

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2020

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my colleague Congresswoman TITUS' amendment to H.R. 8294, the National Apprenticeship Act of 2020, which I cosponsored.

Our travel and tourism industry employs nearly 16 million workers across our nation. In my home state of Hawaii, tourism is our main economic pillar, with one out of five workers statewide employed within this industry.

I have literally hundreds of thousands of constituents and their families who are dependent on travel and tourism fear for their future due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of tourists arriving in Hawaii each day has dropped over 97 percent compared to a year ago. COVID-19 has devastated Hawaii's economy and threatened the livelihoods of countless individuals, forcing all into uncertainty and too many into unemployment and worse.

This bipartisan amendment will ensure these families and millions of their fellow workers and families across the country are not left behind by adding hospitality and tourism to the list of non-traditional apprenticeship industries eligible for the 21st Century Grants in the Modernizing the National Apprenticeship System. The amendment supports our workers and businesses in the hospitality industry at a time of great need, and it invests in this critical sector of our economy to help ensure a clearer path to recovery.

I am proud to support Congresswoman TITUS' amendment, and I remain committed to finding and pursuing opportunities that will help the travel and tourism industry swiftly recover from the impacts of this pandemic.

Mahalo.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretably missed one vote on Monday November 16, 2020. On Roll Call vote 220, S. 3147 Improving Safety and Security for Veterans Act, I would have voted YEA.

CONDEMNING ACTS BY PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND GOV- ERNMENT OF HONG KONG SPE- CIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION THAT VIOLATE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional China Caucus and senior member of the House of Representatives, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1033, "Condemning acts by the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region that violate fundamental rights and freedoms of Hong Kong residents as well as acts that undermine Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy".

First and foremost, I wish to thank my colleague, Chairman ENGEL, for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee as well as on this vital, bipartisan piece of legislation.

Time and time again, the Federal Government of the United States has had to rebuke Beijing for its aggression against Hong Kong and the Chinese Government's continuous efforts to restrict the region's autonomy.

Today, we will once again defend Hong Kong by passing this resolution, which calls on Beijing to rectify national security law provisions inconsistent with the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law and advises the U.S. government to coordinate with allies and partners to respond to the deterioration of rights and freedoms in Hong Kong.

In 1997, the British relinquished control over Hong Kong to China under a unique agreement which created the infamous "one country, two systems" principle.

For over two decades, the people of Hong Kong enjoyed strong democratic institutions, including an independent judiciary, and have been able to proudly exercise their civil liberties.

However, since 2014, the Chinese government has increasingly sought to undermine Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy.

Most recently, on July 1, 2020, the Government of China imposed sweeping national security legislation on the people of Hong Kong, fundamentally altering Hong Kong's autonomy and undermining the basic rights and freedoms promised to the people of Hong Kong under the Sino-British Joint Declaration, a legally binding international agreement guaranteeing that the social and economic systems, as well as the life-style, in Hong Kong will remain unchanged through 2047.

Beijing's national security law is the culmination of Xi Jinping's years long assault on Hong Kong's democratic freedoms and autonomy, and we must do our part as defenders of democratic freedom around the world to push back on Beijing's aggression.

Under the national security law, the Chinese Government has criminalized any acts of:

Secession, breaking away from the country;
Subversion, undermining the power or authority of the central government;

Terrorism, using violence of intimidation against people; and

Collusion with foreign or external forces.

In addition, it authorizes China's national security agencies to establish a presence in Hong Kong.

This national security law gives Beijing a new tool with which to crack down on protesters and dissidents as well as push forward education that trumpets the successes of the Communist Party.

Mr. Speaker, you may remember that last year, pro-democracy protests erupted in Hong Kong in response to legislation that would have enabled suspected criminals to be extradited to mainland China.

Thousands of students, lawyers, pro-democracy legislators, corporate executives, and others came together to protest that grave incursion of Hong Kong's autonomy and appealed to the United States support their pro-democracy movement, and we did by making the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act public law.

By passing this crucial resolution today, Members of Congress are standing up for the democratic principles we hold so dear.

Since its founding, the United States has been a city upon a hill, the model of democracy for the rest of the world, and a fierce defender of civil liberties for all.

It is our moral duty to stand up for what is right and condemn what is wrong.

Our vote to pass H. Res. 1033 sends a clear message to China and the world that the U.S. not only condemns Beijing's actions as violation of international law but also that we will continue to stand with Hong Kong.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H. Res. 1033.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on Nov. 17, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 221.

HONORING KELLIE MARKEY AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Kellie Markey, the founder and executive director of Dorothy's House in Des Moines, as our Iowan of the Week for the week of October 16, 2020.

Raised and educated in Iowa, Kellie moved back to Des Moines in 2011 and began volunteering in order to reconnect with her community. She started working with teen girls at Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS) and began to learn more about not only the nature of abuse against kids in our area, but also the extreme challenges these individuals face as they age out of care systems and try to find success in the world without proper resources.

Inspired by the hope and optimism of these young people who had endured so much hardship, Kellie became a foster parent for girls who had suffered abuse and sexual assault. The experience opened her eyes further to the challenges average people face in helping survivors stay safe and flourish. She also realized how little the crimes of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation are discussed in our communities, despite how present they are—and that there wasn't a place at the time that could house survivors and help them with their healing journey. That is when Kellie decided to found Dorothy's House.

Dorothy's House was established to create a safe place in Iowa for survivors of sex trafficking and exploitation to get back on their feet and find resources, support, and the space they needed to take those next steps. They provide both residential and nonresidential programming, which for many includes substance abuse or mental health treatment.

