

right over us while they spew out whatever they want to spew out because darn if they are going to actually do anything like agree to whatever is in the Paris Agreement.

It is an absolute joke. It is a laughingstock what the Democratic Party is doing, saying they are standing up for the little guy in this country when they are going to drive up the price of energy, increase CO<sub>2</sub>, empower China, empower Iran, empower Russia, and harm jobs. They are going to kill hundreds of thousands of jobs in this country even as we are coming out of the negative effect of the pandemic.

We have an expression in Texas: Come and take it. It goes back to our history, our founding as a republic in Texas and Gonzalez, when Santa Anna wanted his cannon back, and we said: Come and take it.

Well, my message to my Democratic colleagues is: We are going to drill and we are going to frack. Texas is going to continue to lead the world.

And to my Democratic colleagues: Come and take it.

We are going to stand up for this world being able to flourish. Not just America, not just Texas, but the world. We are exporting liquified natural gas around the world, making the world better.

If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are so concerned about CO<sub>2</sub>, why would they undermine the very energy policies that are giving us the ability to drive the CO<sub>2</sub> level down?

It makes absolutely no sense.

So I would just say to the gentleman, I greatly appreciate his giving us the opportunity here to highlight this. But this is just the beginning to my friends on the other side of the aisle.

You roll in here with a new administration, roll in here thinking that we are going to just fundamentally alter our entire economy through executive order?

We are going to say. No. We are going to say, Come and take it. That is what we are doing. That is what I am here to say.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate Mr. ROY's strong voice and leadership on the Republican Conference. I appreciate very much his being part of this evening's discussion. Words couldn't be truer.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank you for your attention and listening to the message that we have.

Let me ask you a question: Could you imagine if former President Trump had signed an executive order during the middle of this pandemic to unilaterally kill thousands of jobs?

What would you say would happen?

It would be a national outrage.

Well, President Biden's reckless executive actions are a national outrage. As you have heard, Americans in rural communities across the country—in fact, in urban areas, too—will suffer because of this ban.

The Western Caucus advocates for responsible land and resource manage-

ment. I can assure you that we will continue to be a strong voice for rural America. We will do everything in our power to fight for their livelihoods in the face of these devastating decisions by President Biden. So we—I, tonight, call on President Biden to please revoke and reverse these actions.

I appreciate your attention, Madam Speaker, and the opportunity to express our views on this very important issue, and I yield back the balance of my time.

#### HONORING ELOISE ABRAHAMS DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to honor Eloise Abrahams.

Eloise Abrahams is an RN, BS, LNHA, and she is the executive director for Guardian Care Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Orlando, Florida.

With over 35 years of experience in healthcare, Mrs. Abrahams knew working with seniors was her passion. Championed as the first African-American director of clinical services and the first African-American licensed nursing home administrator in Volusia County, she strategically led her team to receive the decade of excellence award from AHCA for exemplary nursing and rehabilitation care and services.

Certified as a preceptor in Florida, Eloise takes pride in mentoring and training students, particularly African Americans aspiring to become licensed nursing home administrators.

Eloise has received numerous accolades for her stellar leadership, including State and national awards for exemplary care. She was also honored in ONYX magazine as Woman on the Move. Abrahams plays an active role in her church and is a member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. She serves on several boards of directors and is currently president of the Central Florida Black Nurses Association of Orlando, Inc.

Leading her team through one of the most challenging years in LTC history due to COVID-19, with the support from the GC Board of Directors and Synergy HealthCare Management, she continues to possess a deep passion for providing the highest quality of care.

Abrahams is deeply passionate about the quality of healthcare directed towards seniors and those less fortunate, and has demonstrated continuous commitment to this cause.

In addition to being involved in her work and her community, she is very family-oriented and understands the need to balance her life. She spends quality time with her beautiful, blended family and her husband of 29 years.

For that and more, Eloise Abrahams, we honor you.

□ 2100

HONORING GLORIA R. EMANUEL

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to honor Gloria R. Emanuel.

Gloria R. Emanuel is currently the senior accountant for financial reporting for the City of St. Cloud. Gloria is responsible for project accounting, debt obligations, and monitoring the compliance of debt covenants.

In her role, Gloria assists the finance director in the refinancing of existing debt. She also handles the issuance of new debt and works to ensure the timely payment of debt services for all bonds for the City of St. Cloud.

Further, Gloria analyzes and records transactions for the pension trust funds for both general and police and firefighters' plans.

