

President Trump, his America is an America where Congress does not include Native Americans, Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, or LGBTQ Americans. His vision for America is one where people like my parents and grandparents are not welcome.

What I find ironic about Donald Trump's anti-immigrant vision for this country is it contradicts his own family's history. Donald Trump's grandfather, Friedrich Trump, moved to the United States in 1885 for many reasons, including to escape poverty. Today, President Trump is hurting our reputation by denying entry to asylum seekers who are fleeing many of the hardships his very own grandfather was escaping.

In 1905, after making his fortune in the United States running a brothel, Grandfather Trump attempted to go back to Germany, only to be denied entry for failing to complete military service in his own country of Germany, something that apparently runs in the family.

After attempting to appeal the denial in a flattering letter to the Prince of Germany, addressing him as the much-loved, noble, wise, and righteous sovereign and sublime ruler, Friedrich Trump's request to return to Germany was denied for a second time.

My father and mother moved to the United States in 1946 seeking a better life for their family because they heard of the promise of the United States of America, that if you work hard and play by the rules, you can succeed and your children can have a better life.

I stand before you today an American-born citizen and a Member of the United States Congress because my parents worked hard and played by the rules. I wasn't handed a fortune like President Trump. I was taught the values of keeping my word, being kind to others, and working for what I earn.

Mr. Speaker, this President would like us to believe that he is more patriotic than the Congresswomen he has repeatedly attacked, not because of anything he has done for this country, but because he believes that this country's rights and protections only apply to the privileged, like himself.

Honor and patriotism exist in some more than others. My brother-in-law, Hector, who was born in Mexico and is now a citizen of the United States of America, answered the call to serve our great country, when Donald Trump avoided service time and time again.

While Donald Trump was dodging the draft five times, my brother-in-law, Hector, was serving the United States of America in Vietnam.

While Donald Trump was ripping off small businesses right here at home, Hector was shot while serving his country in Vietnam.

My Mexican-born brother-in-law has served this country honorably, and if Donald Trump had his way, Hector would never have had the chance to serve our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, does the word "patriot" come to mind when you think of a man who dodged the draft time and time again, or does the word "patriot" come to mind when you think of a man who answered the call of duty and bled for our great country?

Mr. Speaker, I tell these truths to remind us all why the United States of America is great: We are a country of brave and beautiful American citizens and brave and beautiful immigrants from all over the world who contribute to the greatness of our great Nation every single day.

May God bless the diverse and beautiful people of the United States of America, and God bless the United States of America.

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

REPEAL THE MEDICAL DEVICE TAX

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak against the medical device tax.

Utah has earned a reputation as a thriving hub for innovation in life sciences, leading the Nation in technology breakthroughs. Each year, medical device manufacturers in Utah pioneer new, exciting medical technologies that help patients live longer and more productive lives.

Unfortunately, the culture of collaboration and innovation has been threatened by the medical device tax, a tax on device manufacturers that has stalled medical technology investment across the country.

Although Congress has come together on a bipartisan basis time and time again to delay its implementation, the continuous threat of heavy, onerous taxation has stifled job growth among medical technology innovators and has delayed cutting-edge research that could potentially lead to breakthroughs in patient care and treatment.

As it stands today, this tax will come into effect January 1, 2020. The impact would be devastating in Utah, where the med tech industry employs thousands of Utahns and contributes approximately \$5 billion to the local economy. One local company estimated the tax would cost them over \$7 million, money that would otherwise be reinvested into workforce and technology development.

As we approach this January deadline, I call upon my colleagues to come together and finally repeal the tax on innovation once and for all.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight our critical relationship with Israel, an alliance not only important to our two countries, but to the tectonic plates of global geopolitics.

I was pleased to both cosponsor and vote in favor of the United States-Israel Cooperation Enhancement and Regional Security Act and the resolution opposing the efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Disinvestment, and Sanctions movement targeting Israel, two important legislative priorities, because I believe Israel's safety and security is critical to our own safety and security. More importantly, it is the right thing to do.

I have shared with my colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Israel holds a special place in my heart. As a college student 40 years ago, I had the opportunity to spend a semester in Jerusalem and get to know the people and cultures. I developed a unique appreciation and understanding for the struggles they face on a daily basis.

As many of us know, the BDS movement exists solely to delegitimize Israel's very existence, and I am proud of the House of Representatives coming together on a bipartisan basis with a unified voice that we will not stand idly by while one of our closest allies is targeted and vilified. The path to peace between Israel and Palestine will not be hindered by that kind of blind hatred.

Although this BDS resolution sends a critical message, it falls short of what is ultimately needed to address the long-term challenges. I am hopeful that the House will consider stronger legislation with actual binding policy provisions to help the United States stand with Israel against BDS.

I am prepared to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address these issues and those facing our allies.

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RECOGNIZING APOLLO ENGINEER MARION JOHNSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Marion Johnson for her contribution to landing a man on the Moon 50 years ago this month.

A product of the First Congressional District of Georgia, Ms. JOHNSON used her love of math to break barriers throughout her life not only in math and science but also for women and people of color.

With a math degree from Talladega College, Ms. JOHNSON took a risk and applied to become one of the first female and/or minority engineers at Boeing. She was accepted. By chance, it happened to be around the same time that President Kennedy announced the national mission of sending a man to the Moon.

At Boeing, she worked on a team of engineers with the specific mission of putting a man on the Moon.

In her own words, she said, “We worked hard. We worked Saturdays. We worked afternoons and evenings until we got it right.”

The rest is history. Now, Ms. JOHNSON’s name is enshrined in the Apollo Saturn V Roll of Honor at the Smithsonian and Library of Congress.

I could not have been prouder to have someone like Ms. JOHNSON from the First Congressional District of Georgia contributing to this engineering marvel that changed world history.

