

colleague Senator REED, to mark the last day of Father Brian Shanley's tenure at Providence College, where he has served as president for 15 years. Father Shanley is the longest serving president in the history of Providence College and the only native Rhode Islander to have had the role.

A graduate of Providence College himself, Father Shanley has led the Catholic liberal arts college—the country's only higher learning institution run by the Dominican Friars—through a decade and a half of change. He has greatly increased P.C.'s national profile and overseen major capital improvements to the campus, all while ensuring the school remains true to its principles and a good neighbor in the Elmhurst section of Providence. Father Shanley created a College of Business to expand the school's offerings beyond its signature liberal arts curriculum and a Center for Global Education to foster opportunities abroad for students. He has taken strides to increase diversity by investing in financial aid, transitioning to a test-optional admissions model, and recruiting students and faculty from different backgrounds. And, of course, P.C. has cultivated a national reputation for its stellar basketball and hockey programs with Father Shanley at the helm.

I would like to add on a personal note how cordial and gracious Father Shanley has been in all my dealings with him and with Providence College in his tenure. It has been a true pleasure to work and interact with him.

I wish Father Shanley the very best in his well-earned retirement. Go Friars!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SAM ROSS

• Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, Sam Ross is a farmer from Pioneer, LA, and is recognized as a top producer of the year finalist, a great honor in the farming community. Ross's family has been farming for years, and after graduating high school, he got into the trade with his first 100 acres. Fast-forward to now, and Sam owns over 10,000 acres of crops. His farm is a fourth-generation family-run operation. I would like to thank Sam and all the other farmers in America for the great work they do.●

VERMONT STATE OF THE UNION ESSAY CONTEST FINALISTS

• Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD some of the finalist essays written by Vermont High School students as part of the 10th annual "State of the Union", essay contest conducted by my office.

The material follows:

HUSSEIN AMURI, WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL,
JUNIOR

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The

wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Emma Lazarus, a native-born American, included these sentiments in the sonnet "The New Colossus" engraved on the pedestal that supports the Statue of Liberty. The words and the statue embody the greatness and intellect of this country. I am a teenage immigrant from Tanzania, whose family fled the Second Congo Civil War to enter the "golden door." Those words are not just words to me, they represent my reality. Yet, I think America is moving away from these values, dishonoring the hard-won identity of countless immigrants. I think America needs to reclaim these values because diversity forms this country's strength and its path to renaissance.

People fleeing wars, persecution, and conflict founded the United States to build better lives. Our founders, like my family, arrived poor and desperate. Today, however, Americans attack newcomers, blame them for economic tribulations and cultural disruption. Do we steal jobs and fail to pay taxes? No, these so-called beliefs are myths. According to the National Foundation for American Policy, 55% of the country's \$1 billion start-up companies—such as Uber, SpaceX, and Avant—had at least one immigrant founder and each start-up created more than 760 jobs. In my hometown of Winooski, we have popular ethnic restaurants like Pho Dang Vietnamese Cafe and Tiny Thai; grocery stores like Sagarthama Grocery and Asian Market; businesses built and owned by immigrants, the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Many people from around Vermont find job opportunities here, including myself. Native-born Americans come to shop and enjoy themselves at these shops and restaurants.

In 2017, working immigrant households paid \$405 billion dollars in taxes; DACAeligible residents paid \$4 billion, according to the New America Economy Coalition. Legal and unauthorized immigrants pay taxes. Poor, "wretched refuse," struggling in our home countries, we decided that America offered more opportunities, and brought our cultures, ways of life, and strong will here. We enhance the economy and introduce new perspectives to American life. My beautiful mother hardly speaks English and works two jobs to support herself and my brothers. She pays taxes. We see her seldom because she's usually at work. From where we sit, she's contributing a lot to the economy.

We are "your tired, your poor." We are "the homeless, tempest-tost." We are here today and contributing to this country. We are the New Colossus and represent the words engraved on the pedestal supporting the Statue of Liberty. Can we keep the legacy of this sonnet alive, a legacy that truly defines this country's strength, roots to renaissance, and diversity? Listen and acknowledge stories from my mother and thousands of other immigrants. Those stories are full of hardship and revitalization. In despair, we came to "lift our lamps, beside the golden door," and we found hope for ourselves and the United States of America.

MAELY BRIGHTMAN, ST. JOHNSBURY ACADEMY,
SOPHOMORE

Today in many schools, students are receiving inadequate sex education and it's negatively impacting their health and well-being. In the United States only 24 states require public schools to have sex education and 20 of them require it to be medically accurate. The lack of coverage on subjects such as safe sex, LGBTQ topics, menstruation, and body image is damaging the well-being of today's youths.

Research shows that having accurate comprehensive sex education classes leads to lower rates of teen pregnancy and contracting an STI. Teens understand the importance of using protection and contraceptives. In fact, NCLS states that people age 15-25 make up 25% of the sexually active population but the rate of them contracting is disproportionately high. By teaching teens accurate information, they have more knowledge to make safer decisions. Medically accurate information has been shown to have a higher influence than no sex education at all or abstinence-until-marriage education.

It is also important that we do not just teach about heterosexual intercourse, but have an LGBTQ inclusive curriculum. The lack of awareness and information about the LGBTQ community leads to teens and adults who don't know how to have safe same-sex intercourse. A surprising amount of people don't know what a dental dam is. It's a protection from STIs when performing oral sex. Furthermore, teaching children about healthy, normal LGBTQ relationships would help normalize same-sex relationships and non-cisgender identities. It is an important component in supporting LGBTQ youth.