Gloria also holds the responsibility of preparing several local financial reports, including the State Annual Local Government Financial Report, AFR, the State Annual Police and Firefighters' Pension Report, and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Gloria has been employed with the City of St. Cloud for over 32 years, progressing from the position of senior account clerk to her present position of senior accountant-financial reporting. She has had exposure to almost all phases, including the city's financial workings of fixed asset accounting and grant accounting and budgeting.

Gloria has also served as the treasurer of a variety of organizations and campaigns, including the Osceola branch of the NAACP and an elected city commissioner's campaign.

Gloria received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration-Finance from the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. She became a certified government finance officer in 2012.

Currently, Gloria is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association and its local chapters, such as the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

Gloria has been married for 31 years and is the proud parent of two wonderful children and a pet tortoise named Pearl.

For that and more, Ms. Gloria R. Emanuel, we honor you.

HONORING ALLISON KIRBY

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Allison Kirby.

Allison Kirby has proudly served as the principal of Jones High School for the past 4 years. She is proud of her experience as an English teacher, librarian, and assistant principal, experiences that she feels have helped her become a strong leader for Jones High School students.

Kirby's dream is to create an environment where all children feel loved and adequately prepared to tackle adulthood and higher education. Her passion for helping young people comes from her grandmother, who served as a

high school English teacher in a segregated school. Her grandmother's passion for her students helped instill a sense of obligation and devotion to education within Kirby's heart.

In its early years, Jones High School was the only public high school for African Americans. However, the high school is now open to all students, and Kirby is devoted to ensuring that the environment only grows to be more inclusive to students.

In her efforts to promote educational opportunities for students, Ms. Kirby has led the school in becoming an official community partnership school, re-vamping the Medical Magnet Program to produce licensed practical nurses and include a Junior Law Enforcement Academy.

Ask anyone at Jones High and they will tell you they are, "history in the making."

Outside of her work, Ms. Kirby happily lives in downtown Orlando with her husband, Dan, and her daughter, Ileana.

For that and more, Ms. Allison Kirby, we honor you.

HONORING JOSHUA J. MYERS

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Joshua J. Myers.

Joshua J. Myers is a not-for-profit leader with over 14 years of marketing communications, fundraising, and sales management experience. Throughout his career, Joshua has been featured as a commentator for print, radio and television, and other mediums promoting health education and disease prevention.

Through his work, Joshua seeks to promote his passion for connecting people to health and wellness resources that improve their lives, especially those disproportionately affected by health disparities.

Currently, Joshua serves as the Development and Communications Director at Hope and Health Center of Central Florida, Inc., a medical clinic with operations throughout Florida.

Joshua holds a bachelor's degree in theater and communications from the College at Brockport, SUNY, a master's in communications and media technologies from the Rochester Institute of Technology, and a master's in arts management from the University of Buffalo, SUNY, at which he was the Arthur A. Schomburg fellow.

He currently resides in Altamonte Springs, Florida, and enjoys reading, cooking, fitness, and the beach.

For that and more, Mr. Joshua J. Myers, we honor you.

HONORING ANGELA EADY

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Angela Eady.

Angela Eady is a former city commissioner for the City of Kissimmee and a lifelong resident of Osceola County. She has been a champion for expanding access to affordable healthcare, enhancing education opportunities, and bringing higher-paying jobs to Kissimmee.

In addition to serving as a former commissioner, Angela has nearly 30 years' experience in the healthcare industry, where she currently works full-time for a major pharmaceutical distributor.

In the past, she has served on the Osceola Planning Commission, the Osceola Charter Review Committee, the Osceola County Education Foundation, the local chapter of the NAACP, and the Caribbean American and Floridian Association.

Angela currently serves in various organizations as a board member in the Osceola County Education Foundation, Community Vision, the Osceola County Chapter of the NAACP, the Caribbean American and Floridian Association, the Osceola County Chapter of the Democratic Executive Committee, and Organize Florida.

Angela continues to assist veterans, advocate for affordable housing and combat homelessness. And in addition, Angela has received various awards for her community service, including the NAACP, the Mercy Foundation, the National Congress of Black Women, City of Kissimmee, the Caribbean and Floridian Association, and the Delta Omicron Omega Chapter.

Public safety has always been a priority for Angela. She will continue to bridge the gap between the community and law enforcement. Angela believes in equality for all; therefore, she will continue to fight for equal rights for all.