RECOGNIZING BLACKSHEAR TIMES’ ROBERT AND CHERYL WILLIAMS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Cheryl Williams, who are retiring after nearly 50 years of running the Blackshear Times in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

The oldest business in the area, the newspaper is 150 years old this year. Under Mr. and Mrs. Williams’ leadership, the Blackshear Times has become one of the top papers in Georgia, receiving over 400 awards. Nearly everyone in Pierce County gets their news from the newspaper, exemplified in the Blackshear Times tag line, “Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by Them All.”

Mr. WILLIAMS edited and published, his dream job since he was a young child. Mrs. Williams continually kept the paper’s financials in check.

“To be a good paper, first, you have to be a good business,” Mr. WILLIAMS said in praise of his wife’s work.

I am proud to have the Blackshear Times in my district, and I am thankful that Mr. and Mrs. Williams dedicated 50 years to the paper and keeping the Blackshear community informed.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Williams on their retirement. They both will be missed.

RECOGNIZING HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SAM WEINREICH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Sam Weinreich, who is celebrating not only his 100th birthday in August but also his 73rd wedding anniversary with his wife, Frieda.

Referred to as Zadie, from Yiddish, Mr. Weinreich is a Holocaust survivor who spent time in both the Auschwitz and Dachau concentration camps. He was the only survivor from his family, which included nine of his siblings. His hometown, Lodz, Poland, once contained over 200,000 Jews and the second largest Jewish community in Europe.

After the Nazi occupation ended, Mr. Weinreich was one of only 6,000 to survive. Mr. Weinreich survived in part because he was a Jewish doctor and received more privileges than other prisoners, but he also had a beautiful voice and would sing songs in front of the guards for food.

Now living in Memphis, Tennessee, Mr. Weinreich has dedicated his life to sharing his story and ensuring that a tragedy of this magnitude will never happen again.

Mr. Speaker, happy birthday and anniversary, Zadie.

CONGRESSIONAL INTERNS SHARE CONCERNS ABOUT NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, President Herbert Hoover once stated, “Blessed are the young, for they will inherit the national debt.”

Four young interns in my office—Nathan Olsen, Jill Oxley, Austin Snell, and Tyler Wiley—recently shared their concerns about the debt burden they will inherit from debt-addicted Washington politicians. These remarks reflect their concerns.

Ironically, their concerns coincide with a massive \$2 trillion deficit bill Congress will soon vote on that bequeaths at least \$24 trillion in debt to America’s future generations. Bequeathing this dangerous debt is the greatest disservice ever done by one American generation to another.

My interns itemize three ways in which excessive debt endangers America.

First, excessive government debt and borrowing compete with and crowd out private borrower investment opportunities by decreasing available credit, thereby costing American jobs and better incomes. According to the Congressional Budget Office, when the government borrows, it borrows from people in businesses, which limits American business and citizen opportunity, which, in turn, drives them to be less productive, cuts their compensation, and makes them less inclined to work. In sum, excessive government debt stunts future growth and hurts the American economy and people.

Second, excessive debt hurts Congress’ ability to respond to challenges and emergencies. The Peter G. Peterson Foundation warns that high levels of debt reduce our government’s flexibility concerning “future emergencies, unanticipated challenges, wars, or recessions.”

The Peterson Foundation adds that one reason “the United States was able to recover from the Great Recession more quickly than other countries was because our debt was fairly low, at 35 percent of GDP.”

As recent history proves, America can better respond to a financial crisis if we are not drowning in excessive debt. Unfortunately, by year’s end, America’s debt will explode to roughly 78 percent of GDP, more than double that of a mere decade ago. That trend is dangerous.

Third, as America’s debt becomes more unmanageable, our creditors become increasingly concerned about government default and national bankruptcy and insolvency. The Congressional Budget Office warns that with the debt-to-GDP ratio projected to grow to “unprecedented levels, it is in-

creasingly likely that . . . investors will become concerned about the risk of default.”

America has clearly entered dangerous, uncharted financial waters. The greater the debt, the greater the risk.

How do we safely navigate these dangerous waters? Washington must learn from history and heed the advice of President John F. Kennedy, who said we do not choose to cut spending because it is easy, but because it is hard. Unfortunately, today’s Washington politicians reject President Kennedy’s wisdom because they are as hopelessly addicted to debt as a junkie is to heroin.

As a result, America faces a mountainous \$22 trillion debt and a bipartisan debt agreement that adds yet another \$2 trillion in debt in just 2 years.

If America is to soar to new heights rather than crash and burn on a mountain of debt, Washington politicians must act like adults. Our choice is clear.

Washington can rack up obscene deficits, accumulated debt, and pay hundreds of billions of dollars each year in debt service costs, with the ultimate catastrophe being debilitating national insolvency and bankruptcy. Or Washington can protect America’s future, stop unnecessary spending, and bequeath future generations economic freedom and prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I choose the path of economic freedom and prosperity for future American generations. That is why I vote against so many unnecessary and excessive spending bills that we don’t have the money to pay for. And that is why I will vote against the proposed spending deal that creates a short-term debt junkie high while badly risking America’s future and health.

HONORING WAR HERO TOM “PINKY” FUNDERBURK

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 celebrate a man who is part of the Greatest Generation, Tom “Pinky” Funderburk of Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Mr. Funderburk has been awarded the French Legion of Honor. Pinky flew B-17 bombers, known as the Flying Fortress, with the Mighty 8th United States Air Force during World War II.

The Legion of Honor was established by Napoleon in 1802 as the highest French order of merit for military and civil merits.

The first dangerous missions for which Pinky was awarded the Legion of Honor took place on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of April 1945 over Royan, France. His crew’s mission was to bomb the 30,000 encamped German troops concentrated around Royan on the coast of France.