

I believe that peaceful protest has made it possible for a good many Members of Congress to be here. Not all of us are here because we are so smart. A good many of us are here because others made great sacrifice so that we would have these opportunities.

This is why I stand here today to say that we can peacefully protest; we can be disruptive without being destructive.

If you are being destructive, you are not helping the cause.

Peaceful protest is the best protest. It is what has made a difference for so many of us in so many ways: We have integrated facilities because of peaceful protest; labor laws have been changed because of peaceful protest; persons have the right to vote because of peaceful protest.

Peaceful protest is the best protest, and it has made a difference in the lives of a good many people in this country.

So I absolutely salute those who peacefully protest, and I do not condone those who protest otherwise.

Now, with reference to the constabulary, there have been unidentified persons, Federal agents, who have been policing the streets of American cities. They do not have the right to pick people up indiscriminately. They do not have the right to take people away and hold them and then drop them off at some location. They are not within the law when they do this, and officers of the law should not break the law. These are unidentified Federal agents, and they must be stopped. This is not the American way.

I support the law as it relates to the protestors; I support the law as it relates to the Federal agents. All should obey the law.

Now, you say to me: "Well, how is it that you went to jail?" Well, I went to jail, and I was willing to suffer the consequences. I was protesting. I was in the middle of the street, as a matter of fact, here in Washington, D.C., when I went to jail once. I was there, and I suffered my consequences.

Dr. King wrote his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" from the Birmingham Jail.

It is disruptive action, not destructive action. This was a disruption that we created in the streets. It was a disruption that caused Dr. King to go to jail. It was not destruction.

If you destroy things, you are not within the law. Do not break the law in the sense that you are going to destroy things. Destruction is not the way to protest. Disruption is how we get it done.

And with reference to the constabulary: follow the law. We cannot have law enforcement officers breaking the law under the guise of trying to protect statues and other things from destruction. Neither of these two groups can bring about the kind of justice that we are looking for.

We are protesting now because of the brutality that many people have suf-

fered, and some have lost their lives at the hands of the constabulary.

But we are also protesting because we are being discriminated as it relates to lending. When people don't get the loans that they qualify for, their livelihoods are being stolen from them, their opportunities are being stolen from them. So we are protesting discrimination in lending.

We are protesting discrimination in hiring and promotions. There is this notion that we should have kitchen table issues discussed. Well, discrimination in hiring is a kitchen table issue. Those who believe that jobs without discrimination as a conversation is not a kitchen table issue, you are wrong. People discuss these things, and we should.

We have to make sure that every person is treated equally under the law in the United States of America.

Peaceful protest is the best protest. Law enforcement officers must follow the law.

The protestation exceeds what is happening with the constabulary. It moves into the banks; it moves into our homes; it moves into our lives.

CONGRATULATING MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize some great Americans. I am here to congratulate and thank a dozen brave men and women who have committed their lives to serving our country.

Earlier this summer, 12 of my constituents and former constituents whom I am proud to have nominated for an appointment to our Nation's military academies have graduated.

It has been an incredible honor to meet these dedicated young people over the years and to support them in their pursuit of an education. Those who choose to spend their lives protecting and defending the United States are the bravest this great Nation has to offer.

Today, I would like to recognize each of the graduates whom I have previously nominated who completed their education at our Nation's military academies:

Robert Bendik of State College, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy;

Isaac Bengel of Erie, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy;

Darren Keglovits of Coudersport, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy;

Hannah Milliron of Duke Center, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy;

Alexandra Treglia of State College, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy;

Grayson Hill of North East, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy West Point;

Sarah Henderson of Indiana, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy West Point;

Sterling Pickett of Loganton, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy;

Bailey Ishler of State College, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy;

Emily Walbridge of Mill Hall, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy;

Karlee Xander of Corry, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy; and

Thomas King of Port Matilda, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

These brave men and women have bright futures ahead of them, Mr. Speaker; and as they begin their careers in our Nation's Armed Forces, I know their hard work, their dedication, and their commitment will serve them well.

I am incredibly grateful for their service, and I commend them for their bravery.

This next chapter in life will present many challenges, but also many opportunities, and I am confident that these young people will rise to the occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank these individuals for their service, and I wish them the very best of luck.

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION DECLARED WAR ON PORTLAND, OREGON

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with a heavy heart. I see Donald Trump's administration declaring war on my hometown of Portland, Oregon.

After failing the American people in the coronavirus, in the face of 6 months of not just weak leadership, but virtually no leadership at all, there are tens of thousands of people dying unnecessarily.

It is hard to focus on the unprecedented assault on our environmental protections that they have unleashed, but now they are declaring war on America's cities, sending in an occupying force drawn from Homeland Security, particularly the Customs and Border Protection patrol, ostensibly to protect monuments and statues.

What about protecting the American people and their constitutional right to protest?

Don't attack our people with tear gas without warning, seriously injuring people exercising their right to protest, things that people can see on video with their own eyes; watching the gentleman hit with a projectile, requiring serious surgery, inflicting facial injuries; a person just asking what was going on having officers assault him, breaking his hand.

They can't be that inept. It must be purposeful, taking a very challenging situation in my hometown and making it worse.

But make no mistake. This isn't just about Portland, Oregon.

We watched what they did in Lafayette Park across from the White House, again assaulting innocent protestors in

order to have a photo op for the President of the United States.

There are indications that they are moving to Chicago, Atlanta, Kansas City, Seattle. Who is going to be next?

Talking about the challenges that have been taken in Philadelphia with a reforming district attorney, Larry Krasner, and somehow holding him up as an example of breakdown in law and order and an assault on the American public. It is just crazy.

