

of us who serve in the Senate to solve this crisis that President Trump has created.

I am sorry there was an objection to the Dream and Promise Act today. So long as I am a U.S. Senator, I will continue to come to this floor day after day, week after week, and month after month until the Senate gives Juan Alvarez a chance to become part of America's future. It would be an American tragedy to deport this wonderful and talented young healthcare worker who is literally saving lives as we meet today in the Senate.

We must ensure that Juan and hundreds of thousands of others in our essential workforce are not forced to stop when the need for their service has never been greater. We must give them the chance they deserve to become part of the American family.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CRAMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JOHN LEWIS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, today I rise to honor a leader, a fighter, and a hero: Congressman John Lewis.

A few years ago, I was fortunate enough to travel to Selma, AL, with Congressman Lewis to commemorate "Bloody Sunday," when the then 25-year-old activist helped to lead 600 people across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

At the end of the bridge, the marchers were attacked with billy clubs and tear gas. Congressman Lewis's skull was fractured. He bore the scars until the day he died.

And that weekend, 48 years later, the White police chief of Montgomery handed his police badge to Congressman Lewis and publicly apologized for the police not protecting him and the Freedom Marchers.

Forty-eight years is a long time for an apology, and it only happened because Congressman Lewis never quit fighting for progress, for civil rights, for economic justice, and for voting rights for every single American.

It was because of that spirit of persistence and resilience that I will always be in awe of Congressman John Lewis.

He never lost his faith that this country could be better, if only we put in the work. He never gave up on justice. He never stopped marching toward freedom.

John Lewis was born to sharecroppers in the Jim Crow South and dedicated his life to the civil rights movement.

As one of the original 13 Freedom Riders, he took on segregation. Despite being met by angry mobs, beatings, and arrests, Congressman Lewis didn't give up.

Wise beyond his years, he was the youngest speaker at the 1963 March on Washington, which he also helped to organize. His words from that day have become a rallying cry for all those seeking equality. As Congressman Lewis explained, "To those who have said, 'Be patient and wait,' we must say that we cannot be patient. We do not want our freedom gradually but we want to be free now."

In 1964, he coordinated efforts for the "Mississippi Freedom Summer," recruiting college students from around the country, including Minnesota, to join the movement to register Black voters across the South.

And still, he was far from done. In 1986, Congressman Lewis became the second African-American to be elected to Congress from Georgia since Reconstruction, propelled by the same Black voters he had helped to empower and mobilize.

Once in Congress, John Lewis never stopped fighting, for voting rights, for basic human rights like healthcare, and for a more just and equal America.

There are so many reasons that we will miss him dearly, his unwavering persistence being just one. But now, it is up to us. To honor his life and carry on his legacy, we must not quit. So let's pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and let's all try and get in some good trouble.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES "RUSTY" MITCHELL

• Ms. MCSALLY. Madam President, in the words of entrepreneur Henry Ford, "coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." As you and I know all too well, the role of a mediator presents unique challenges. From negotiating contracts to facilitating dialogue among parties, very few have the skillset and dedication to produce favorable results.

Today, I am here to honor a man who exemplifies the qualities of a true leader and innovator: James "Rusty" Mitchell, the director of the Community Initiatives Team at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona. Mr. Mitchell will be retiring this month after over 39 years of government service to our country.

Upon completion of his undergraduate degree at the University of Southern California as an ROTC cadet, Mr. Mitchell was commissioned in 1976 to attend pilot training at the old Williams Air Force Base, which has a near and dear place to my heart, as I also attended it.

The culmination of an impressive 22-year USAF career as the commander of

the 21st Squadron, 56th Fighter Wing at Luke, he retired in 1998 as a lieutenant colonel with multiple honors, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; the USAF Meritorious Service Medal, with three oakleaf clusters; and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

After 3 years as a pilot with United Airlines, Mr. Mitchell returned to Luke to take the lead as the director of the newly created Community Initiatives Team, CIT. Working with all 14 jurisdictions around the air base, as well as the State of Arizona, Mr. Mitchell and his team took into account the interests of various stakeholders in the State, the Federal Government, and the local community. The results were beyond favorable. His team's efforts transformed the entire community.

CIT's first-class work on the Strategic Basing process led to the USAF selecting Luke to serve as the F-35A training site, which brought 144 F-35s and significant investments to the base. Through initiatives such as the FAA's approval of a Special Air Traffic Rule, which enhanced safety and reduced flying hour costs, Mr. Mitchell and his team have truly shown how essential their role has been. There is no question that this work strengthened the Maricopa Area's ties to Luke AFB.

Under Mr. Mitchell's leadership, CIT is now one of the country's best examples of how to bring community leaders, military families, and base leadership together. The outcome has all three of these groups rallying around one shared mission: to support the base's military personnel and readiness. As a Valley resident for more than 25 years himself, Mr. Mitchell's firsthand understanding has allowed him to personally address key issues at the base and in his community. His frequent appearances at city council meetings and active involvement in the broader community truly highlight his unwavering dedication to building bridges between Luke AFB and the public.

I would like to thank Lt. Col. (ret.) James "Rusty" Mitchell for his many years of service to our Nation, Luke AFB, and the Arizonans who call his community home. I have personally witnessed the many tremendous changes Rusty has made for Luke Air Force Base and the surrounding community. We will all be better off because of his selfless and tireless efforts. He will be sorely missed, and I wish him all the best in his retirement. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United