

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of my bill, the Women Veterans TRUST Act, a bill that aims to address the need for women-specific programs that treat veterans with drug and alcohol dependency.

The over 2 million women veterans who live in the United States face unique challenges that far too often are not appropriately addressed. Women veterans have higher rates of post-traumatic stress that can lead to substance abuse. Tragically, women veterans with substance-use disorders often have higher rates of suicide than their nonveteran peers.

To address this crisis, women-specific programs make all the difference. As chair of the Women's Veterans Task Force, I have heard how critical these treatment programs are to saving lives.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor this important bill to ensure our Nation's women veterans have the resources and programs they need to thrive.

SEND ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT TO SENATE

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

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pose a simple question to my colleagues: Are we, as a body, subject to the rules in the Constitution? The answer is: Of course we are.

However, Speaker PELOSI has chosen to ignore the Constitution and go rogue. Last month, she stood on this very floor and told us how important it is that we impeach the President immediately. Now, outrageously, she claims for herself new powers never contemplated by the Constitution.

By not transferring the Articles of Impeachment to the Senate, Speaker PELOSI has claimed for herself the authority to veto any bill passed by this House with no possibility of override. This is a monstrous abuse of her position and an outright attack on the trust of the American people.

Clearly, she knows the impeachment process has been a sham all along and will fail in the Senate. I urge the Speaker to do her job and move the articles to the Senate immediately.

ACT TO LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

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

Ms. FRANKEL. Madam Speaker, I am holding in my hand a pill cutter. Pharmacists tell me that it is one of the most popular gadgets in the drugstore.

Why? Because many prescription drugs are so unaffordable that, at the expense of their health, Americans are

cutting their pills in half. Even some folks who have insurance go to the counter with a prescription and leave empty-handed because they can't afford the copay.

That is why Democrats passed H.R. 3 that will give Medicare the power to negotiate with drug companies, lowering the cost of the most expensive drugs for all Americans and stopping pharmaceutical companies from charging more for drugs that are cheaper in other countries. The new law would also set limits on prescription drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries while delivering them vision, dental, and hearing care.

Madam Speaker, I urge the Senate to take up and pass this lifesaving bill.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT TRUMP ON IRAN ACTIONS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, last week, President Trump used his authority and took clear, decisive action to protect American lives.

By eradicating Iran's top terrorist, he sent a clear message to our enemies that the Obama days of appeasement are over, and America will, once again, stand up to terrorists. We cannot allow another Benghazi.

However, I am in disbelief that some Members of this body are finding ways to blame President Trump for the current situation in Iran.

Fact one, Iran's regime has been an enemy of America since 1979. In recent months, they have shot down U.S. drones, attacked oil tankers, shot rockets at our bases, and attacked and tried to take over our embassy. Taking out Soleimani was a long-overdue action to make the world a safer place and protect American lives.

Fact two, President Trump does not want war. Yesterday, while addressing the Nation, President Trump made clear there is a path forward with peace for Iran if they are willing to set aside their nuclear ambitions.

This is personal for me. My son and his family currently serve in an embassy abroad in a war-torn land. I want to thank President Trump for protecting my family and our women and men in uniform abroad.

CALLING FOR COHERENT STRATEGY ON IRAN

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

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise because it is one of the highest forms of patriotism to speak out when a government engages in reckless military action that could lead us to war.

I previously served in Active Duty in the United States military, and the

goal of any military action should be to make us more safe, not less safe.

Unfortunately, as a result of Donald Trump's impulsive decisionmaking, the following negative consequences have happened. Iran is no longer abiding by any limits on its nuclear program. The Iranian people who previously were protesting their own leadership have now rallied behind their government. The Iraqi parliament recently voted to kick U.S. troops out of their country, one of the goals of Iran. And we have had to stop counterterrorism actions against ISIS.

This was a lose-lose-lose decision. We don't need the President to make any more reckless decisions. We don't need him to tweet out flag pictures. We need the President to articulate a coherent Iran strategy, which he still has failed to do.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS EDWARD KRAMER

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

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of our fallen servicemembers in Iraq, Sergeant First Class Edward Kramer.

Sergeant Kramer was a North Carolina National Guard soldier killed in action by an IED on his last day of combat operations while he was deployed to Iraq, leaving a family and young children behind.

General Soleimani's brutal reign of terror was responsible for the deployment of the IEDs that killed and wounded soldiers such as Sergeant First Class Kramer. In fact, Soleimani's reign of terror killed and wounded over 600 servicemembers in Iraq.

We can never fully repay the families of our fallen soldiers, but we can seek justice. Terrorism must never prevail over American freedom and identity.

CONSTRAIN IRAN THROUGH DIPLOMACY

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

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Madam Speaker, America does not need or want a war with Iran.

There are no political objectives we can reasonably achieve through force, and the President must not be allowed to fabricate a pretext for a conflict that will leave America, our allies, and the whole region less safe. But that is what he has been doing since tearing up the Iran nuclear deal and beginning a campaign of maximum pressure.

