

my district have shared with me statements about how SALT is harming residents in New Jersey's 11th District.

Mayor Molly Whilesmith of Sparta said: "The current trend is to sell the house and pack the moving truck right after the youngest child graduates from high school. The cap makes New Jersey much less attractive for the average, hardworking New Jersey family."

Mayor Keith Kazmark from Woodland Park said: "Fifty-one percent of Woodland Park taxpayers pay more than \$10,000 in local property taxes, and that does not include their State taxes. That is over 1,800 residential property owners in our town."

Mayor Bruce Harris of Chatham Borough said: "The average property tax bill in Chatham Borough is about \$14,100, so 40 percent is no longer deductible. That impacts people's pockets; it also impacts housing values."

Mayor John Kelley, the Borough of Caldwell, said: "Caldwell families manage their finances and tax liability closely, and for many years have relied upon their State income taxes and Caldwell property taxes to reduce their Federal income tax through itemized deductions."

DMC PROGRAM EXTENSION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the Department of Agriculture's Dairy Margin Coverage program.

The Dairy Margin Coverage program, or DMC program, is a relatively new voluntary risk management tool for dairy producers that was authorized in the 2018 farm bill. It replaces the Margin Protection Program for dairy.

As everyone in agriculture knows, the industry is subject to many unpredictable or uncontrollable factors.

This year, weather has left a sizeable impact on production.

The DMC program exists for incidents like this: for when factors outside of our control impact agriculture yields.

The enrollment period for the DMC program has been extended through December 20.

The USDA website has plenty of information on the program, including a tool to help select the ideal level of coverage.

Agriculture is Pennsylvania's number one industry, with dairy being the largest sector. With just a few days left to enroll, I would like to encourage our hardworking dairy farmers to take advantage of the tools at their disposal, like Dairy Margin Coverage.

HONORING PETER FRATES

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

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Pete Frates.

I am reminded of something my minister at Harvard, Peter Gomes, used to say often: "The radical news of the Gospel is not that heaven is a destination of the faithful. The radical news is that God wants us to flourish in our present lives, our earthly existence, and to do so more in the future than in the past."

Mr. Speaker, Pete Frates flourished, and even in his darkest days, he looked to the future. He was the epitome of strength, leadership, and courage, both as an athlete and as an advocate.

I have met a lot of inspiring people in this job, but none more so than Pete. Because of Pete, we will cure ALS.

Mr. Speaker, to Julie, Lucy, John, Nancy, Jennifer, and Andrew, thank you for sharing him with us.

COMPELLING, OVERWHELMING, AND BIPARTISAN

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, Speaker NANCY PELOSI said that impeachment should be "compelling, overwhelming, and bipartisan."

Let me tell you that, if you come from the State of Illinois, you understand what it is to have an impeachment that is compelling, overwhelming, and bipartisan, and what it looks like.

And if you are a Member in this House and you served in Illinois, you know, because your constituents know as well.

A decade ago, the Illinois General Assembly impeached Governor Rod Blagojevich. There was clear and convincing evidence of crimes committed by the Governor.

I served on that bipartisan impeachment committee to recommend impeachment, and it was recommended by the committee 21-0.

After impeachment advanced to the floor, it passed 114-1, and the one that dissented was his sister-in-law.

Let me tell you that that was compelling, overwhelming, and bipartisan.

What we have that we are dealing with here this week is not a crime, and it is not overwhelming, and it is not compelling, and it sure isn't bipartisan.

HONORING PETE FRATES: DO NOT BE AFRAID TO BE GREAT

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

Mr. LAMB. Mr. Speaker, I echo the comments of my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. MOULTON.

On December 9, the United States lost a great hero. Peter Frates once crushed a home run into the bullpen at Fenway in Boston's Beanpot Championship for his BC Eagles.

But Pete will be remembered for another reason: ALS would go on to rob him of his physical gifts, but not his spiritual ones. Pete simply refused to give up.

He helped launch the Ice Bucket Challenge, which raised more than \$220 million. These funds have already begun to change the world for ALS patients. They helped find a new gene that may open pathways to treatment.

It is said that, in the Bible, God breaks through to humanity 366 times to say, "Do not be afraid," once for every day and once more in case we just didn't get it.

In the Christmas season, we are reminded that God sent his most precious gift to this planet for such a short time. We don't know why, but we do know that he invites others to carry the message.

Pete was known for telling others, "Do not be afraid to be great."

I cannot think of better words to close out the year of our Lord 2019 or a better man for us all to honor.

USMCA RATIFICATION IS A GREAT WIN FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, after months of delay, the House is on the cusp of approving the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, a landmark trade deal that fulfills President Trump's promise to renegotiate and improve NAFTA.

This agreement reduces tariffs, cracks down on unfair trading practices, and removes other barriers to American-grown and -made products. This is particularly true for many North Carolina products.

Mexico and Canada are North Carolina's most important trade partners. North Carolina exported nearly \$10.5 billion in total goods to Canada and Mexico in 2018, and our agriculture industry is particularly dependent upon trade with these two countries as well.

My home State exported more than \$3.5 billion in agriculture products in 2017. Under this agreement, North Carolina farm families can expect to export even more.

Ratification of this trade deal means stability and more prosperity for our farm families as well as for North Carolina's economy as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ambassador Lighthizer and his entire team at USTR, as well as the fine professionals at USDA, for their tireless work to make this achievement possible.

This is a great win for America.

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PROTECT CONSTITUTION WITH VOTE TO IMPEACH

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