

Caucus, we are constantly looking for new ways to support a skilled workforce.

A skilled workforce is critically necessary to support a 21st century economy, and the individuals who pursue a skills-based career, as well as the institutions that train them, deserve to be rewarded for their commitment to closing our Nation's skills gap.

The Transportation Workforce Centers of Excellence Act would establish a competitive \$50 million grant program to strengthen education and training programs in critical industries.

A highly skilled workforce is necessary to revitalize our national transportation system. The demand for qualified workers is greater than ever. This bill will help us meet infrastructure demands, close our Nation's skills gap, and reward schools that have gone above and beyond by establishing centers of excellence.

Madam Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to join our efforts in supporting career and technical education centers of excellence and increased transportation workforce training.

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PREDATORY DEBT COLLECTION

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, our servicemen and -women deserve more than a thank-you. They deserve our support and our protection.

This week, with unanimous support, we passed H.R. 5003, the Fair Debt Collection Practices for Servicemembers Act, to stand up for our troops against abusive debt collection practices.

Many debt collectors have used manipulative practices against our soldiers, such as threatening to contact a soldier's superior officer, threatening to reduce rank, and threatening to revoke a security clearance. If these practices aren't shameful enough, many debt collectors have resorted to contacting the soldier's family.

Soldiers are already under enough stress keeping us safe. The House passage of H.R. 5003 sends a clear message that we will protect those who protect us, and predator debt collection practices are never acceptable.

I urge the Senate to consider our servicemembers and support H.R. 5003.

CONGRATULATING PLEASANT PLAINS CARDINALS

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sangamon County's Pleasant Plains High School girls basketball team, who brought home

the school's first State championship last weekend.

Last Saturday, at Redbird Arena in Normal, the Pleasant Plains Cardinals defeated the two-time defending champion Chicago Marshall Commandos in a performance dominated by Pleasant Plains' defensive efforts.

The Cardinals held Marshall to 32 percent shooting and forced 12 turnovers in the game, winning by a final score of 43-37. The Commandos, who have won 11 previous State titles, led for only a minute the entire game.

The Pleasant Plains victory was not without drama, however, as the Cardinals allowed a 13-point, fourth-quarter lead to dwindle to just 1; but, on the strength of strong senior leadership, the Cardinals were able to seal the game and bring a State championship home to Pleasant Plains.

The Pleasant Plains girls team made all of Illinois very proud with their accomplishments this season, finishing with a 28-3 record. Each girl's commitment to the champion team and their community is truly inspiring.

Congratulations to Coach T.J. Fraase and the Pleasant Plains Cardinals.

PERSONAL WELL TESTING

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

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, I rise today because our communities need peace of mind when drinking water from their personal wells. This is felt acutely in rural communities, where a lack of water infrastructure leads people to use wells as their main water supply.

That is why I joined colleagues on both sides of the aisle to introduce H.R. 6053, which will give folks an easy-to-use tool through the EPA which would enable them to test their own well water. This tool will empower our communities and assure them that they are drinking water that is clean of toxic chemicals.

I will keep championing work at the Federal level to hold the EPA accountable to set a safe drinking water standard, make sure PFAS is regulated under the Clean Water Act, and more. At the same time, we can make sure our communities have the tools they need to feel safe when using well water.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVERETT "CRUSTY" TOLER

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Everett "Crusty" Toler, who passed away last week in his hometown of Jena, Louisiana.

Crusty was a tugboat captain who lost the use of his legs early in life, but it did not do anything to cast a shadow on his warm personality or his out-

going demeanor. He was just a phenomenal gentleman. A friend to all who knew him, Crusty was a member of the "Ole Boys" club and Pritchard Baptist Church in Jena.

Crusty is survived by his wife, Paula, of 46 years; three brothers; and several nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

Please join me in bidding Crusty Toler a warm farewell.

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL DEVICES

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, we are all concerned about the growing spread of coronavirus, and these concerns are not relieved by troubling stories of shortages of critically needed medical devices, including respirator masks.

Concerningly, as our healthcare system responds, it is exposing serious weaknesses in the supply chain for medical devices. These are products providers depend on to deliver life-saving care.

That is why, today, with my colleagues JAN SCHAKOWSKY from Illinois and JODY HICE from Georgia, I am introducing important, bipartisan legislation to help the FDA combat the threat.

My bill would allow the FDA to act expeditiously to address shortages, including by importing medical devices as needed. It would ensure that the manufacturers are communicating with the FDA about expected shortages of medical devices and that this information is shared transparently with the public.

The FDA already has these authorities to act during drug shortages, and we should grant them the same ability to respond to shortages of medical devices.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense bill.

RECOGNIZING HANK WOLGAMOTT

(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, last Thursday night, as the House was recessed, I stood at this podium with a future President of the United States of America. His name is Hank Wolgamott. He is on the right in this picture.

Hank is one of my bosses in Texas 22. When he was 9 years old, his left arm was in a cast. The doctors said he had fractured his elbow. They were wrong. Blood was going into his elbow joint. He had severe hemophilia.

With the love of his mom, Amanda; his dad, Jesse; and his brother, Jack, Hank went to war against his condition, even though he was too young to know what was happening inside his body.