

lymphoma when she was just 14 years old.

Parents and children who have been through the fear, the hospitalizations, the chemotherapy, and the years of anxiety-evoking follow-ups know the nightmare all too well because they have lived it.

But Pia and our family are among the lucky ones. She survived cancer and is now a thriving 20-year-old pursuing her college studies.

And I know how lucky I was to be at Pia's bedside during the toughest days and to do so without worrying about how I was going to pay her medical bills.

I know, in fact, we all know that this is not the case for too many American families throughout our country.

We need this legislation because it will lower healthcare costs, costs that are the very highest in the entire world, yet our outcomes are mid-pack.

In the United States of America, we should have the highest quality care in the world, the most efficient delivery of care in the world, and the best value in the world. In the United States of America, the wealthiest nation in the entire world, no one should have to choose between seeing their doctor or seeing food on their table—no one.

I rise today as an American because healthcare is patriotic. I am sick and tired of Americans paying more money for less quality than other nations. And I am sick and tired of Americans paying more money for the very same lifesaving medications than patients in other countries.

Americans are getting ripped off, and we, every single one of us in this Chamber, can do something about it. Ensuring that every American has access to high-quality and affordable healthcare and medications is indeed a moral decision, but it is also an economic decision.

Let's not kid ourselves. We do not have a healthcare system in our country; we have a sick care system. And it is not even a system, which has made the epic failure of our Nation's COVID response even more glaring.

You see, we tolerate, even condone, incentives for procedures over prevention and profit over people. It is costing us billions of dollars and bankrupting thousands of families and, surely, costing American lives.

We need this legislation because there is meaningful economic and societal value in ensuring that every American enjoys healthcare coverage no matter their age, their race, their gender, their ZIP Code, their income, or their condition.

I rise today as a Congressman because finding common ground, building consensus, and fixing our broken healthcare system is my job. I am on a mission to inspire collaboration in this Chamber and restore Americans' faith in government, and I cannot imagine a better place to begin than healthcare.

Let's rise to this moment and improve it together.

Mr. Speaker, we need this legislation because it will help all Americans, not red State or blue State Americans, but all Americans.

We need this legislation because no one in this country, Republican, Democrat, independent, or otherwise, thinks that our healthcare system is working.

We need this legislation because healthcare is collective, and this pandemic presents an extraordinary opportunity to build a true health system in this country. COVID-19 has taught us that one's health and well-being are directly dependent on the health and well-being of one's entire community.

We are in this together, and we must take care of one another together.

We need this legislation because whether it is my daughter, Pia, a cancer survivor, or Cindy with diabetes in Eden Prairie or Nikki with MS in Brooklyn Park or every single mother in our country who has ever given birth to a child, preexisting conditions are part of being human and should never be a barrier to care.

We need to pass this legislation because it is personal, it is patriotic, and it is our job.

I am grateful to my colleagues in this House for doing so yesterday, and I call on our colleagues in the Senate to join us in ensuring a healthier and more equitable future for every single American.

HONORING GEORGIA STATE SENATOR JACK HILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and to honor the life of one of my mentors and my very good friend, Georgia State Senator Jack Hill, who passed away on April 6 at the age of 75.

I sat next to Jack in the Georgia State Senate for 5 years, and he was truly a mentor to me. Through listening and interacting with him over the course of those years up until his death, I understood what it really meant to be a dedicated public servant.

Jack lived his entire life in Reidsville, and his love for his hometown and community was evident throughout his life.

After he graduated from Reidsville High School and Georgia Southern University, he came back to his hometown and went into the grocery business as owner and operator of Hill Shopping Center.

In addition to running his own successful business, Jack still found time to serve in the Georgia Air National Guard for over 33 years, both as a unit commander and a State inspector general.

He was appointed to the board of directors at The Tattnall Bank in the early 1980s before heeding the call to public service.

In 1990, he ran for and won his first term as Georgia State Senator for the Fourth District of Georgia.

Throughout Jack's 30 years of steadfast service in representing the Fourth District, he served on many prestigious committees, including the Senate Rules Committee, where he was vice chairman, and chairman of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee.

Both Jack and I liked to write columns. We would write weekly columns. Jack always chided me and said mine were very chatty. I always chided him and said his were very nerdy.

□ 0930

He was a numbers cruncher. He knew the budget like no one in the State of Georgia knew it. He was always the last to leave the capitol each day because of how dedicated he was to serve the people of our State.

Because of Jack's leadership, my colleagues and I were always driven to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and uphold our mission in all that we did to serve Georgians to the best of our abilities.

Jack was a man of overwhelming integrity, compassion, and humility. He was a true statesman. While he certainly worked hard to be selected for this role, he never used his prestigious title to gain praise or acknowledgment.

He was one of the few people who taught me the importance of placing people over the politics and praise. If anyone ever needed to talk to him, he was always available and listened to what you had to say no matter who you were.

Jack also taught me the importance of humility and keeping a common, steady hand at the helm. I will always remember his immense dedication to everyone he interacted with.

He made a huge difference in the lives of countless students, in the reputation of the university system, and in the holistic improvement of the State of Georgia.

Jack's legacy will always be remembered, and those he knew will never forget the impact he had on the lives he touched.

It is for these reasons that all 14 Georgia Members of the U.S. House, including myself, signed proposed legislation to name a post office building in Jack's hometown of Reidsville after him. Naming a post office after him will honor his remarkable contributions to our State for years to come, and we will work to preserve his legacy of public service for his fellow Georgians.

Jack's advice has stayed with me throughout the years, and he helped make me the person I am today. I am forever grateful to have known Jack Hill, and I will never forget him. His family, friends, and those he worked with will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers as we all mourn the death of a great Georgian and a great American.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BENJAMIN TARBUTTON,
JR.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mr. Benjamin Tarbutton, Jr., who passed away

peacefully on June 9, 2020, at the age of 90.