Angela is the 10th of 12 children and the mother of one beautiful daughter. She has two precious granddaughters, Mariah and Brooklyn.

Angela Eady has been in public service for most of her adult life and has spent countless hours volunteering to build a better community for all residents in the great city of Kissimmee.

And for those reasons, Ms. Angela Eady, we honor you.

HONORING DR. CARA NELSON-JAMES

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Cara Nelson-James.

Dr. Cara Nelson-James joined Central Florida as the chief medical officer in December of 2019. She obtained her medical degree at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Her residency training in family medicine was at North Broward Hospital's district affiliated Broward General Medical Center.

Along with being a valuable member of the Central Florida Health Care team for over 14 years, she is also an associate clinical professor at Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Nelson-James continues to provide direct patient care at the Dundee Community Health Center 2 days a week. She has been instrumental in working with BayCare on the residency program in Polk County through Florida State University. She is an advocate for clinical education so students

and residents can experience the heart-felt mission of community healthcare.

During this challenging COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Nelson-James has spearheaded efforts to provide testing for thousands of patients and vaccines to the 65 and older populations and HCW alike.

Dr. Nelson-James is passionate about everyone having access to quality healthcare and bridging the gap in health equity. She has committed herself to empowering her patients to be active participants in their journey to health. She will always find a way to say yes to programs that benefit the community and are dedicated to the cause.

Dr. Nelson-James is married with four children and lives in Winter Haven, Florida. In her spare time, she enjoys watching basketball, staying fit, and reading.

For those reasons and more, Dr. Cara Nelson-James, we honor you.

HONORING DR. CAROLYN PASS

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Carolyn Pass.

Dr. Carolyn Pass' leadership spans more than 35 years, beginning with serving as the president of the Minority Pre-Professional Association at the University of Florida, where she earned her B.S. in microbiology.

As a medical student, she was a student health policy mentee in the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy's office. Dr. Pass also served as president and regional council member of the Student National Medical Association.

In the final year of her master's program, she was awarded the highest honor bestowed at the University of Miami, being inducted into the Iron Arrow Honor Society.

Dr. Pass' dedication to the community began in 2001 when she opened her primary care practice in Lake Wales, Florida. Before going into solo practice, she suffered from congestive heart failure and recuperated at home for 18 months after giving birth to her third child.

Her dedication to providing quality care to her patients continued to flourish as she rose through the ranks of leadership at AdventHealth Lake Wales. While on staff for the past 20 years, she has served on every committee and has been elected three times as chairman of medicine. Currently, she is serving as the first Black female chief of staff.

Dr. Pass' specialties include internal medicine, wound care, and hyperbaric medicine.

Her passions are her three lovely children, Alexandra, who is a graduate student, and Nicholas and Christian, who are in college.

For that and more, Dr. Carolyn Pass, we honor you.

HONORING DR. VINCENT MILLER, II

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Vincent Miller.

Dr. Vincent M. Miller, II, currently serves as a secondary math teacher at

Winter Haven High School, and he was recently honored as the first Black male Polk County teacher of the year.

Dr. Miller is a newly published author with one of the top-selling books on Amazon, "21st Century Education Through the Lens of COVID-19."

As an accomplished visionary leader in the academic sector with 10 years in the Polk County school system, he has had many administrative roles, but found his love back in the classroom.

Some of Dr. Miller's most notable accomplishments in education include decreasing academic suspension rates over 50 percent, establishing various innovative academic programs designed to energize academic offerings and enhance career and professional development outcomes for students.

He holds a doctor of education in educational leadership from Lynn University, a master of business administration from Webster University, a bachelor of science from the University of South Florida, and a music minor in vocal performance from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Miller is known for his community work through his nonprofit, Filling the Lane. Filling the Lane's mission is to bridge the gaps between education, sports, arts, and community for at-risk youth. He is also known for performing locally and internationally in shows such as Porgy and Bess, and the Broadway production, KaTonga.

He is very excited to be who honored here today. In the words of Disney: "It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

For that and more, Dr. Vincent M. Miller, II, we honor you.

HONORING JACQUELINE BYRD

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Jacqueline Byrd.

Jacqueline Byrd is the superintendent of Polk County Public Schools, an educator, wife of Jason Byrd, Sr., and mother of Jason Byrd, Jr., and Jalyn Byrd. She was the first African-American superintendent of Polk County Public Schools. Through her continued focus on improving education for all students, she has become a role model for students, and is an advocate for educating all students, creating wraparound services to address meeting their needs and in removing barriers to allow for success.

