

Today, I ask my colleagues from across our country to join me in recognizing and honoring the service, sacrifices, and everyday heroism of these first responders.

Mr. Speaker, before our Nation, I want to thank them for everything they have done. They are the pride of our community.

RECOGNIZING NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Native American History Month and the contributions of Native Americans in my congressional district in central Washington.

With 29 Federally recognized tribes across the State, Washingtonians live alongside Native Americans who serve our communities through entrepreneurship, military service, and sharing their rich and storied cultural history. They are our friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers.

While we recognize that one month out of the year to remember the historical and cultural contributions of our Native friends, we must support them as they face a crisis that has affected Native women for decades. That crisis is of missing and murdered indigenous women.

In Washington, Native Americans make up about 2 percent of the population, but indigenous women account for 7 percent of the State's reported missing women. This includes 31 open cases on or near the Yakama Nation Reservation.

During Native American History Month, I challenge this body to honor the heritage of our Native friends by taking up legislation that will help ensure that missing and murdered loved ones are not part of the history of another generation of Native women.

THANKING CONGRESSMAN HOYER

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise.

I rise today for a very special purpose. I rise because this House on Monday passed H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019.

I rise today, because in thanking people on Tuesday, I neglected to thank one person who was extremely important in the passage of this legislation. The majority leader Mr. HOYER not only worked to help us bring the legislation to the floor, Mr. HOYER also improved the legislation. When it left our committee, it was a good bill. It had the unanimous consent of the committee.

Some things bear repeating. One hundred percent of the people on the Fi-

nanacial Services Committee supported this legislation.

Mr. HOYER helped us by infusing it with some additional language that deals with resiliency that will help us to rebuild better and stronger after there has been a disaster.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. HOYER for his leadership. Especially he is thanked for making a good bill a much better bill.

HIGHLIGHTING THE 7-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF KHALIL MAATOUK

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

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the 7-year anniversary of Christian human rights lawyer Khalil Maatouk's unconscionable disappearance at the hands of Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad.

The regime abducted Maatouk because he had been relentlessly defending Syrian democratic activists. He was last seen on October 2 of 2012.

Khalil Maatouk's ordeal serves as a stark reminder of the Assad regime's barbaric assault on religious and Christian heritage, blatantly violating international humanitarian law. According to a September report from the Syrian Network for Human Rights, the regime is responsible for targeting 61 percent of churches throughout the country.

The United States demands the immediate release of Khalil Maatouk, and I urge the administration to prioritize this case. We must stand up for those who fight for freedom, especially freedom of religion.

RECOGNIZING THE TAINOS AND CARIBS DURING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, November is Native American Heritage Month, and I would like to share with you a story, one unknown to most Americans, but one that Virgin Islanders learn at a young age. It is the Caribbean story of Europe's drive for conquest and the resistance of the Native Americans of the Virgin Islands, the Tainos and the Caribs.

In 1493, Columbus and his men landed on Ayay, known now as Saint Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. There they met a group of Taino people who had been taken captive by the Caribs. While en route back to their ship with these captives, Columbus' men encountered the fierce Carib villagers, and the first recorded violent conflict between Europeans and Native Americans of the Western Hemisphere ensued, killing one of Columbus' men.

Men and women fought with bows and canoes against gunpowder on ships.

It is our story of Native pride of resistance, of remembering what is yours.

However, the Taino and Carib peoples have left us with so much more. When you use such words as barbecue, guava, canoe, hurricane, potato, maze, savannah, you are connecting with indigenous people who centuries ago journeyed from South America to settle in the archipelago that has given, and continues to give, much to this country and the world.

A STEPPING STONE FOR PEACE IN KASHMIR

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to share the facts and give an update on what is happening in the Jammu Kashmir region. Jammu Kashmir was given special treatment in the Constitution of 1947 in India. It was created by the "Temporary Provisions with Respect to the State of Jammu Kashmir." It is known as article 370.

It was supposed to be a stop-gap measure because the government had not been formed yet. For 70 straight years, this temporary article has forced citizens of Jammu Kashmir to live under different laws than all other Indians; different rules for citizenship, property ownership.

Earlier this year, the Indian Parliament confirmed that article 370's temporary status should end. It ended. It gave the people of Jammu Kashmir the same rights as all Indians. It was a landslide, 125-to-61 in the Rajya Sabha and 370-to-70 in the Lok Sabha. This action is solely about equality for all Indians.

Hopefully, this can be a step toward peace in Kashmir.

IN FAVOR OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of the American Dream; in favor of the bedrock of what has made America: capitalism.

Yesterday, while every cable news channel was transfixed by the Intelligence Committee, the Financial Services Committee was discussing a bill that strikes at the heart of American capitalism.

H.R. 3848, the companion legislation to Senator ELIZABETH WARREN's Stop Wall Street Looting Act, would add regulatory costs and harm job creators. It has a pithy title that is, unfortunately, misleading in purpose. I prefer to call it the stop entrepreneurship act.

This bill would curb private investments in Main Street companies, which would kill jobs, stifle innovation, harm consumers, and strike a major blow to the hallmark of capitalism.