrats on the Rules Committee voted along party lines to prevent my amendment from coming to the floor. I call on Democrat leadership to stop silencing common-sense proposals and let us debate those tough issues. It is what we were elected to do.

□ 1215

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS) laid before the House the fol-

lowing communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 25, 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 June 25, 2019, at 9:21 a.m.:

Appointment:
Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO JAPAN-UNITED STATES FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission:

Mr. HILL, Arkansas

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107-117, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:

Mr. SMITH, Missouri

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 8, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to House Resolution 6 Section 104(a), I am pleased to appoint remaining Republican Members to the House Democracy Partnership:

Hon. JEFF FORTENBERRY of Nebraska.

Hon. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY of Texas.

Hon. ADRIAN SMITH of Nebraska.

Hon. STEVE WOMACK of Arkansas.

Hon. BILL FLORES of Texas.

Hon. JACKIE WALORSKI of Indiana.

Hon. TOM RICE of South Carolina.

Hon. MARKWAYNE MULLIN of Oklahoma.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.