

The weaponization of drones is not just a potential concern—we have seen it happen.

Late last summer, drones were used to strike oil installations in Saudi Arabia, halting half of the country's oil production. And, in late 2018, reports of drone activity near the runway at Gatwick Airport outside London grounded hundreds of flights.

The Federal government is aware of the security threats posed by drones, but we don't have a full picture of where and how often unauthorized drone activity is happening near our critical infrastructure.

Owners and operators of chemical facilities regulated under the Chemical Facilities Antiterrorism Standards program have complained that no one in the Federal government collects information about unauthorized drone activity over their facilities.

Our operators want to share important threat information that can inform our antiterrorism efforts but there's no one to collect it.

We must do better.

H.R. 4432 would require DHS to establish a way for owners and operators to voluntarily report information about unauthorized drone activity over their facilities. DHS would then use that information to develop a threat assessment on unmanned aerial systems and other emerging threats.

H.R. 4432 marks an important step forward for DHS in its partnership with the private sector and in gaining full situational awareness about the threats posed by drones in the U.S. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I want to note my concerns with the President's FY 2021 budget request for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Despite bipartisan agreement that CISA needs more resources to deal with more frequent and sophisticated cyber attacks, the budget slashes DHS' cybersecurity arm by \$250 million. Inexplicably, it calls for a \$10 million cut for cybersecurity support for State and local governments, at a time when they are increasingly targeted by foreign adversaries and criminal hackers.

Worse still, it would eliminate funding for DHS' chemical antiterrorism security program that was established under the leadership of former Secretary Chertoff in response to intelligence suggesting chemical facilities would be a ripe target for terrorists.

Chemical facilities remain a target for terrorists, and I am disturbed by the Administration's poor judgment related to this important antiterrorism program.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4432.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Miss RICE of New York. Madam Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on Monday, February 10, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to flight schedules, I was unable to be in D.C. for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

AMID BOOMING ECONOMY URGING TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO RELEASE SUPPLEMENTAL H-2B VISAS

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, thanks to the Trump Administration, the American economy is booming. Job growth surged by 225,000 positions in January, and the unemployment rate remains near the 50 year low. These are just the latest indicators of a resurgent American economy under President Trump. With Mr. Trump in office, the U.S. economy has added more than 100,000 new jobs for 34 of the 38 months and the unemployment rate has been at or below 4 percent for 23 consecutive months—nearly two years. Americans of all backgrounds have benefited from this economic boom with the unemployment rates for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans all hitting record lows in 2019. The labor force participation rate is at 63.4 percent, the highest level since 2013 and nearly three quarters of new positions are being filled by individuals previously outside the labor force. Wage growth is holding at or above 3 percent for the 18th consecutive month and, under President Trump, workers' wages are rising faster than managers' wages.

With all of this success, it is easy to forget that this booming economy has also brought labor shortages throughout the economy, particularly for seasonal businesses. Right now, there are simply more seasonal jobs open than there are Americans willing, able and qualified to fill them. On behalf of seasonal businesses from industries such as seafood processing, tourism and hospitality, landscaping, fairs and carnivals, golf courses, reforestation, contractors and horse racing, who continue to struggle with seasonal labor shortages, I rise to urge the administration to release adequate supplemental H-2B visas, as authorized by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act 2020, to meet these seasonal businesses' temporary seasonal labor needs.

As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I coauthored the amendment in the FY 2020 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill that authorizes the administration to release additional H-2B visas. In January, I sent a letter with 188 of my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, from both the House and Senate, urging the Administration to exercise that authority and release additional H-2B visas. The bipartisan support for this program demonstrates the significant economic impact these workers have across our country.

The temporary guest workers provided by the H-2B program are vital to the American economy and the economy of Maryland's First District, particularly on the Eastern Shore, and support tens of thousands of down-stream American jobs. While it is ultimately the responsibility of Congress to provide a long term solution to the chronic shortage of H-2B visas, I strongly urge the administration to use the authority granted to them to continue to support these seasonal businesses and release an adequate number of additional H-2B visas to meet the labor demands of seasonal employers nationwide.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, on Monday, February 10, 2020, I was unable to attend roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call vote 55 (H.R. 2932), and AYE on Roll Call vote 56 (H.R. 3413).

IN MEMORY OF MIDSHIPMAN DUKE ANTHONY CARRILLO

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Midshipman Duke Anthony Carrillo of Flower Mound, Texas. On February 8, 2020, Duke passed away after collapsing during his semi-annual physical readiness test. He was a dynamic, patriotic young man intent on serving his country as a military officer.

He was the son of Gerald and Jennifer Carrillo, and brother of fellow midshipman, his twin Dylan, and younger brother Jake.

He was a 2016 graduate of Flower Mound High School. An all-star athlete, Duke was a three-year varsity letterman in football and wrestling. He was an Eagle Scout, member of the Flower Mound High School Student Council, and an active church and community volunteer. In everything that he did, Duke strived for greatness.

Led by his strong desire to serve his country, Duke received nominations to attend the United States Naval Academy and United States Merchant Marine Academy. He also received a letter of assurance from the United States Coast Guard Academy. On June 28, 2018, Duke was inducted in the Naval Academy's Class of 2022, with his twin brother Dylan.

Duke believed that service to country is one of the greatest achievements a man can have, and that he was called to take a stand to serve and protect our nation.

He aspired to be a naval aviator, was a member of the Naval Academy's Flight Training Squadron and was selected to serve as a Naval Academy Summer Seminar squad leader. Duke majored in quantitative economics, was an active member of the 24th Company and an intramural athlete.