

one of my constituents in bearing witness to the devastating effects of what some call “free trade.”

On the campaign trail, President Trump repeatedly boasted he would scrap NAFTA and renegotiate a better deal. But his proposal lacks common-sense labor enforcement provisions, falls short of pressuring companies to reshore American jobs, and it provides massive carveouts for Big Pharma that will cause the price of prescription drugs to skyrocket even more.

I have always been an advocate for fair trade among free people, but NAFTA crashed the largest economy in the world—the United States—into that of a developing nation—Mexico—without any plan to deal with the human and economic consequences.

Madam Speaker, as currently written, the USMCA, NAFTA 2.0, continues this failed legacy of NAFTA 1.0, and remains a failure for the American worker. The USMCA is just NAFTA 2.0. It should be defeated.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S SECOND DISTRICT BUS TOUR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from Washington and district offices.

I especially appreciate scheduler Stephanie Pendarvis for successfully coordinating her first bus tour in the tradition of Emily Saleeby.

Our trip consisted of over 20 stops across 5 counties in the district. It was humbling and inspiring to meet with constituents at small businesses, schools, chambers of commerce, and manufacturers.

Many of the stops I visited were rapidly growing, including Charter NEX Films of Columbia, a world leader in high-performance specialty films, who plan to add 100 more jobs, along with Swiss Krono of Barnwell, who plan to add 105 jobs. In addition, the Orangeburg County/City Industrial Park has begun construction to welcome new businesses and jobs.

I appreciate the Irmo Chamber of Commerce hosting a town hall on the tour. I am grateful to be accessible and accountable to constituents.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

EXPEDITED ENTRY AND TPS FOR BAHAMIANS

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support, strong support, for the people of the Bahamas in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. Residents of the

Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands are in a desperate situation.

This is a humanitarian crisis, the likes of which has never before faced the Bahamas. I am grateful for the efforts of the USAID and the U.S. Coast Guard, which have been instrumental in leading search-and-rescue efforts and providing emergency food assistance to Bahamians.

As the chair of the House Committee on Financial Services and co-chair of the Congressional Caribbean Caucus, I strongly support an expedited U.S. visa application process or a waiver process for Bahamians who are seeking to enter the U.S., and I am extremely supportive of the extension of the Temporary Protected Status designation for all Bahamians who cannot safely return to the Bahamas.

Displaced Bahamians must be treated with respect, and all applications for visas must be processed efficiently and in an emergency manner. The road to recovery for Bahamians will be long and difficult, but all Bahamians must be treated with respect.

Madam Speaker, the United States is standing with the Bahamas during this difficult time. We will do all that we can to aid in the recovery efforts in the coming weeks and months.

COMMEMORATING FRANCIS BELLAMY

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Francis Bellamy, one of the most influential individuals from Mount Morris, New York.

Francis Bellamy is the author of the Pledge of Allegiance. Yesterday marked the 127th anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in a magazine called The Youth Companion on September 8, 1892.

The pledge was initially written as part of a campaign to put American flags in every school in the country. In its original form, it read:

“I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

In 1923, the words “the flag of the United States of America” were added. And in 1954, Congress added the words, “under God” creating the 31-word pledge we say today.

Bellamy's words are recited millions of times every day and are engrained in our society as an expression of national pride and patriotism.

D.C. STATEHOOD

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 19, the Committee on Oversight and Reform will

hold a historic hearing on D.C. statehood. It will be the first hearing on H.R. 51 in 26 years.

This is not an informational hearing, Madam Speaker. This is a jurisdictional hearing in every meaning of that word.

The State will still be called Washington, D.C., but D.C. will stand for Douglass Commonwealth after the immortal Frederick Douglass, who championed equal rights for D.C. citizens.

D.C. residents pay the highest Federal taxes per capita in the United States. No wonder this bill has almost enough cosponsors to pass right now. It is not too late to cosponsor. Don't let H.R. 51 go to the House floor without you.

HONORING SEPTEMBER VETERAN OF THE MONTH ANDY KOEHL

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran, Colonel Andy Koehl, U.S. Army Retired.

Colonel Koehl enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard in 1936. During World War II, he spent 43 months in the South Pacific, during which he participated in five amphibious landings as an artillery officer, was wounded in action, and was awarded the Purple Heart.

In August 1945, he again risked his life as one of the first occupation troops to enter Hiroshima after the atomic bomb.

Following World War II, he continued his stellar career by serving multiple worldwide tours of duty, including service in Vietnam from 1961 to 1963 as part of the first advisors dispatched to that area.

And this past May, Colonel Koehl celebrated his 100th birthday. But in fact, it is we who celebrate him.

Our Nation owes him a debt of gratitude for all he has endured over 30 years of service to protect our freedoms and a faith that brought him through the darkest days of war.

Madam Speaker, I thank Colonel Koehl. I thank him for blessing us with his life of sacrifice.

CONGRATULATING CAPE MAY 4-H

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, Cape May County's 4-H Foundation and Fairgrounds recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. After many years of moving from place to place, the 4-H Fair opened on July 24, 1969, at its current fairgrounds in Cape May County in South Jersey.

Many of the traditions established back then are still carried on today, such as a chicken BBQ, pet parade, and talent show for the young people who participate in the 4-H program.