A lifelong resident of Sandersville, Georgia, Mr. Tarbutton's ambition started at an earlier age when he earned the honor of Eagle Scout. He even attended the Boy Scout International Jamboree in Paris, France, in 1947.

Mr. Tarbutton went on to attend Oxford College and graduated from Emory University in 1951 with a BA in economics. Following his studies, Mr. Tarbutton served our Nation in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1955 and was a veteran of the Korean war.

When he returned home, he began his lifelong career with the Sandersville Railroad Company. Mr. Tarbutton served as a director of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association, which is now 127 years old. He dedicated 65 years to the company until the time of his death, serving as president, vice president, and director.

His strong commitment to the railroad industry stretched beyond Sandersville Railroad Company. Mr. Tarbutton served as the director of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association and founder and president of the Georgia Railroad Association.

While he found great success in business, Mr. Tarbutton is best known for his commitment to his family, his church, and his community and the State of Georgia.

He will always be remembered for his tireless work to bring new industry and jobs to Sandersville. As part of this work, he served as the director of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce for many years and was honored as Washington County's Citizen of the Year.

But most importantly, Mr. Tarbutton was a family man. His friends and family remember him as a wonderful storyteller who entertained everyone around him with his colorful tales.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Tarbutton family, especially his widow, Nancy, with a debt of gratitude for sharing Mr. Ben with all of us.

DISMANTLE WHITE SUPREMACY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, a week ago, this body acted to bring justice to our communities to begin the uncomfortable, urgent work of dismantling white supremacy wherever it finds shelter.

But our work is far from finished.

In the days since we passed the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, a young biracial woman named Althea Bernstein was set on fire by four White men as she sat in her car.

Three police officers from North Carolina were fired after they laughed about slaughtering Black people.

The President of the United States proudly promoted a video of one of his supporters shouting "white power" at protesters.

Mr. Speaker, if we fail to meet this moment to enact the change demanded by millions of Americans of all colors, all creeds, all beliefs, the damage to this institution and to our Nation will be immense.

This body was built to be a reflection of the people whom we represent. They have the courage to create that change. So should we.

SHIPPING MEAT ACROSS STATE LINES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, during this COVID-19 pandemic, ag producers and consumers across the country have suffered as we have seen the cracks in our food supply system.

Now, small State-inspected processors, meat processors, did what they could to step up and close the gap, fill the gap, but their efforts were hindered by the fact that Federal laws don't allow for State-inspected facilities to ship meat across State lines.

I would observe that this pandemic is only accelerating the American desire to know where their food comes from and their desire to purchase directly from producers. So that is why, this week, along with Speaker Pro Tem HENRY CUELLAR, I introduced the DIRECT Act.

This bill allows these State-inspected meat facilities to sell their meat across State lines through e-commerce. That is really going to unlock an incredible amount of potential as small producers and processors will have the option to put that product into the hands of consumers.

I think it is important to remember that many States like South Dakota have State-inspection standards that are at least equal to what the Federal Government already requires, so this isn't a food safety issue.

This bill would cut through the red tape. It would allow more flexibility. It would allow more opportunity for producers, for processors, and for consumers.

Now, the DIRECT Act is a market-based approach allowing producers and retailers, under State inspection, to establish those connections with customers in different States through e-commerce. That is going to empower consumers to buy—if they want a particular branded product, they are going to be able to get that product. They will be given more freedom to choose. At the same time, we as a country won't have any reduction in our confidence that our food supply system is safe.

SENATE NEEDS TO PASS HEROES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the coronavirus is winning. There are 2.5 million U.S. cases and more than 126,000 Americans dead. That is more than double the number of American lives lost during the Korean war, tens of thousands more than the two-decade Vietnam war, and 10,000 more than World War I.

The United States has 4.25 percent of the world's population but 25 percent of the COVID-19 deaths. Tens of millions of Americans have lost their jobs or faced pay cuts. And in the coming weeks, economic lifelines passed by Congress that have cushioned the blows are going to expire.

It does not have to be this way. Right now, as I speak, the Senate is sitting on the HEROES Act, a bill that Majority Leader MCCONNELL has refused to consider for more than 45 days.

What could have been done in those 45 days?

Moody's Analytics said: "If quickly passed into law, the HEROES Act would provide a substantial boost to the economy during the second half of this year, when the economy is most vulnerable to the pandemic and at most risk of sliding back into recession. The legislation would also return the economy to full employment much more quickly."

Moody's also said: "How well the economy does in the next several years depends critically on what lawmakers decide to do in the next few weeks."

That was more than a week ago, yet the Senate still refuses to pass a bill that puts money in the pockets of workers with a second round of direct payments to families, a bill with new payroll protection measures to keep 60 million workers connected with their jobs, a bill that extends weekly \$600 Federal unemployment benefits through next January so families can pay their bills.

But HEROES isn't just a bill to provide relief from the pandemic; it is a bill to end it. HEROES contains \$75 billion for more COVID-19 testing and contact tracing and \$500 million to help our workforce system place new contact tracers, focusing specifically on Americans who are out of work and drawing from the communities they will work in with the diversity reflecting those unique communities and the language competencies necessary to serve them.

This last part is so important and a core piece of my Coronavirus Containment Corps Act, my bill with Senator WARREN that is included in the HEROES Act in substantial part.

Last week, Dr. Fauci said that U.S. contact tracing isn't going well. Why? Well, Dr. Redfield, the CDC Director, says that we have 27,000 or 28,000 contact tracers when we need, in his own estimation, 100,000, and when other experts believe we may need double that.