

Here, I am going to make a point. A lot of these folks do find something in the community for 4 or 5 hours a week. Now, I am going to let people wonder when somebody works only 4 or 5 hours a week, particularly in this employment, why that is. Some of these lack-of-common-sense advocates feel that if somebody is able to find a job for 4 hours a week at the local grocery store, they should be able to find a job for 36 hours a week at the local grocery store.

I will tell you, if you talk to the owners of these places, which are very nice people, frequently they are giving out jobs kind of as a community service, which is why these folks are only working 4 to 6 hours a week at one of these places. They are not going to be able to get jobs for 35 or 36 hours a week.

And when the sheltered workshop closes, it is not going to be replaced with a job in the community. It is going to be hour after hour sitting at home watching TV, or it is going to be at day services, which amounts to babysitting.

They are going to lose the satisfaction and pride that comes with work, and they are going to lose the independence of getting their own paycheck and not being as dependent on government support.

I like getting a paycheck. I used to have a job in the community, but I fell and couldn't keep up. I love working in the workshop until I can get another job in the community. If there was no workshop, I would just color all day. I like having work to do.

Bingo. And there are people who would be happy to just have day services and have somebody color all day and not have the satisfaction of having a job.

I am a person with a disability who knows that not everyone can work in a job in the community. It takes hard work in being able to follow directions. Sometimes bosses are hard on you and want you to do more than you can. It is not easy to have a job and follow all the rules. I have friends who got fired or quit because it is hard.

Why can't people with disabilities have choices?

Some people might say they want to work, but when they do leave a sheltered workshop, they come back because it is hard out there in the work world. Maybe there are some agencies holding people back who really can work, bagging groceries or doing janitorial work. But there are very good agencies out there who are giving people with significant disabilities an opportunity to earn money because they can't work in the community. Please, please, please consider people with IDD and low IQ and not make this work go away.

I have many regular jobs, but I like my program because it is not as stressful and more understanding. Staff are easy to talk to and you don't have to worry if the place will be staffed. Someone is there.

Regular jobs are a lot harder. Applications are online, and that is not easy. Some people are not understanding in a competitive job. Communication is hard. They don't understand disabilities.

I don't get minimum wage, but it is not worth it. The more work I do, my pay goes up. I am not forced to do anything I can't do. Breaks and hours are better than at another job. I feel like I work more on a team than I ever have. Other jobs don't give you enough time. I think my program is cool and gets people ready for regular jobs, if they want to.

Don't take away 14(c). It would hurt me. I get to be with my friends and make money, too.

Again, this person is pointing out that frequently people in these work centers are working with people with similar abilities, they enjoy being with people with similar abilities, and it is more stressful not being with people with these abilities. So even if other jobs are available, you are sometimes hurting these people, and you should not be telling them what they should be doing.

I work at a 14(c) program. Programs like mine perform a valuable service by offering much-needed alternatives to workplace environments that people with intellectual disabilities may not be totally comfortable with. The staff are much more tolerant and understanding of the difficulties that people with disabilities have versus staff at a CI environment.

Ever since I was a little kid, people such as teachers and relatives have all tried to push

me to be as normal as possible, but with programs like this I can be myself.

I guess I will wrap it up. There are other testimonials that I can read. I will wrap it up by saying that the silent majority has to speak up.

And I would strongly encourage my colleagues to tour the local work centers. It will make them feel better to see how these people are working. It will make them feel better to see the pride that these folks take in a job.

If they talk to them, they will tell them how much they enjoy working in the work center. And then they can ask themselves, if this minimum wage bill passes as is, if the new rules that are proposed in the Department of Education go forward, they will ask themselves, What will become of these folks?

They should feel very guilty when they charge ahead, not paying attention to what the most vulnerable members of society will have happen to them, because people in this institution, or bureaucrats a few buildings away, have decided that they know best what is for people other than themselves and have decided against all common sense that everybody in our society is capable of making \$15 an hour.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HUDSON (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of an official visit to Fort Bragg with Vice President MIKE PENCE.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 375. An act to improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide improper payments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House Proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows. House Report 116–125 will be continued in Book II and Book III.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 9 a.m.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 736, the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1646. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2019-0003] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8583] received July 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public