The mission of Dorothy's House is to support the individual. Because of this, they make sure to look at someone's profile and identify specifically how they can assist. Common personal goals and needs include physical health care, mental wellbeing, medication support, legal support, job skills, and so on. After identifying what specifically works for the individual's plan, Dorothy's House then surrounds that individual with resources to address and overcome deficiencies.

Awareness is a major challenge when it comes to combating trafficking. It may be hard for people to believe, but the crime of trafficking is prevalent in Iowa. One of the main goals for Kellie and her team is to help people understand that this crime is happening, whether they are aware of it or not. It is underreported, yet it still happens right here in our towns and neighborhoods. By raising awareness of the issue and working with other advocates and law enforcement, Dorothy's House hopes to make it so difficult to transact that traffickers avoid Iowa altogether.

Kellie has made it clear she was not trying to reinvent the wheel on resources when it came to Dorothy's House. We are fortunate that Polk County and Iowa have many organizations and groups that help participants remember their goals and help them to be independent and happy. Since it was founded, however, Dorothy's House has provided a remarkable opportunity for survivors to heal and for the community to stand up against abuse. Kellie's organization has already helped many, and I have no doubt her good work will continue to make a meaningful impact on everyone Dorothy's House serves.

When Iowans identify a problem, they don't walk away from it; they take action and make a difference. Kellie felt called upon to work with struggling teens, to foster youth in need of a stable environment, and to found a unique organization dedicated to helping individuals who have endured unimaginable suffering. That sense of hope and optimism in the face of challenge runs deep in Iowans, and Kellie is no exception. She and the volunteers of Dorothy's House confront pain and challenges every day, yet they still manage to see silver linings and focus on the good—just like those they serve. I want to thank Kellie Markey and her amazing team at Dorothy's House for their compassion, complete dedication, and hard work in central Iowa, and it is my pleasure to recognize them as Iowan of the Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL DALLAS RALPH HANNA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Colonel Dallas Ralph Hanna and to thank him for his service as a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. Colonel Dallas Ralph Hanna (Ret.) was born August 14, 1938 in Salem, Ohio and passed away on November 16, 2020.

In 1956, Ralph graduated from Salem High School and went on to get his undergraduate degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. He received his master's degree from Central Michigan University becoming a graduate of Air War College and starting his career in the United States military.

Following college, Ralph became a highly decorated career Fighter Pilot in the United States Air Force. He was involved in both the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War and held two FIS command positions, retiring as a Colonel. He was stationed everywhere from Goose Bay, Labrador to Colorado Springs, Colorado to Keflavik, Iceland. Throughout his career, he flew the F-102, the F-4, the F-15, the F-106 and the T-33 but one of his favorites was the A-1 Skyraider. Ralph became part of the biggest rescue mission in the Vietnam War flying the A-1 by rescuing downed aircrews and controlling the battlefield until additional reinforcements arrived. This mission is one example of the many times Ralph put his life on the line to serve his fellow servicemen and women and the United States of America.

I had the pleasure of working with and representing Ralph in Virginia's First District, and he will be missed dearly. Mr. Hanna was a patriot of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States. Ralph is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Lou; his two daughters, Nikki and Jenny; his son-in-law, Glen; and his two granddaughters, Hanna and Marissa.

His commitment to the ideals that America stands for, his good citizenship, self-sacrifice and longevity of service are a testimony to all that is best about our country. That is evident throughout his career. Colonel Dallas Ralph Hanna (Ret.) is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to our nation's democratic principles and for the safety of our country. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me in honoring the life of Colonel Dallas Ralph Hanna and thanking him for his years of dedicated service to the United States of America.

HONORING ARCHBISHOP ABUNE MELKETSEDEK

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor His Eminence Archbishop Abune Melketsedek and his remarkable life committed to faith, knowledge, and compassion. With his passing at the age of 97, he leaves behind a legacy of undeniable virtue and resolve.

Born in Megenta Kusquan in the province of Gondar, Ethiopia, Archbishop Melketsedek was identified at an early age as a prodigious student of the Church. At the age of 11, he was appointed to the diaconate at Debre Tabor Mehanaleam, assuming the position of deacon for all the churches he visited. With a gift for scripture and unwavering devotion, he worked his way up through the Church, eventually becoming a close friend of Emperor Haile Selassie I and a trusted member of his cabinet. In 1959, the Emperor appointed the Archbishop to Director of Religious Affairs and tasked him with shaping a new clergy based on merit and integrity. He capitalized on his role, while also using his influence to support charitable organizations that established schools in Addis Ababa and rural parts of Ethiopia.

In 1973, tragedy struck the Archbishop when the militant Derg Regime overthrew the Emperor and imprisoned and executed many of his cabinet and close associates. During the upheaval, the Archbishop was thrown in jail for over eight years. Amid this painful chapter, he remained resolute, spending his time as a counselor and spiritual guide for his fellow inmates who remember him as, "a gift from God and father of consolation." Upon his release, His Eminence could not stand to see the destruction of his country and the debasement of his Church and began actively speaking out against the Derg regime which led to his exile from Ethiopia.

The Archbishop found a new home in Berkeley, California where he continued his work as General Secretary of The Holy Synod of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church. From the United States he flew all over the world to support and unite the members of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Archbishop Abune Melketsedek is a credit to the State of California and history will remember him as a good-hearted man with an unflinching commitment to his cause.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for a recorded vote on November 19, 2020, on Ordering the Previous Question on H. RES. 1224 and Adoption of the Rule Providing for Consideration of H.R. 8294. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on Roll Call No. 223, and nay on Roll Call No. 224.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR RYAN T. REILLY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 20, 2020

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Ryan T. Reilly for his exemplary dedication to duty and service as an Army Congressional Fellow and Congressional Budget Liaison for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management