In addition, accurate sex education would help defeat the stigma in teens, specifically boys, that surrounds menstruation and other natural things that happen to girls and boys during puberty. Because of society's influence, many people end up believing that normal, healthy processes are bad or gross. This can cause bullying, low self esteem, or abuse. Sex education would help normalize these natural occurrences. That is why the government should require all public schools to have medically accurate sex education classes.

While it would be a difficult and long process, the outcome would be worth the effort. Many people are against this idea, under beliefs that kids shouldn't be exposed to the world yet or for religious reasons, however by shielding them from the truth parents ensure that their children have less knowledge and information to rely on when they reach adulthood. Typically in schools that teach sex education, they start in middle school. I feel that it is a good starting point for schools. The law would have to be changed at a federal level, so that it affects the whole nation. This would be a tedious process, however I believe it would bring a much needed improvement for American youths.

ISABELLE CHEN, OXBOW HIGH SCHOOL,
FRESHMAN

As everyone starts to shift into the next decade, there is one prominent issue that can no longer be silenced. This problem not only applies to Americans but includes every living species who wanders this earth. Despite our state of ignorance, earth has continuously given us telltale signs that climate change is quickly altering our planet. Yet many of us still refuse to see the consequences that climate change has created thus far. Unstable air quality, increase in hotter temperatures, and the rise of sea levels are a few of the repercussions that mankind has generated. Before we can solve other pressing matters like gun control or inequality, we must make global warming our top priority, for it is destroying the very ground we stand on.

According to NASA, the exploitation of fossil fuels is the main driving force in the production of atmospheric carbon dioxide. The action of burning fossil fuels leads to the consolidation of carbon and oxygen in the air to forge CO2. The depositing of excess CO2 in the atmosphere is solely based upon human activities. We lack the action needed from the government to prevent such happenings.

Additional grants and federal funding should go towards companies whose mission is to use sustainable energy sources. Those companies will improve further with the increased funding and influence others to reject coal and oil for the more sustainable utilization of solar energy, geothermal energy, hydroelectric energy, etc. The cessation of fossil fuel use will decrease stock and mass production for oil and coal companies, ultimately weakening the usage of greenhouse gases.

What also needs special attention drawn to is the deliberation of entering America back into the Paris Climate Agreement. The agreement states that all countries signed into the arrangement will focus their efforts on the prevention of global warming and greenhouse gas emissions. Nearly 200 countries plus the European Union are currently in the agreement. If America joins back into the Paris Agreement, not only would we be establishing trust and a working relationship alongside other countries, but America would be delivering a message to all citizens living in it that fighting climate change is crucial to the outcome of our future. Not to mention, the United States is one of the most vigorous advocates for climate action. We must not abandon our efforts now in a time like this.

The world cannot prosper with the threat of climate change looming over our heads. In the words of President Obama, "Climate change is no longer some far-off problem; it is happening here, and it is happening now." Denial of the present and our own ignorance to believe the earth will fix itself will simply not stand. Acknowledging that climate change is legitimate would be an essential element in hindering the ongoing growth of global warming. Switching over to viable energy sources and providing government funding to sustainable corporations will decrease the advancements of CO2 emissions by a large sum. This is our planet, and we must protect our only home.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 4091. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for fiscal year 2020 for increased payments for temporary assistance to United States citizens returned foreign countries, and for other purposes.

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1425. An act to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for a Improve Health Insurance Affordability Fund to provide for certain reinsurance payments to lower premiums in the individual health insurance market.

H.R. 5332. An act to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to ensure that consumer reporting agencies are providing fair and accurate information reporting in consumer reports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7301. An act to prevent evictions, foreclosures, and unsafe housing conditions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 90. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency relating to "Community Reinvestment Act Regulations".

The message further announced that pursuant to section 7221(b)(1)(A)(x) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), the Minority Leader appoints the following member to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: Ms. Karen Tandy of Annandale, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 7221(b)(1)(A)(x) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), the Minority Leader appoints the following Member to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: The Honorable Fred Upton of Michigan.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 7:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 4091. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for fiscal year 2020 for increased payments for temporary assistance to United States citizens returned from foreign countries, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 7259. An act to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4912. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General David L. Goldfein, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4913. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Mali that was declared in Executive Order 13882 of

July 26, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4914. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to transnational criminal organizations that was declared in Executive Order 13581 of July 24, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4915. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, with respect to the Western Balkans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4916. A communication from the Chairman of the Appraisal Subcommittee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Appraisal Subcommittee's 2019 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4917. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Fee Schedules, Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2020" (RIN3150-AK10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4918. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Update: Identification of Quality Measurement Priorities and Associated Funding for the Consensus-Based Entity (currently the National Quality Forum) and Other Entities"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4919. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Finalizing Medicare Rules under Section 902 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) For Calendar Year 2019"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4920. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2018 Actuarial Report on the Financial Outlook for Medicaid"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4921. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: Social Risk Factors and Performance under Medicare's Value-Based Purchasing Programs"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4922. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Elder Justice Coordinating Council 2016-2018 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4923. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice: Adjusted Applicable Dollar Amount for Fee Imposed by sections 4375 and 4376" (Notice 2020-44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4924. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the