Jacqueline can be found visiting schools, talking to students, attending events, and advocating on behalf of her students through local community leaders. She loves spending time with her husband and family, even though many of these evenings are spent at school events.

She is the youngest of six children of Eugene and Irene Hodges. Her siblings have always said: "She should have been the oldest."

Her parents taught her that she would face challenges as an African-American woman, but her independence, character, and integrity were important. She has passed these life lessons to both her children.

Jacqueline is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and serves on various boards of directors within her community and State. As part of her service to the community, she served as a spokesperson for the National Bone Marrow Donor Program. In December of 2005, she donated bone marrow to a 12-year-old girl with sickle cell anemia.

Jacqueline advocates for unselfish acts for the betterment of mankind.

For that and more, Superintendent Jacqueline Byrd, we honor you.

□ 2115

HONORING JOSEPHINE M. HOWARD

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to recognize Josephine Howard.

As part of her life legacy, Josephine M. Howard has been achieving goals, setting high standards, teaching, learning, positively impacting lives, and committing to helping, mentoring, and inspiring the lives of children, adults, and the elderly.

Desiring to be a teacher like her mother, Crizell, she grew up mentoring and tutoring her five siblings and neighborhood children. In the 1960s, Josephine graduated from Douglass High School with high honors and Florida College, cum laude, with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and she subsequently began her teaching career.

Josephine loved teaching but wanted to have a greater impact on more lives by empowering them with knowledge. Therefore, she went back to college and earned her master's of education, magna cum laude, from the University of Central Florida and an educational specialist degree, summa cum laude, at Nova Southeastern University, thus dedicating 38 years of service to education, including 20 years as a principal.

Josephine is a servant leader, lifetime member of the NAACP, has served as a member of the Horizon Housing board as treasurer, is the former CEO of Howard's Apparel, former chaplain of the NC100BW, board of trustees of Heart of Florida Hospital, Head Start Policy Council, and Who's Who Among Professional Women.

She continues to serve as the first vice president deaconess at the New Beulah Missionary Baptist Church. She is actively involved in first Christian education directress appointed, praise ministry, mass choir, Sunday school teaching, and more.

Her community service and leadership dedication have earned her numerous recognitions, honors, and media coverage. She received the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Lifetime Achievement Award, Teacher of the Year, and Distinguished Volunteer Service Award.

Josephine is married to her husband, Phillip, of 52 years and has two children, Jonita and Phillip II, and three grandchildren, Philip and twins Phillip III and Kennedy.

For this and more, Josephine M. Howard, we honor you.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW TO INSURRECTION

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes to talk about my personal account, like so many other Members have, on the day of January 6. I do so in a poetic, artistic form, with a poem, "A Bird's Eye View to Insurrection."

The day started with the humdrum noises of a mundane process

Mahogany boxes were presented, papers shuffled, and gavels knocked,

But the process of the day was everything, The hearing of voices, the counting of votes, the sum of democracy.

I had a bird's eye view from the gallery And on that day, we were in the final steps, the technocratic certification, we were electing a President

Meanwhile, at the Ellipse, at base camp, another scene ensued

A President spewed hateful lies, violence was incited, and a fuse was lit

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, stop Objections were raised, debates began, and passions heated

A text reads Capitol Complex breaches

I rest assured, I am in the safest place on Earth, for the people's House has never fallen

I call my wife to tell her we are safe No thought of danger permeates, I am convinced of my safety, and I listen to more speeches

A text reads Capitol Dome breached Pence and Pelosi, Hoyer and McCarthy, one-by-one they were escorted out

The debate continued, the people's representatives continued, and JIM MCGOVERN presided

Debate yields to a prayer by the chaplain I am uneasy, fear is in the air, and the Members evacuate the House floor

We dozen or so remain in the gallery stranded

Banging, banging, banging on the doors The insurrectionists are at the Chamber, gas masks are deployed, and we are surrounded

Welch and Gomez, Crow and DeLauro, Himes and Costa, Thompson, Wild, Johnson, and I

Together we flee, over chairs and under railings to the door

We are trapped Bang, bang, bang! Bang, bang, bang! Get down! The orders rang.