Today's War Powers Resolution reasserts Congress' authority to declare war and imposes crucial restrictions on the President; namely, he cannot start a war without demonstrating an actual threat. This is something the administration has failed to do, according to

both Democrats and Republicans from yesterday's intelligence briefing.

The best way to constrain the true threat of Iran is through the multilateral diplomacy that achieved the historic nuclear deal. With this clear congressional statement that Congress has not authorized a war, I urge the President to immediately stop his erratic and impulsive provocations and take us back from the brink.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

CALLING ON SPEAKER TO DO HER JOB

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, once a resolution passes the House, it goes to the Senate. Once all action is done, the Speaker is a mere functionary in transmitting the will of the House to the Senate.

It has been 21 calendar days, 12 working days, and 7 legislative days since the impeachment resolution was passed by this House. Since the resolution has not yet been delivered to the Senate, clause 8(b)(3)(C) of House rule I says that a vacancy in the Office of the Speaker may exist if the Speaker cannot do her job. She has not done her job.

America, I submit a vacancy exists in the Office of the Speaker of the United States House.

REPEAL AUMF, PROHIBIT WAR FUNDING

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

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of Congresswoman SLOTKIN's War Powers Resolution, which I am proud to cosponsor, and also to express my support for legislation introduced by Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congressman KHANNA to repeal the much-abused 2002 AUMF and to prohibit funding of any offensive military operations against Iran.

President Trump's incoherent strategy has brought us to the brink of another disastrous war in the Mideast.

I have seen this madness before. In 2002, I stood here to oppose the use of force in Iraq because I knew that tragic war was based on a lie.

The Constitution is clear. Donald Trump needs congressional authorization to use force against Iran.

So I say to you all today: No more lies, no more lost lives, and no war with Iran.

□ 1230

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, today, on National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, I rise to recognize the brave men and women who work to keep our communities safe across central and west central Illinois.

From Peoria to Springfield, Jacksonville to Quincy, Macomb to Beardstown, law enforcement officers in Illinois' 18th Congressional District are the hidden heroes of our State. Each day, Illinois police officers, deputies, and State troopers leave their families with no certainty they will return home safely; yet they are willing to face these risks to keep our families, our children, and our schools safe.

I am grateful for the courageous men and women who button up the uniform each day and thank them for protecting our families with bravery and pride.

Madam Speaker, while we set aside today to recognize law enforcement, may we remember, each and every day throughout the year, the courage and sacrifice of these men and women.

TERMINATION OF USE OF ARMED FORCES TO ENGAGE IN HOSTILITIES IN OR AGAINST IRAN

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my colleague Representative SLOTKIN's resolution regarding war powers.

First and foremost, I am extremely grateful that the Iranian ballistic missile attacks on Al Asad Air Base and Erbil resulted in zero injuries or casualties to our U.S. servicemembers or Iraqi allies. As always, I will continue to prioritize the safety of our deployed government officials, servicemembers, and contractors.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear: Qasem Soleimani was a terrorist, and I hope his removal from the battlefield will, in fact, improve U.S. security in the long run. That being said, in the wake of the strike on Soleimani, let us not forget that we invest in our highly capable military to promote stability, not to undermine it.

Our Founding Fathers made abundantly clear in the Constitution that only Congress has the power to authorize use of military force. This resolution that we will be voting on later today is a necessary step to ensure de-escalation with Iran while we await a clear strategy from the administration on how the President's actions will reduce the chances of Iran becoming a nuclear state.

U.S. Forces will always retain the inherent right to self-defense; however,

any further military actions that can lead to war will require congressional authorization.

NO WAR WITH IRAN

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address what I believe is in the best interests of the American people, the Iranian people, and our global community to say: No war with Iran.

As an early opponent of the Iraq war back when I served in the New York City Council, I know we cannot afford to make reckless, irresponsible, violent decisions that put the lives of our servicewomen and -men, diplomats, and the people here and in the Middle East in danger of death and destruction.

We must exhaust all diplomatic means and put our political differences aside to stand for peaceful resolutions to human conflict before taking the ultimate step of engaging in war.

For close to 20 years now, our Nation has been engaged in low-grade war games in the Middle East with the constant threat of putting our children, our families, and our civil liberties at risk. We must oppose senseless acts of violence that take us many steps away from our progress.

When we look back in our history books and tell the next generation stories of 2020, I want us to be able to say with pride that we kept the interests of our Nation we loved at heart without provocation, without the death and destruction of war.

Madam Speaker, I stand before you today opposed to these efforts, and I support the War Powers Resolution, H. Con. Res. 83.

FOR THE PEOPLE— INFRASTRUCTURE

(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, as I rise today to begin discussing infrastructure, I cannot let go the remarks from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, their being completely appalled by the Speaker not bringing over one resolution in what they believe to be a timely manner, but expressing no concern for the fact that the Senate has not taken up 400 bills that have been passed by this House, 275 that were bipartisan, from their own side.

But they have no concern for that. They do have concern for one bill. That is inappropriate, and I am very sad about my colleagues for this.

Democrats have been working hard to fulfill a promise to the Nation. Americans in the Virgin Islands and in Puerto Rico are feeling the brunt of aging and weakening infrastructure—