

FOOD PANTRIES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, food banks and food pantries play a valuable role in our communities all year long, but around the holiday season their impact on families in need is magnified.

In 2018, more than 37 million Americans were considered food insecure, including 11 million children. The Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as “a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.”

Access to quality food and nutrition is necessary for healthy families, and as the former chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition, this is an issue that I feel very passionately about.

We can all help our neighbors in need by contributing to our local food banks and food pantries by making a donation or volunteering our time. Just a small contribution or a few hours out of our day can make a big difference in our communities.

During this holiday season, it is especially important that we support families who have fallen on hard times.

WE NEED BOLD ACTION TO LOWER THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for bold action to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

Over the last year, I have held 15 townhalls across Burlington and Ocean Counties, and the number one issue I continue to hear about is the high cost of drugs and healthcare.

We have a real chance right now to pass critical legislation that will have a tangible and real impact on the lives of the people we serve:

By passing H.R. 3, we can help lower the cost of critical drugs like insulin for the tens of thousands of New Jerseyans struggling with diabetes.

By passing H.R. 3, we can save lives by making cancer medication more affordable.

By passing H.R. 3, we can finally deliver comprehensive dental, vision, and hearing benefits for seniors under Medicare, including over 130,000 people in our district.

And by passing H.R. 3, we can expand access to the Medicare Savings Program, a provision I was proud to introduce and champion to help 3.5 million seniors afford quality healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, we must take big, bold action because the challenges that our neighbors face in affording their healthcare is critical. I hope my col-

leagues will join me in passing this bill and making an impact we can all be proud of.

HONORING ALLAN BOGARD ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, a Texas legend, Houston Oilers Coach Bum Phillips, said this about Hall of Famer Earl Campbell:

Earl may not be in a class by himself, but whatever class he is in, it don't take long to call the roll.

Those exact words apply to our retired city manager, Allan Bogard. Allan is retiring after 19 years running our city.

Sugar Land is Sugar Land because of Allan. He created Sugar Land Town Center, brought Constellation Field, brought Minute Maid's headquarters to Sugar Land, made our airport number one in its class in America, all this while keeping a AAA bond rating.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 130,000 Texans who live in Sugar Land, Allan has given us a motto for all time: In Sugar Land, our sugar is so sweet, we have no Equal.

STAND FOR THE PEOPLE AND LOWER DRUG COSTS NOW

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

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act.

Pinellas County residents, my bosses, are fed up with the high cost of prescription drugs. One young constituent, Taylor McKenny, said it best: “You shouldn't have to choose between paying rent or paying for life.”

You see, Taylor has type 1 diabetes, and when the insurance ran out, Taylor's family had to pay \$120 just for a 3-day supply of insulin, medicine she has to take every day simply to stay alive.

A lifesaving drug shouldn't have a poisonous list price.

I cosponsored H.R. 3 so that Taylor can afford her insulin and nearly 600,000 of my constituents can get cheaper drugs.

I also cosponsored the Doggett amendment because everyone, those with or without insurance, should be protected.

Today's choice is quite simple: Do you stand for the people or do you stand for big pharmaceutical companies?

I stand for the people.
Lower drug costs now.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF SCOTT BROOKS

(Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Charlottean Scott Brooks.

Scott's life of work and service ended tragically and senselessly early Monday morning of this week when he was murdered outside his place of business in the NoDa area of Charlotte.

Brooks' Sandwich House is a Charlotte institution since 1973, run by Scott and his twin brother, David. It is a modest place where you buy a burger all the way and eat standing outside at a table. Really good.

Somehow, I had missed that hometown treasure until just 3 weeks ago when a friend invited me there for lunch. Scott spotted me as we came in and told the cashier our burgers were on the house—not because Scott was a fan, but because he was a nice guy.

Scott was holding down the fort while David convalesced from an injury. That is what brothers like Scott do.

I could not know then that Scott would be taken from us all just 17 days later.

I am grateful for that brief meeting and for the opportunity to commemorate him to the history of our Nation. Scott's brother and his wife and child should not be mourning him this day, yet we all are.

Scott Allen Brooks, rest in peace.

SKYROCKETING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

(Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans are suffering from skyrocketing prescription drug prices. They have to choose between medicine and food, or rent, or utility bills. People are actually dying because they have been forced to skip or reduce doses.

Prices aren't soaring because of the cost of developing prescription drugs. Some of these drugs are decades old. No. Prices are soaring because drugmakers are jacking up prices whenever and whenever they can to maximize their profits. And they can do this because the United States is the only country in the world that subsidizes research on new drugs and then refuses to negotiate with drugmakers for lower prices.

This is insane. Americans shouldn't be dying because drug companies want bigger profits.

I am supporting H.R. 3 because it will allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, cap annual price increases, and set out-of-pocket maximums for seniors.

It is way past time Congress allowed Medicare to negotiate for lower drug prices. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3 to lower drug costs now.