Guns, flash bombs, teargas? Which sounds these were, I do not know, as Capitol Police stood as sentinels to protect us

Get down, get down again, so we did I lie flat, behind flimsy plastic seat coverings, no match for bullets, contemplating my mortality

I realize finally and truly in this moment I could die

Army Rangers rise, we lawyers take cover, and old souls sit relaxed, waiting peacefully, perhaps for the inevitable

I am cerebral and imagining I do not even hear the gunshot, mortally wounding a terrorist at the very door behind me, and the Chamber finally defended with urgency

Meanwhile, the Senate Chamber falls without a shot fired

Police bang the doors, the doors bang back, who lurks on the outside

Confusion changes to clarity and now there's one, and only one, way out

Up we go and out the door, terrorists lay flat with guns drawn upon them, as they look at us with killers' eyes

Democracy and I may die, but not today  
 Down, down, down the stairs we go,  
 cellphones light  
 up, and the world sees proof of my life as I  
 flee live on PBS  
 This is absurd, fantastical, yet nonetheless  
 very much happening  
 Down into the tunnels we go  
 Flanked by guardians, we keep moving,  
 Demings made it out, too, and we re-  
 joice  
 Up, up, up the stairs we go  
 We are in a room now, they describe it as  
 safe, and we congregate in herds like  
 cattle  
 I feel part relieved and uneasy  
 Instigators and innocent, masked and  
 maskless, Members and staff, we wait  
 together  
 A community prayer ensues  
 I call my wife, I have made it, at least I am  
 mostly sure  
 COVID-19 lurks as a silent killer in the room  
 Partisan cliques form, realizations begin,  
 and an awkward casualness attempts  
 to take hold  
 Guilt, blame, excuses, and outrage begin to  
 form  
 Because of course we told you so, of course  
 dangerous rhetoric turns to violence,  
 as the seeds of despicable lies finally  
 grow to insurrection  
 I start to contemplate  
 I am hungry, I am thirsty, and I am sus-  
 picious of certain colleagues  
 Gomez and I leave the safe room for our of-  
 fices on gut feelings alone  
 I am vaccinated, I am eventually vindicated,  
 as days later some colleagues are sick  
 with COVID-19  
 Our colleagues gave it to them, maskless and  
 without remorse  
 I return to our Rayburn sanctuary, I am  
 greeted with anxious smiles, my staff  
 is safe  
 We share the events of the great happening,  
 the terrible  
 We watch the news, we see the mob in all its  
 horror, and the assailing of the Capitol  
 walls  
 We are in disbelief  
 Capitol Police fight hand-to-hand combat,  
 they are outnumbered, and beaten by  
 flags that say MAGA, Trump, and back  
 the blue  
 There is a vicious irony  
 Now hunger reminds us, snacks are procured,  
 we eat creatively in fellowship  
 The hours go by in frightful minutes as our  
 eyes remain glued to the television  
 Brave cooks open the cafeteria, police keep  
 their posts, and my staff remain safe in  
 the Capitol offices with me  
 We finally have a real meal  
 The decision has been made, we will return  
 to the Chamber, and we will do our  
 duty  
 Arizona receives its objection and it goes  
 down  
 Arkansas, California, Colorado go by as  
 Pence picks up momentum  
 We have a standoff on Pennsylvania  
 Debates ensued, liars are called out and an-  
 gered, a second fight almost happens,  
 but no one really wants to take on NFL  
 linebacker Colin Allred  
 Midnight passes us as we wait  
 I venture forth, I return to the scene of the  
 crimes, and again I watch the final ma-  
 hogany boxes in motion  
 West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Pence  
 concludes his remarks  
 There is a slight mix of anger, disappoint-  
 ment, and resoluteness in his face  
 Pence fulfills his constitutional duty  
 Speaker PELOSI smiles slightly, she is grace-  
 ful and marks the seriousness of the  
 day's events

A domestic terrorist plot has been foiled  
 I am alive, the Congress is alive, and thank  
 God Almighty, democracy is alive  
 America must remember this day, learn from  
 it, lest we repeat it

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I  
 yield back the balance of my time.

#### PROTECTING OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under  
 the Speaker's announced policy of Janu-  
 ary 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the  
 gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr.  
 GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker,  
 before we deal with the purpose of this  
 speech, I would like to make some ob-  
 servations about changes that have  
 been made in the last few weeks and  
 other rapidly changing aspects of  
 American life.

