

By passing this bipartisan bill today, Congress has taken it upon itself to ensure that all federal agencies are aware of the risks associated with any resurgence in coronavirus cases and are prepared to address them efficiently.

This legislation stipulates that Congress will receive regular updates from these agencies until the President ends the emergency declaration related to the coronavirus pandemic.

At the beginning of this pandemic, the federal government's response to COVID-19 was delayed, disorganized, and haphazard.

It is because of these inefficiencies that the United States currently has over 7 million cases of the coronavirus and over 205,000 related deaths.

In the state of Texas alone, there are currently 761,332 cases of the virus and approximately 15,820 deaths.

We must not make the same mistakes again.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc on American communities and take thousands of American lives, experts have warned that things might get even worse in the fall, especially as schools, businesses, and communities continue to reopen.

Over the last six months, federal agencies have learned many hard lessons, and they have crafted new, effective strategies that will protect families and communities across the country fight against a possible resurgence of coronavirus cases this fall.

We must put our faith in science and continue to invest in testing, contact tracing, as well as vaccine development.

In my own district, I have facilitated the opening of 32 testing sites since the beginning of the pandemic in an effort to curb the spread of the virus.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a duty to assure the American people that the federal government is doing everything in its power to beat back the dual health and economic crises of this pandemic.

H.R. 7496 honors that responsibility entrusted to us by the American people, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and vote for this important legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE VICTIMS
OF THE NAZI MASSACRE AT
BABYN YAR IN UKRAINE BE-
TWEEN 29-30 SEPTEMBER 1941

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate all those who lost their lives in the Holocaust and honor the memory of those who were so brutally murdered in the atrocities that took place between 29-30 September 1941 at Babyn Yar in Ukraine.

It is of great importance to me to bring this issue to the attention of the United States Congress because of my Jewish heritage and family ties to Ukraine, but also to shine a light on one of the darkest chapters in our shared history. The past must never be forgotten, and the lessons we learn, especially the painful ones, should guide us to a better future.

As we see a resurgence of antisemitism and Holocaust denial across the world, and when

there are fewer and fewer living survivors to tell the story first hand, it is essential that we learn the tragedies of the past and educate future generations so we can prevent these events from never happening again.

Today, it is critically important to remember one of the Holocaust's most oft-forgotten horrors—the massacre that took place at Babyn Yar in Ukraine and in other Eastern Europe countries, silenced for so long by the former Soviet Union.

The massacre of Kyiv's Jews at Babyn Yar was one of the largest mass killings by the Nazi regime at a single location during World War II. It is incumbent upon us to remember the sorrow and grief of the victims and their families of the Babyn Yar massacre, and I commend the Ukrainian people for coming together to deal with this tragedy and commemorate the horrific atrocity at Babyn Yar.

In honor of the 79th anniversary of the horrifying massacres at Babyn Yar, where it was officially estimated that up to 100,000 people were murdered during the Nazi occupation of Kyiv from 1941 to 1943, I rise today to honor all those who lost their lives, remind our colleagues and the world of the tremendous evil that took place at Babyn Yar, and commend the people of Ukraine for their commitment to remembering these horrific events. We must continue to stand up and say, "never again."

A review of the timeline of events surrounding the Babyn Yar tragedy are an important part of our solemn duty to ensure that terrible events like these can never happen again:

On September 19, 1941, Axis forces occupied Kyiv. A week later, the Nazi occupational government and SS leadership convened at Rear Headquarters Army Group South and made the decision to exterminate the Jews of Kyiv.

On September 28, 1941, the Nazi occupiers of Kyiv posted the following notice: "All [Jews] living in the city of Kiev and its vicinity are to report by 8 o'clock on the morning of Monday, September 29, 1941, at the corner of Melnykova and Dokterivska Streets (near the cemeteries). They are to take with them documents, money, valuables, as well as warm clothes, underwear, etc. Any [Jew] not carrying out this instruction and who is found elsewhere will be shot. Any civilian entering homes vacated by [Jews] and stealing property will be shot".

On September 29-30, 1941, the eve of Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in Judaism, 33,771 Jewish civilians were shot and killed by machine-gun fire at Babyn Yar, a ravine northwest of Kyiv. Between September and early October 1941, about 38,000 Jews were murdered at or near Babyn Yar; and the total Jewish death toll there until the Nazi retreat was around 40,000.

When Nazi forces retreated from the Soviet Union, they attempted to hide evidence of the massacres at Babyn Yar by exhuming the bodies and burning them, but in 1991, the government of independent Ukraine erected a monument in the shape of a menorah dedicated to the Jewish victims at Babyn Yar. Sadly, the names of many of these civilians who perished have been lost forever.

IN RECOGNITION OF ADAM GROGG

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary service of Adam Grogg, who served in the House's Office of General Counsel as an Associate General Counsel. During his tenure, Mr. Grogg played an integral role in safeguarding the legal interests of the House of Representatives and its Members, Officers, and employees in connection with federal court litigation involving issues of the highest institutional importance. Specifically, Mr. Grogg provided invaluable legal counsel and representation to numerous Committees of the House, greatly assisting them both in fulfilling their constitutionally authorized oversight functions and defending those prerogatives in litigation. In particular, Mr. Grogg's legal work has significantly contributed to the Committee on Oversight and Reform's investigation and litigation related to the 2020 decennial census.

Additionally, Mr. Grogg has provided vital legal counsel to the House regarding the presidential impeachment, as well as with respect to the defense of long-standing institutional powers, including the House's constitutional authority to adopt rules permitting its Members to participate in the legislative process remotely by proxy during an unprecedented global pandemic.

Mr. Grogg's work on behalf of the House has been of the highest caliber and I have no doubt that his next employer will benefit from his exceptional legal counsel. On behalf of the entire House community, I thank Mr. Grogg for his dedicated service to the House, and I wish for him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 212, P.Q. for H. Res. 1161, and NAY on Roll Call No. 213, Adoption of H. Res. 1161.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
GRANT HONORARY PROMOTION
TO WORLD WAR II VETERAN,
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DELBERT
LITRELL TO CORPORAL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to grant an honorary promotion to World War II veteran, Private First Class Delbert Littrell of the United States Marine Corps from Private First Class to Corporal.

PFC Delbert Littrell is an extraordinary World War II veteran. PFC Littrell served in