

The gentleman says that over 100 Democrats voted. Three times—in 2017, in 2018, and in 2019—prior to that July 25 phone call, Articles of Impeachment were filed. Three times, the majority of Democrats voted not to proceed and moved to table those resolutions. Three times a majority of Democrats voted. There was no rush to judgment.

And, very frankly, prior to this July 25 phone call and the whistleblower having the courage to come forward and say to the inspector general, I think this is of concern, and the inspector general making a determination that, yes, this was a serious matter requiring urgent consideration and that being transmitted to here, before that point, there was a Democratic Party that was saying, whatever our personal feelings may be about the election or about this President's operations in office, there was not sufficient evidence on which to move forward.

We were having hearings, and we said, until the facts are such that we feel it is timely and appropriate to move, we would not move.

There was no rush to judgment. 2017, 2018, and 2019 rejected a rush to judgment, a majority of Democrats. I made a couple of motions to table.

So, Madam Speaker, we are now proceeding, as our constitutional responsibility dictates that we do, and we will see what happens. But all this talk about process—and I reject any assertions with respect to Mr. SCHIFF and/or the committee—is to distract.

We will focus on the facts; we will focus on the evidence; and we will focus on what the reasonable conclusions based upon that evidence will be at some point in time in the future if the Judiciary Committee makes that determination that they want to recommend the House considering such action.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, hopefully, we will get to the bottom of whatever Chairman SCHIFF has done with these phone records.

I do want to correct the RECORD. Ambassador Sondland was asked, under oath, in committee: Has anyone on the planet shown any direction between, a link between financial aid and investigations? Anyone on the planet. And under oath, he said no. That is clear. That was on the record. I just want to make that clear.

We are going to litigate this. We are going to debate this for hours and hours.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCALISE. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, what he said was he thought there was, in fact, a quid pro quo.

Of course, as the gentleman points out, he had a bias: a substantial contributor to Mr. Trump, appointed by Mr. Trump as Ambassador to the European Union.

His response to that question was—I would suggest if there was a bias from these witnesses that testified yesterday, simply because they support him, the same would apply to Mr. Sondland. But when asked whether or not there was a quid pro quo, his answer was yes.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, when asked under oath whether or not he had any evidence of any link between investigations and money, he said no.

And the bottom line is President Zelensky got the money. The quid pro quo that was being alleged didn't happen. President Zelensky got the money. There were no investigations.

But this will continue anyway, and, clearly, over 100 Members had made up their mind prior to the phone call.

I know we are going to continue this debate over the next weeks. Hopefully, we get beyond it and deal with other issues.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019, TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

#### SENATE INACTION

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

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind our constituents of the work that we have been doing on their behalf. The House of Representatives has passed nearly 400 bills this Congress for the people.

For our Dreamers and TPS recipients, we passed an immigration reform bill, the American Dream and Promise Act.

For our workers, we passed the Raise the Minimum Wage Act, to increase the Federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour, and the Butch Lewis Act, to protect the pensions of more than 1 million workers and retirees.

For the personal and financial security of America's women, we passed a strong reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

For our elections, we passed H.R. 1, which restores transparency and accountability to our elections, which included my own legislation to restrict foreign lobbying.

To strengthen our defenses against foreign attacks, we also passed the SAFE Act and the SHIELD Act.

And for our LGBTQ community, we passed the Equality Act.

All of these bills have been ignored. MITCH MCCONNELL brags about being the grim reaper, and that is exactly what he has been for the hopes and the dreams of the American people.

I would like to call for us to remind every single American of the work that we have been doing.

#### HONORING JO MARIE BANKSTON

(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, today, I rise to honor the life of Jo Marie Bankston, the first woman police officer to serve the people of Houston, Texas.

The year was 1955, 7 years before I was born, when Jo Marie—or Fena, as she was called by her friends and family—graduated in the first Houston Police Department class to include women. At that time, the mere idea of a woman police officer was something very few could imagine, much less pursue.

Fena paved the way for new female recruits through the 1950s and 1960s, ushering in a new era of strength and passion.

Fena passed away, sadly, last week, on Thanksgiving Day. She leaves behind a pioneering legacy of protecting and serving the Houston community. She also left behind a loving family, including her son, Jimmy, who carries out her spirit as a veteran of the HPD and as a current U.S. marshal.

Jo Marie inspired so many—some she knew and many more that she never knew. She made history in her own humble way.

May she enjoy fair winds and following seas in Heaven.

#### 12 DAYS OF SALT

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

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, on this third day of SALT, my constituents have said to me that they think the holiday season is the perfect time to eliminate the SALT marriage penalty.

The 2017 tax law violated more than 100 years of Federal tax policy, capping the State and local tax deduction at \$10,000. That means married couples filing jointly are constrained to the same \$10,000 level that applies to individual filers.

This penalizes tens of thousands of couples in my district. In Morris County alone, there were more than 52,000 middle-class joint filers in 2016, and well over half were above the \$10,000 cap. They are now likely subject to a marriage penalty simply for filing their taxes jointly.

I am a member of the SALT task force, and my bipartisan bill, the SALT