

Belgium, until a U.S. visa arrived in March of 1940. The family left for the United States just before the Nazis invaded Belgium. With much persistence and against all odds, the Salmon family joined a small group of German Jewish refugees on Staten Island. To support his family Paul became a door-to-door salesman and went into the import-export business.

Egon attended New Dorp High School on Staten Island and was drafted into the U.S. Army upon graduating. He trained for combat duty in South Carolina and was granted U.S. citizenship before being sent overseas to North Africa and then to Naples, Italy, in 1943. Egon served in the U.S. Army in the Italian Campaign until 1945, overcoming great prejudices against Germans and Jews in his unit. He was placed in a unit that occupied Austria for nine months, using his ability to speak German to benefit his new country. He was awarded the combat infantry badge and three battle stars for his service.

After he returned to Staten Island, Egon joined his father's business and then established Salmon Real Estate in 1956, which continues to operate to this day. Egon served as president of the Staten Island Board of Realtors and was a New York City Tax Commissioner. With his wife Marie, a native Staten Islander, Egon took an active role in the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island. In 2016, Egon and Marie established the Egon J. Salmon and Family Commemoration of Kristallnacht and the *St. Louis* at Wagner College in New York to strengthen Staten Island's first Holocaust Center and to remind those of all faiths in his beloved borough to "Never Forget."

The story of Egon Salmon and his family is the epitome of the American dream. He fled persecution in search of a better life and sacrificed for his new home in the United States Army. He gave back to his community by starting a business and creating jobs, and his family continues to serve our community to this day. So Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commending Egon Salmon and his family and thank them for their heroism and service to the United States.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA'S
FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DIS-
TRICT'S NEWEST CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate twenty-five individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on November 1, 2019. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a

better opportunity for success than here in America.

On November 1, 2019, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Vilma Aguilar, Ekaterina Shouldice, Ana Maria Bowie, Rosa Martha Perez Elizalde, Meguila Sesante Alvarez, Damilare Mustapha Jimoh, Felipe Briseno, Ivonett Alejandra Suarez, Alfredo H. Luna, Zarish Raza, Elena Alexandrovna Burtseva, Ivonne Cecilia Rocha, Connor MacDonald McCoy, Elena Ancevski, Francine Ingabire, Ahmad Haisam Zazour, Alexander Donghui Lee, Maria Asuncion Mansilla, Nyamar Chan Nhal, Arnulfo Loera, Vincent Balinda, Zulema Lisette Lee, Paul Edward Nyongani, Robenson Petit Bien, and Payal Dilipbhai Patel.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country ". . . of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on November 1, 2019. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

CONGRATULATING THE CHAMBER

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on the occasion of its 100th annual meeting.

In September of 1918, Gettysburg businessman Roy Funkhouser organized a group of local businessmen to support economic development in Gettysburg, commencing the service of the Chamber of Commerce. In the past century, the chamber has expanded its reach to serve the entirety of Adams County.

Throughout its history, the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce has led and supported important projects. From helping to establish a county library in 1931 to supporting the victims of Hurricane Andrew and commencing Adams County's Small Business Appreciation week tradition, the membership of the chamber has made a lasting legacy in our region.

With more than 600 members, the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce is a strong advocate for entrepreneurs and the workforce of Adams County. It is my privilege to represent the chamber in the U.S. House of Representa-

tives, and I congratulate the leaders and members of the chamber upon this outstanding achievement.

EDUCATING MEDICAL PROFES-
SIONALS AND OPTIMIZING
WORKFORCE EFFICIENCY AND
READINESS FOR HEALTH ACT OF
2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2781, the "EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019."

H.R. 2781 reauthorizes funding at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for health professions workforce, education, and training programs.

This legislation expands efforts to increase diversity, improve geriatrics education and training, and grow the pediatric health care workforce.

The legislation also creates a new authorization of \$5 million to increase workforce diversity in the professions of physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology.

By 2032, the United States may face a shortage of over 100,000 physicians; if health care access were equitable across race, health insurance coverage, and geographic location, we would require almost 100,000 more physicians today.

Groups such as the National Black Nurses Association have been advocating for a more diverse workforce to ensure access to the highest quality of healthcare for persons of color.

The Kinder Institute at Rice University in Houston has determined that the greater Houston area is becoming increasingly diverse.

The Kinder Institute noted that in 2010, the Houston metropolitan area became the nation's most racially/ethnically diverse large metropolitan area in the nation.

While the largest growth has been among Latinos, other racial/ethnic groups in the metropolitan region have also either increased or remained the same.

This growth and expanding racial/ethnic diversity can bring social, economic and health system challenges that exacerbate disparities.

Efforts to increase diversity in the work force will lead to more respect and understanding, more creativity and innovation, less of a language barrier and social challenges, and an overall better patient outcome and satisfaction.

This act will ensure that patients in Harris County and around the country have access to skilled physicians and medical professionals—regardless of where they live.

By reauthorizing key Title VII funding, it will increase access to physicians and other providers in underserved areas, and promote training opportunities for physicians to maintain and improve their skills.

I applaud Rep. SCHAKOWSKY for introducing this legislation to help to better support the health of the citizens of the United States.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2781 to amend title