

your conscience, knowing that there is no appeal, knowing that you don't have to worry about the Supreme Court, and knowing that there will be history to judge us all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF BELLEFONTE OPPORTUNITY ZONE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 8, I had the privilege of hosting the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council Executive Director, Mr. Scott Turner, in Bellefonte in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District.

Mr. Turner shared his insight, his expertise, and, I will say, his passion for serving economically distressed communities, regarding the recently designated opportunity zone in Bellefonte, with myself and members of the community. It was a productive and engaging discussion hosted by the American Philatelic Society at its headquarters.

Joined by officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. General Services Administration, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Turner shared a vision behind the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, or opportunity zones, as they are more broadly known.

The Council was established to proactively address the 52 million Americans who live in economically distressed communities nationwide in urban areas, suburban areas, and, quite frankly, rural areas.

It was inspiring to hear Mr. Turner's passion when it comes to stimulating economic growth, expanding workforce development opportunities, and promoting long-term investment in distressed communities.

The opportunity zone designation was made possible by the landmark 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that I was proud to cosponsor and to support. This past April, the White House Council was formed to help align communities with a myriad of Federal agencies that can help supplement public endeavors with private investments.

Because of this, communities, and not the Federal Government, are being put in the driver's seat. The borough of Bellefonte is one of 300 opportunity zones in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, nearly 30 of which are located within Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District.

These opportunity zones were nominated by the Governor and are nominated by the Governors of each State and territory. The final vetting and finalization for selection are up to the United States Treasury Department.

Opportunity zones are an investment in Pennsylvania's future, our communities' futures, our businesses, and the people who call the Commonwealth home. These zones have great potential when it comes to revitalizing economically distressed communities all across the United States. It is my hope that they can become a catalyst for change and a catalyst for hope in communities across the country.

This facilitates investment by private investors who can take their capital gains that they may have realized because of business transactions that they are engaged in. Normally, these aren't the types of communities where these capital gains are invested. These are areas of higher unemployment and infrastructure issues, maybe housing issues, and a lower median income, not prime places for economic investment by the private sector.

With the incentives of opportunity zones, where these investors can invest these capital gains within those communities for causes and for needs defined by the members of the communities, they are able to realize tax savings.

It encourages them to maintain that investment for 10 years, where they would pay zero taxes on those capital gains and yield a tremendous return on investment for families, for individuals, and for communities.

Additionally, these 23 Federal agencies would provide preferences for competitive grants in these designated opportunity zones, another way of investing.

It was equally inspiring to hear local stakeholders discuss their new developments in Bellefonte, and I am looking forward to helping these communities seek these Federal opportunities.

As I mentioned that day, this is a program that was created by Congress and was signed by President Trump, who executed this with Scott Turner's leadership as Executive Director. It is one that really lies in the community, in terms of identifying what the needs are and the investors who come from the community.

I am grateful to the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council for its willingness to be on the ground and engage, in the hopes of sparking growth and development in all the designated opportunity zones. Specifically, on Monday, it was Bellefonte.

Moreover, I am grateful to the residents of Bellefonte for joining as engaged citizens who are passionate about the future of their town. By taking advantage of opportunity zones, communities like Bellefonte can play a more proactive role in the future and the destiny of their town that they call home.

IT IS TIME TO BEGIN AN IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, no President in the history of our country has ever been subject to as many credible allegations of illegal conduct as Donald Trump.

Given the serious nature of these crimes and the President's refusal to cooperate with congressional investigations, it is time for the House of Representatives to begin an impeachment inquiry.

The Mueller report documented compelling evidence that the President obstructed justice, including numerous attempts to shut down the Mueller investigation.

Despite the strong evidence, DOJ policies prohibited the special counsel from even considering bringing charges against a sitting President. So, Congress has a responsibility to act where Mueller left off.

For the past several months, Trump, his Attorney General, and congressional Republicans have outright lied about the contents and findings of the Mueller report. The Trump administration has repeatedly rejected or undermined congressional subpoenas and obstructed the ability of Congress to get the facts for the American people.

Launching an impeachment inquiry is a necessary step to ensure that we get to the bottom of Trump's wrongdoing. It honors the process that our Founding Fathers enshrined in our Constitution to empower Congress to investigate and hold the President accountable for committing high crimes and misdemeanors.

I believe that impeachment inquiry should examine the actions and conduct documented in the Mueller report, but an impeachment inquiry should not be limited to just those matters. Congress has the responsibility to investigate the broad range of Trump's conduct as part of our inquiry.

With all the tweets and daily distractions, we cannot lose sight of the much broader scope of Trump's alleged wrongdoing: more than a dozen accusations of sexual assault; campaign finance violations, including hush-money payments; illegal foreign contributions to the Trump inaugural committee; illegal misuse of the Trump Foundation charity for personal and political purposes; welcoming foreign interference in U.S. elections; mishandling top-secret information; and abusing the security clearance process for his son-in-law. And we shouldn't overlook how inappropriate it is for the President of the United States to engage in constant, daily lying.

The list, unfortunately, goes on and on.

Trump's actions should concern every single Member of Congress and every American citizen, regardless of what side of the aisle we are on. This activity and behavior call into question Trump's fitness to serve as President of the United States and Commander in Chief.