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Portland, Oregon is not out of control. To be sure, there are some people who have strong feelings, and there are some who have done things that are inappropriate and unlawful. But that is the challenge of our local and State officials to manage it; not having somebody unwelcome, uninvited, and unprepared coming in to take this difficult situation and make it worse.

I deeply appreciate the congressional leadership, chairmen of the Armed Services Committee, ADAM SMITH, the Judiciary Committee, JERRY NADLER, BENNIE THOMPSON, Homeland Security, who have decried this activity.

It is important that we deal with Trump's weaponizing law enforcement for his own agenda, not driven by people's needs, but by his poll numbers, and becoming an occupying force in our community and, sadly, I fear, elsewhere.

We need to move forward dealing with what they are doing. We want to pursue legislative initiatives, spending limitations, oversight hearings. This needs to be front and center. At a time when we have so much to deal with, people cannot ignore what is happening in Portland and what may be coming to their city.

With the administration becoming more hysterical in their charges leading up to the election and falling poll numbers, there is no community that is safe from this interference. We must do all we can to not just spotlight but push back.

Our democratic process and our constitutional rights are literally at risk, and you can see it in terms of what has been happening in Portland, Oregon.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MS. E.B. HINES

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. E.B. Hines, who recently celebrated her 91st birthday.

Ms. Hines was raised in the gem of northeast Florida in the town of Palatka, on the beautiful St. Johns River. She attended and graduated from Central Academy in May of 1946. She went on to become a prolific educator, dedicating 40 years of her life to the teaching profession.

Over the past few decades, Ms. Hines has made the historic preservation of Central Academy her primary focus.

Originally established in 1892, Central Academy became the first accredited African American high school in the State of Florida in 1924. Due to its historic significance, Central Academy was added to the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service in 1998.

Ms. Hines' mission is to turn this site into a museum and community center. Her effort is supported by many in the Putnam County community, and I stand here today to tell Ms. Hines that I will do all that is in my power to ensure her dream becomes a reality.

Ms. Hines, God bless you and the important work that you do.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA WINS THE GEORGE W. BUSH INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AWARD

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the University of Florida and its outstanding faculty and staff on their receipt of the George W. Bush Institute of Innovation Award. A team of economists and business development experts ranked the University of Florida number 1 nationally in innovation impact, compared to all other universities in the Nation.

By itself, the University of Florida was ranked sixth in the Nation when compared to the whole combined California or Texas education systems. The University of Florida is the most productive large university in the country at leveraging its research funding into new companies, new jobs, and new ideas.

In the study conducted by the George W. Bush Institute and the Opus Faveo Innovation Development Consulting firm, the University of Florida proved it moves more technologies to the point of impact than anyone else in the country. The University has an average of 123 patents and generated 15 startups per year between 2013 and 2017. UF was an even stronger performer and license outcome, earning an average of \$36 million per year, equal to 6.4 percent of its research dollars.

Additionally, the University of Florida also ranked fourth overall in teaching impact and it produced one-third as many STEM Ph.D. graduates each year as the entire University of California system, despite having a research budget of only one-tenth as large.

The University of Florida has created an entire innovation ecosystem, including tech transfer, business incubators, a venture fund, corporate engagement, and more to support the transitional research generated by the University of Florida faculty.

The George W. Bush Institute and Opus Faveo Innovation Development's report highlights UF's operation as one of the most respected technology transfer offices in the country with the best tech transfer team in the world.

The University has spun off more than 60 companies in biotech alone. Major pharmaceuticals, food, agriculture, biotech, and the energy sectors have acquired more than 20 percent of these companies.

The faculty, staff, and students at the University of Florida are as intel-

ligent as they are ambitious, and demonstrate the breadth of diversity, thought, and creativity in the State of Florida. It is because of accomplishments such as this that Florida is counted among the most successful and influential States in the Nation.

I am proud, as I see the positive impacts of the University of Florida's continual research for knowledge, innovation, and discovery. The students and faculty at the University of Florida are determined, hardworking, and I am glad to see that the University is getting the recognition that it deserves.

Congratulations again to my alma mater, the University, its faculty, and staff on this exceptional award and for your continued dedication to knowledge and education. The University of Florida's leadership is invaluable as it leads the way IN innovation for generations to come.

As a double Gator, I am honored to be able to represent the University of Florida and the Gator Nation in Florida's Third Congressional District, and I look forward to witnessing your continued success.

Go Gators.

HONORING FALLEN HEROES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise for several reasons; first and foremost, to honor the life and legacy of my friend and colleague, Congressman John Lewis.

Long before he brought his talents to the halls of Congress, John was a young leader in the Civil Rights Movement. Together with his SNCC and CORE brothers and sisters, they waged a war for the heart and soul of this Nation and changed history. I feel truly honored to have served with him, and I will be forever changed.

From the Edmund Pettus Bridge to the House floor, John is or was the conscience of the Congress and truly of our Nation, and he will be missed.

Likewise, we lost another civil rights leader, Reverend C.T. Vivian, a Freedom Rider who worked alongside Dr. King. Reverend Vivian was also a member of the Atlanta community, and my heart is with that great city at this difficult time.

CHALLENGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO DO THEIR JOB

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to challenge the Senate to do their job.

The American people are suffering from the coronavirus pandemic. Hospitals remain flooded, small businesses remain shuttered. Restaurants are trying to get by on take-out only, and bills are piling up on the kitchen table.

Yet, the Senate, controlled by the GOP, does nothing but confirm questionable judges.

Have they had a debate on the House-passed HEROES Act? No.