

America, we have, instead, the majority party conducting baseless impeachment hearings.

I conclude again by calling on NANCY PELOSI and the majority party to do the things the American people actually want Congress to do.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

FUND THE MILITARY

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, there are 8 days until our military funding runs out. Instead of funding the military, the House is kicking the can down the road. Instead of bringing stability to our servicemembers, House Democratic leadership is focused on a partisan impeachment process.

Our men and women in uniform deserve better than this. They deserve to have their mission, training, weapons, and equipment properly funded.

However, next week, when we reach the funding deadline, we will likely vote on a continuing resolution, a CR. A CR is not a thoughtful approach to support our servicemembers. A CR maintains current spending levels for the military and continues this cycle of uncertainty for our servicemembers.

While better than a shutdown, there are real-world consequences to simply passing a CR:

The Air Force is short 2,100 pilots. A CR does not provide the Air Force with new funding to train new pilots to fill these positions.

A CR prevents the Army from building 4,000 housing units for its members.

A CR forces the Navy to cancel ship maintenance periods and undermines critical training programs.

This is a dangerous funding cycle that jeopardizes our servicemembers' safety and their ability to protect our country.

Once again, our Federal spending process is broken, and it has gotten us into this mess. Let's stop the partisan politics. Let's focus on supporting our military. And let's work to fix the broken spending process here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, we must never allow our servicemembers and their mission to be put at risk again.

RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 100 years of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. For a century, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau has supported farmers in Wisconsin.

Agriculture is a Wisconsin tradition. Generations of Wisconsinites have dedicated their life to farming and feeding our State and the world. From milk to cheese, from sweet corn to soybeans, from cranberries to whey, our proud, hardworking Wisconsin farmers are there.

I thank the Wisconsin Farm Bureau for helping Wisconsin become and remain America's dairyland.

Happy 100 years.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM ON FIFTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Wisconsin women's hockey team on winning their fifth national championship in program history.

They beat the Minnesota Gophers 2-0 to win their first national championship in 8 years. Kristen Campbell did not give up a goal, and it was her 11th shutout of the season. To make the victory better, we beat our rival, Minnesota.

The Badgers' women's hockey team is visiting my office and the White House to celebrate this success.

Congrats to the University of Wisconsin women's hockey team for their hard-earned victory. The Badger State is proud of them. On, Wisconsin.

HONORING CHIEF OF STAFF RYAN THOMPSON

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

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, what are the best things an American can do for his or her country?

Public service, military service, community service.

What does a true public servant look like?

Someone who possesses exemplary character, integrity, and inspires confidence. Someone who has the network of relationships on both sides to be both respected and effective.

How do you honor a man who gave 20 years to the United States Government and the House of Representatives, the United States Marine Corps Infantry, and dedicated his free time to bringing Democrats and Republicans together in the name of charity?

Ryan Thompson, my trusted chief of staff and dear friend, who sits here with me, joins us on the House floor for the final time today.

He has accompanied me and our former boss to the floor countless times and always helped us look and do our best. Today is different, though, because this is his moment.

Mr. Speaker, there are proud members of the United States Marine Corps and there are proud graduates of Texas A&M University—Texas Aggies.

Occasionally, God blesses the world by combining both of those things in one person. Such is the case with Ryan Thompson.

Ryan is a proud, sixth-generation Texan of the Aggie variety, who serves

as a past president of the Texas State Society. A true philanthropist, Ryan has dedicated thousands of hours over the past decade to organizing the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Baseball Game, which raises millions of dollars for local charities each year.

Furthermore, Ryan founded and leads the Congressional Sports for Charity Foundation, which was created to ensure that the Congressional Baseball Game and other congressional charity events live on for decades to come.

Ryan wisely understands that the game is not only essential to the many charities it helps but serves another cause in need, the Congress itself.

Today, on behalf of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington, D.C.; the Washington Nationals Dream Foundation; and the Washington Literacy Council, which honored him with the Champion for Literacy Award—not to mention a grateful institution and Nation—thank you and happy trails to Ryan Scott Thompson.

Like a Texas live oak, he is strong from the roots up.

□ 1030

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Apprenticeship Week. This year is the fifth anniversary for the celebration that aims to connect job seekers with businesses and educators in our communities to highlight the wealth of apprenticeship opportunities that are available.

For too long, it has been implied that the only respectable or worthwhile option available to achieve a successful career is spending 4 or more years on a campus to earn a college degree. Yet, the more than 7 million unfilled jobs in America today suggest workers don't have the necessary skills to fill these jobs.

We need to defy this misconception, invest in skills-based education, and fix our Nation's growing skills gap by providing students and job seekers with the skills and hands-on experience they need to improve their own lives.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am proud to push for accessible career and technical education alongside my good friend and colleague, Congressman JIM LANGEVIN.

Career and technical education, or CTE, goes hand in hand with apprenticeships. Equipping learners of all ages with real-world experience in fields like STEM, nursing, information technology, cyber technology, agriculture, and more can bring us one step closer to closing our Nation's skills gap. In the past several years, we have