As a marine and as a Member of Congress, I swore to protect the Constitution of the United States, and I will not stand by as Donald Trump erodes the rule of law and our democracy. It is time for Congress to launch an impeachment investigation against President Trump.

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RECOGNIZING OFFICER PIERRE KING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true American hero, Pierre King, who is a police officer with the York Police Department in York, South Carolina.

I say this because, on May 11, 2019, Jamie Brock and his wife, Kimberly, were having dinner at Longhorn Steakhouse, celebrating their oldest son's graduation from the University of South Carolina. While eating their food, Jamie began choking and unable to breathe due to experiencing an allergic reaction to the food.

Kimberly, his wife, began screaming for help, and Officer King, who was off duty at the time, rushed to help the choking man, whom he did not know, and was able to use lifesaving techniques that he had been trained to administer and was successful in dislodging the food from Jamie's throat.

Due to the actions of Officer King, a life was saved, and in the words of Brock family: "God put you there that day, and you saved my husband and you saved our kids' father."

In the words of Officer King: "All I knew is that I was not going to let this man die, and he would do the same thing for me."

Officer King is a true American hero who epitomizes the slogan "to live is to serve" and is an example for all of us to follow.

When I think of Officer King, I think of the words of Winston Churchill, who, when Great Britain was about to be under siege by Germany, said:

There will be a time when doing your best is not good enough. We must do what is required.

Mr. Speaker, Officer King did what was required.

THE CONTINUING HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the continuing humanitarian crisis that is taking place at our border between the United States and Mexico.

Despite Congress' recent effort to provide relief to thousands of people in detention centers, children continue to be separated from their families, and people continue suffer from a lack of basic living standards that they need.

This is not the American way.

What is more, this administration has just announced new ICE raids in major American cities that will solve nothing.

We need to do more. Congress needs to act and seek long-term solutions to addressing the problems forcing people to flee their homes and seek asylum, women and children literally moving 2,000 miles, and they are not coming to Disneyland.

Congress needs to act. We should be focusing on attacking the problem at its source by increasing support to Central American countries like El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, where the majority of these migrants are coming from.

We should not be cutting foreign aid to these countries. That just exacerbates the problem. I asked Secretary Pompeo in a hearing of the Committee on Foreign Affairs almost 2 months ago: Why does not the President call a meeting with the President of Mexico and bring together the Organization of American States to come up with a comprehensive long-term solution to this problem?

I have spoken with the Ambassador from Mexico to the United States. She has expressed to me the problem that they are facing at their southern border with Guatemala. That is what we should be doing, cooperating and working with the Mexican Government and our other neighbors to the south.

We must also work to secure a basic standard of living for the detention facilities to provide for immediate relief. That is why I am cosponsoring H.R. 3239, Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in CBP Custody, to provide house screening and emergency care, to improve water and sanitation and hygiene standards, and to improve nutrition and shelter standards.

These are things that we are doing in the Middle East with the refugee relief programs for the Syrian refugees. Why would we not do this at our own border, and increase the coordination and surge capacity for the agencies to address what the needs are of these migrants?

We really do have a humanitarian crisis at our border, to be sure. I think we all recognize and understand that.

But, finally, we need to work together. We need to work together in a bipartisan fashion. That is how Congress should operate to achieve lasting, comprehensive immigration reform.

When I first came to Congress, I supported comprehensive immigration reform with the Bush administration and then with the Obama administration.

In 2013, we had a bipartisan package that was very close to passage. As a matter of fact, I think it would have passed the House had the Speaker at

the time brought it to the floor. Unfortunately, we lost that opportunity.

I urge my colleagues to join me in their commitment to working to resolve this humanitarian crisis that we are facing at the border. That is the American way. That is what we should be doing as Members of Congress.

PRAYERS FOR JACI HERMSTAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being recognized to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives. I would first like to point out and to show here, to America, Jaci Hermstad.

Jaci Hermstad is from Spencer, Iowa. Her identical twin sister, in 2011, passed away from an aggressive form of ALS, which we often know of as Lou Gehrig's disease.

The DNA from her sister is part of a treatment for Jaci, who was diagnosed on Valentine's Day of this year with the same disease. And because of the work and the cooperation of the FDA, some wonderful scientists, and a lot of work done by my staff—and I want to stand here and thank Speaker PELOSI for her cooperation—we were able to convince the FDA to grant a waiver so Jaci could receive this treatment.

She is in Columbia University, now, receiving treatments. Her third treatment is this morning, just about as I speak, and it will be a triple dose. And if this works—and she is in my prayers every day—we have opened a path to one day put an end to that deadly and debilitating disease of ALS.

And by the way, she is a spunky gal with a sassy sense of humor, and if you knew her like I know her, you would love her.

This is Jaci. She is definitely in my prayers this day and every day.

CENSUS QUESTIONS

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about the topic that will be raised by the President this afternoon in the Rose Garden, as I understand, and it is the topic of whether the question of "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" should and could be on the Census.

I have introduced a bill, H.R. 1320. This has been introduced last time and this year, and H.R. 1320 is a bill that has asked these questions. It says:

What is person number one's legal status?

Are you a citizen or a national of the United States?

Are you a lawfully admitted permanent resident?

Are you none of those things, or do you have an other lawful status?

And then it follows up and says: If you have other lawful status, what is that status? Are you here on a green card? Are you here on a student visa? Are you here on a work permit of some kind?

So, we need a full inventory of the population of the United States. That