

Bob was a genuine public servant who cared about the well-being and safety of all his Redding residents.

I send my sincerest condolences to his family and all of his colleagues he served with so many years.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

For 50 years, NIAAA has been the leader in generating and disseminating fundamental information about the effects of alcohol on our health and well-being and applying that knowledge to improve the lives of those struggling with alcohol-related problems.

In the United States alone, nearly 15 million people have an alcohol-use disorder. An estimated 88,000 people die from alcohol-related causes annually, and alcohol misuse has immeasurable impacts on families and communities across our Nation.

While NIAAA has made significant achievements toward improving public health over the past 50 years, such as illuminating the negative effects of prenatal alcohol exposure and supporting the development of effective behavioral therapies and medications to treat alcohol use disorder, more work is needed.

With technological advances and an expanding knowledge base, NIAAA is poised to advance alcohol research to the next frontier toward the goal of helping more Americans live healthier, more productive lives.

STOP THE IMPORTATION OF SYNTHETIC FENTANYL FROM CHINA

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, our country is still battling the opioid epidemic, and every day we hear heart-breaking stories of those lost to overdoses during this crisis. Congress must remain vigilant in the fight against opioids, especially synthetic fentanyl from China.

China is the heart of the global fentanyl supply chain, and most fentanyl trafficked into the United States is produced in China. Sometimes Chinese fentanyl is shipped directly into our country, and other times it is brought across our northern and southern borders by smugglers working with Chinese drug dealers.

It only takes a small amount of fentanyl to overdose, and unsuspecting drug users often purchase drugs cut with fentanyl. More and more Ameri-

cans are dying from synthetic opioid overdoses. There were an estimated 31,000 deaths in 2018.

The Chinese Government needs to go after the massive fentanyl operation in their country and should execute the dirtbag fentanyl drug dealers, smugglers, and producers.

I was a cosponsor of the Fentanyl Sanctions Act, which was included in the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, which gives the President the authority to impose sanctions against countries failing to do their part to stop illegal opioid traffic. If the Chinese Government wants to avoid sanctions, they must bring the lowlifes running this massive fentanyl operation to justice.

RISING NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES

(Mr. SOTO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, coronavirus cases are rising again in Florida. Today, Florida reported 7,925 new cases.

Coronavirus cases are rising nationally. Yesterday, there were over 155,000 Americans who contracted the coronavirus and another 1,707 Americans dead. That is the highest daily death toll since May 14.

American families need our help: testing, tracing, treatment, and a vaccine; keeping our first responders on the job; small business relief; jobless benefits; and food and housing assistance.

And what is Congress doing about it?

The House majority has voted twice for the Heroes Act, including a compromise. President-elect Joe Biden has said right now Congress should come together and pass COVID relief packages like the Heroes Act.

Where is President Trump? Where is the Senate Republican majority? Millions of Americans would like to know.

America is in crisis. We must come together as a Congress, and the time for action is now.

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS DISCUSSES COVID-19 DISPARITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. LEE of Nevada). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, today we reconvene our monthly Spe-

cial Order hour of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus for the first time, really, since the COVID-19 pandemic reached America's shores.

As we speak here today, America's staring down the barrel of a third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the worst one, perhaps, that we have so far faced.

We are adding a million cases a week—yes, a million cases every week. We are approaching a total of 11.5 million cases, more than any other nation in the world by far, despite many more populous countries with outbreaks.

Even more grim, we lead the world in the number of confirmed COVID-related deaths and quickly are approaching 1,000 deaths per day, more than any other nation facing this new wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

States and cities are careening towards lockdowns.

Just today, Madam Speaker, New York City ordered a shutdown of its schools. It had attempted to open, partially, the schools, but today the mayor of the city of New York ordered another shutdown of the school system. Over 1 million children will stay at home with their family members.

And so States and cities are locking down as we speak, right now, as we near the Thanksgiving holiday.

Many States across the country, Governors and mayors have spoken to their constituencies and asked them not to congregate in their homes with more than 10 people, family members, during Thanksgiving. It is a wise recommendation by mayors and Governors.

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Show your loved ones that you love them by keeping them alive. Don't expose them to the COVID-19 virus. As we speak right here, as I said, New York City has announced that it has indefinitely closed schools.

Madam Speaker, we all know why America is facing such a terrible outbreak of this virus: The abject failure by this administration to act and numerous Republican leaders to take this pandemic seriously. It was minimized, underestimated, yet it was deadly to over 250,000 Americans. The failure of leadership—the failure of leadership to encourage something as simple as wearing a mask.

The phenomenon of the COVID-19's unbridled spread throughout the United States is a serious one. But there is even more serious phenomenon taking place, and that is the alarming disparate impact on communities of color.

So this pandemic zeroes in on communities of color with high rates of diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, and other respiratory diseases, and cardiovascular problems. Deadly conditions for those that are infected by the COVID-19 virus.

When my home State and the city of New York became the Nation's first epicenter of the pandemic, the racial disparities were very clear. The hardest