

U.S. CENTER FOR SAFESPORT

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass S. 2330, the Empowering Olympic Paralympic and Amateur Athletes Act of 2020.

This bill is the result of several years of work that began in 2016. Indiana's very own Indianapolis Star broke the story about former USA Gymnastics' team doctor, Larry Nassar's abuse of athletes under his care. Several years have passed since Dr. Nassar went to prison, but Congress has continued to work to ensure this kind of abuse never happens again.

In 2017, I led the charge in the House to address the horrible situation by introducing the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act. I was grateful to see it pass the House and see it get signed into law.

That law established the U.S. Center for SafeSport as the entity responsible for developing policies that all U.S. Olympic governing bodies must implement to better protect their athletes and, most critically, the center was charged with investigating claims of abuse against amateur U.S. athletes.

The center has received hundreds of claims they are responsible for investigating. And, today, with the passage of this bill later today, we will help ensure they will be able to fulfill that mandate.

When it was originally conceived, the center was not provided a steady revenue stream, but today S. 2330 will require the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee to provide direct funding to the U.S. Center for SafeSport to guarantee it stays committed to protecting athletes.

This reform, along with many others included in Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act, will bring much-needed further reform to ensure our young athletes will not have to suffer at the hands of another in their quest for gold.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this measure.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 18 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1100

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEAN) at 11 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send us Your spirit of peace. Inspire the Members of the people's House this

day with Your spirit of wisdom, patience, and understanding in the work they do.

Throughout our country, the effects of the coronavirus plague continue. Keep safe those who are in harm's way: healthcare professionals, those engaged in delivering goods and services to our communities, and teachers at all levels.

Comfort and send Your spirit of healing to those who suffer from illness and those who mourn those who have died.

Lord God, have mercy on us.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCHIFF led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

EVERY AMERICAN DESERVES QUALITY HEALTHCARE

(Mr. SCHIFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. once said: "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman because it often results in physical death."

As our Nation confronts the crisis of coronavirus, we must also confront the crisis of systemic racism in our society. Nowhere is the fight for racial justice more urgent than in the field of health.

The legislation I introduced this week would create a clear and forcible standard for equal healthcare, treating it as a civil rights issue, as it is, and provide strong tools to identify inequitable care and correct it wherever it is found.

I acknowledge and thank Dwayne Hall, whose own family experience with bias in healthcare was a driving force behind this legislation and without whose leadership this bill would not have been possible.

Every American deserves quality care and every American deserves equal care. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this bill to make health equity a reality in this country.

HONORING BLAKE HURST

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous service of a leader in Missouri agriculture, Mr. Blake Hurst.

Starting out as a young farmer in northwest Missouri, Blake rose through the ranks of the Missouri Farm Bureau to become a statewide board member, vice president, and, finally, president in 2010. Over his tenure, Blake brought the organization to new heights and developed a national reputation for his expertise in agriculture policy.

After decades of service, Blake plans to retire this year and spend more time on his farm with his loving wife, Julie, and their beautiful family.

Madam Speaker, I thank Blake for his unwavering support for Missouri farmers and wish him the very best as he begins this new chapter in his life.

AMERICA CAN AGAIN BE A WELCOMING NATION

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, one of the first actions of this administration was to shut down our Nation's doors to families, women, and children around the world fleeing violence and seeking refuge within our borders.

These bans showed a lack of decency and empathy, and they ignored the lessons of history. Immigrants built America, and they helped sustain and expand all that is good in a just and free society.

The President's ignorance of this history is perhaps the point of his policy, one that he uses to exploit and divide. Reports now show that the country intends to admit only 15,000 refugees this year, down from nearly 100,000 4 years ago.

The refugee community in western New York has helped revitalize entire neighborhoods, bringing diversity, culture, and new economic opportunity.

The organizations that support refugees, like the International Institute of Buffalo, Journey's End, Jewish Family Services, and others, continue to do their work with dwindling Federal support, but still they continue to do their good work.

I believe that we can once again be a generous and welcoming nation to the world's most vulnerable. It is imperative for our future that we do so.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.