

biggest sponsor of terrorism in the world. And then we have the National Council, the NCRI, led by the president-elect, Madame Rajavi. Coalition of resistance organizations respected throughout the world. There are representatives of most of the major countries in the world here. They've gotten to know her. They've gotten to respect her. In my country, she's thoroughly respected.

We know there's a group of people who have been fighting for freedom all their lives, who have lost the closets people to them in the fight for freedom, who are dedicated to it.

People here at Ashraf, let's make it clear. I spent a lot of time with them. These are people who are dedicated to freedom. And if you think that's a cult, then there's something wrong with you. There's something missing in your soul.

But we know that there is a government in exile, it negotiates with the whole world, and it's written down plain as can be what it stands for. And it looks just like our Bill of Rights, just like the universal declarations of freedom and decency and human rights enshrined in the great documents of the world. Free elections within six months is the promise, and I believe it will be fulfilled. They're for gender equality. They're for human rights. They're for a system of law. They're for we don't imprison someone unless they have a fair trial. And because of their history, they oppose capital punishment, because there's been too much of it. And it isn't just capital punishment, it's murder in their country. This is a good organization. And it's an organization that is ready, willing and able not to take over Iran but to guide Iran to elections as quickly as possible and hopefully they will be part of the coalition governing Iran like they're part of the coalition that is trying to guide Iran to freedom. This is a group that we can support. It's a group that we should stop maligning and it's a group that should make us comfortable having regime change in the worst regime in the world.

Here's what you can do. You can be a witness like in the Biblical sense of a witness. You know something that a lot of people don't know. You know really how bad it is in Iran. And you know about MEK. And you know about Madame Rajavi. And you know the truth, not the lies, "the cult, they don't have support in Iran." Why has the Ayatollah been murdering them for 40 years if they don't have support in Iran? The Ayatollah, Rouhani, have said that this organization is the only one that's really a danger to them.

You now have a responsibility because of your knowledge. Don't be euphemistic about it. Don't hide your eyes. You've got to get the leaders of your country to stand up so you can all be proud of your country and its heritage.

I get attacked and my colleagues who will be here in a moment get attacked all the time in America. Why we're doing this? We're doing it really very simply because we love freedom and we can't turn our back on people who are being treated this way and we can't turn our back on a situation that could be catastrophic for them and catastrophic for the world. You know what I say to them? Keep doing it. Keep doing it. I wear it as a badge of honor. I support freedom, you support oppression. I support democracy, you support a dictatorship. I support decent people who share the values of decent governments, and you support mass murderers. Now who's right and who's wrong?

But I know and I feel as I've told you, and I know why there's an optimism in this room. Because we're going to be in Tehran much sooner than all those cynics believe. You know why? [Because we are Hazer, Hazer, Hazer. (We're ready)."]

CELEBRATION OF THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF HIGGINSVILLE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sesquicentennial of Higginsville, Missouri. For the past 150 years, Higginsville has served as the hub of Lafayette County and the home of a tight-knit, caring community. May it stand for another 150 years as a glittering example to other towns around the country.

In 1869, the town was incorporated on land purchased by its namesake, Harvey Higgins. A post office was soon established, and the growth of the town took off from there. The first school was built in 1886 and enrolled 572 students by 1888. Powered by coal mines, manufacturing, and agriculture, the population exploded until it had over 2,500 people living there in 1910. To point the way to a bustling town, the yellow "Welcome to Higginsville" finger signs were installed on Highway 13 and US Highway 40 (now I-70) in 1924. These four iconic signs stand today as a sunny tribute to the hospitality of Higginsville's people.

The 20th century and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal programs brought development and investment, including Fairground park, a swimming pool, and a new post office with a mural done by a student of the great regionalist painter Thomas Hart Benton. After World War II, further investment brought a golf course, additions to the park, a new city hall, new school buildings, and a municipal airport.

In 1967, the Higginsville and Corder School districts were consolidated forming the Lafayette County C-1 school district. The school has grown to serve almost a thousand students and stands as a center of academic excellence. It was Accredited with Distinction in Performance by the State of Missouri for the 2009-2010 school year. The district's competent instructors, small class sizes, and abundant resources makes it one of the best schools in the county.

Situated less than fifty miles outside of Kansas City and near I-70, Higginsville residents have the advantages of both easy access to city and country living. Jobs in Kansas City are easily accessible, and there are also good jobs in Higginsville. Lafayette County's top employer is the Higginsville Habilitation Center and Northwest Community Services. Higginsville also serves as the central police dispatch for Lafayette County, making it essential to keeping the whole county safe. Higginsville also has innumerable civil society organizations and churches that are the backbone of the community. From the Freemasons and the Odd Fellows to the Rotary and 4-H, the people of Higginsville are civically minded and active volunteers. These volunteers come together every September to put on the Country Fair, a bustling week of activities and con-

tests that culminates in a bustling street fair and parade.

Furthermore, Higginsville is home to some of the best retirement facilities in the area. Meyer Care Center and John Knox Village East (a not-for-profit retirement community) are cornerstones of the community and world-class homes for senior citizens.

The quality schools, solid jobs, and caring retirement communities make Higginsville a good place to grow-up, work, and retire. Higginsville is successful because of its citizens' commitment to improving the community, through their community organizations, churches, and fraternal spirit. This commitment will never diminish, and Higginsville will continue to be a crossroads of Missouri and the center of Lafayette County. Madam Speaker, please join me, Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, and citizens across the nation in honoring the City of Higginsville for 150 years of community and growth.

HONORING AMERICAN VETERANS IN EXTREME NEED ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2938, "The Honoring American Veterans in Extreme Need Act of 2019", or the HAVEN Act.

Section 2 would amend Bankruptcy Code section 101(1 OA), which defines current monthly income" for purposes of the Code's means test, to exclude compensation paid by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Defense to an individual in connection with a disability, combat-related injury or disability, or death of a member of the uniformed services.

I strongly support this legislation because it would bring certain veterans' disability benefits paid by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Defense into parity with the treatment of Social Security payments under the Bankruptcy Code's means test.

Although Social Security benefits are not treated as income for purposes of the Bankruptcy Code's means test, veterans' disability benefits do constitute income under this test.

This requirement applies even with respect to servicemembers who have returned to the United States from active service and thus no longer receive combat pay.

Under the means test, such servicemember would have to calculate his or her income based on the average monthly income that he or she received during the six-month period preceding the filing date of the bankruptcy case, rather than the debtor's actual income, which may be much less because of the debtor's non-combat status.

Many veterans become ineligible for the more immediate discharge available under Chapter 7 and, instead, they are steered into Chapter 13, which requires a debtor to make payments to creditors pursuant to a 3 or 5 year plan before he or she can receive a discharge.

According to the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ), such treatment