One of the few positive observations I  
 have made since I was a Congressman  
 is the freedom people have normally  
 had to see their Congressmen. Eccen-  
 tric people can stand at the base of the  
 Capitol steps a few yards away and  
 hand out their pamphlets, nice and  
 free. Easy to meet their Congressmen,  
 for those of us who like to walk outside  
 and not use the tunnel.

Now, a chain-link fence stands  
 around the Capitol with razor wire on  
 top. Let's be honest. After about mid-  
 night on January 7, I think most of us  
 felt pretty safe.

Now, we are almost a month later,  
 and we still have National Guard folks  
 in full combat, ready to protect us. We  
 have the wire on top of the walls, as  
 well as Constitution and Independence  
 Avenues shut down.

I feel like I am in East Germany in  
 the 1970s. I am not sure exactly what  
 East Germany was like, but that is how  
 I kind of visualize it, around maybe  
 their parliament or whatever, fencing,  
 police, always afraid of the people.

It is a fitting background for our  
 brave new world order in which our  
 high-tech oligarchs are censoring ideas.  
 Perhaps that is this background to the  
 new censor regime. It seems almost ap-  
 propriate.

Our high-tech oligarchs are censoring  
 ideas which are unpopular with the  
 wealthy and powerful in our country.  
 Eventually, we will need some anti-  
 trust enforcement or legislation to  
 open up Twitter and allow American  
 citizens to hear all points of view, in-  
 cluding points of view that the great  
 and powerful of our country do not  
 want to have heard.

I would like to thank the German,  
 Mexican, and French Governments for  
 their support as Americans try to re-  
 gain their roots as a country with a  
 free flow of ideas.

In the meantime, my plea to the  
 Speaker and majority leader is please  
 tear down the walls around this Capitol  
 and begin to undo the damage done to  
 our freedoms.

Now, back to the purpose of the  
 speech.

One more time last week, I returned  
 to our southern border, and already, we  
 are seeing the results of, I think, reck-  
 less comments made by our Chief Exec-  
 utive.

We are getting to the point where we  
 have had 300 unaccompanied minors a  
 day crossing our southwest border.  
 That is because we have had a Presi-  
 dent who has made comments that in-  
 dicate that the United States is not  
 sincere in protecting our southern bor-  
 der.

□ 2130

It does result in more money and  
 more presence for drug cartels at the  
 Southern border. So people understand,  
 people do not just walk across the bor-  
 der. Mexicans are charged \$3,000 a per-  
 son; Central Americans, \$5,000 a person;  
 Brazilians, \$9,000 a person; and Asians,  
 \$20,000 a person to cross the border.

And when statements are made indi-  
 cating that we will no longer be enforc-  
 ing the border, those statements are  
 conveyed by the cartels to people who  
 they believe will pay to get across. We  
 are, therefore, seeing the increase of  
 people at the border, including unac-  
 companied minors who are supposedly  
 people we want to protect.

Last week, on the Sunday, Monday,  
 and Tuesday, just in the Sasabe section  
 alone, after I left that area, there were  
 120 unaccompanied juveniles. Some al-  
 ready part of a criminal element, but  
 given that they have to deal with the  
 cartels to get across the border, it cer-  
 tainly is not a good influence on them.

Also while I was down there, I heard  
 in the last year, on the Tucson sector  
 alone—and there are seven or eight sec-  
 tors along our Southern border—well  
 over 100 people were found dehydrated  
 to death. This is the result of the cur-  
 rent system in which we do not secure  
 our border.

Unfortunately, despite the verbiage  
 which indicates we are going to be less  
 stringent in enforcing our border, we  
 are also going to stop building the  
 wall. First of all, you are throwing  
 away about 5,000 jobs right away, and  
 supposedly we are supposed to be look-  
 ing for new jobs.

But more than that, when you end  
 these contracts, you wind up having to  
 pay companies for parts of the wall  
 that have been built but haven't been  
 put up yet, pay them to undo or fill in  
 holes which have been placed there in  
 anticipation of a full wall, pay them to  
 undo the damage to roads. And roads  
 are part of the wall system that is  
 going to be built down there. As a re-  
 sult, we are spending a lot of money  
 which could be used to put in more  
 wall and is not.

I should point out that when you put  
 up a wall, it saves money as far as the  
 number of Border Patrol agents you  
 need. If you don't have a wall, it should  
 take about two or three border agents  
 a mile to patrol the border. With a  
 wall, it is about one agent for every  
 two miles. Another benefit for having a  
 wall.