

would abandon the progress we have made to address public health concerns and promote environmental justice in our nation's infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, not only will H.J. Res. 136 harm our public health and contribute to climate pollution, but it would also block the Biden Administration, and any future administration, from taking meaningful action to curb dangerous NO_x pollution light- and medium-duty vehicles.

It should be rejected.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2024

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize New Trier High School girls' soccer team for winning the 2024 Class 3A state title.

The New Trier Trevians defeated the St. Charles North Stars in a thrilling state championship that ended in a 4–3 penalty kick victory. Just six minutes into the match, the Trevians took a 1–0 lead. Shortly before the halftime whistle, the North Stars answered with a goal of their own making the score 1–1. In the second half, both teams scored once again, sending the match into a dramatic extra-time period.

Incredibly, the extra-time period saw both teams score their third goals one after the other which therefore required a penalty shootout to determine the state champion. The Trevians' freshman goalie came up with a consequential penalty save to secure New Trier the 2024 Class 3A girls soccer state championship.

With this state championship, the New Trier girls' soccer program has achieved their seventh state championship title. All these championships have been won under the leadership of Coach Jim Burnside—who with 611 victories, is the winningest coach in IHSA girls soccer history.

The New Trier girls' soccer team has made all northern Illinois proud with their accomplishments this season, finishing with a 25–2–4 record. Each member's commitment to their team and their community is truly inspiring. Congratulations to Coach Burnside and the New Trier Trevians for their remarkable state championship win.

The Trevian players include: #0 Annie Fowler—Fr.—GK; #1 Caroline Hague—Jr.—GK; #2 Kennedy Colegrove—Jr.—D; #3 Sybil Evans—Sr.—MF/F; #4 Abby Morton—So.—D; #6 Quinn Brahm—So.—F; #7 Maeva Driscoll—So.—MF; #8 Addy Randall—Fr.—MF; #9 Maria Petrakis—Sr.—MF; #10 Annie Paden—Sr.—MF; #11 Noa Boeing—Fr.—MF; #12 Clara Deliduka—Sr.—D/MF; #15 Charlotte Dellin—Sr.—F/MF; #16 Basie Shannon—Sr.—D/MF; #17 Christina Tobon—Jr.—D; #18 Josie Noble—Sr.—F/MF; #19 Eleni Kanellos—So.—MF/D; #20 Jaime Elias—Sr.—F/MF; #21 Bea Cirulis—Fr.—D; #22 Honor Dold—Jr.—D; #23 Claire Gallagher—Fr.—D; #24 Olivia Wilson—Jr.—D.

HONORING MANUEL MILANES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2024

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Manuel Milanes Pizonero, a cherished friend of mine, constituent of Ave Maria, Florida, and a bold anti-communist voice within the Cuban American community in South Florida.

On August 22, 2024, Manuel faced a life-altering situation few ever encounter in their lifetimes and made a heroic split-second decision even fewer choose to. As Manuel sat at home in his living room, a sudden loud sound like a crash broke the silence outside his home. Knowing his son had just stepped outside to take out the trash, Manuel immediately rushed out, fearing the very worst. Stepping onto the scene, he saw a man approaching a car in what appeared like a move to assist the family inside. As Manuel moved closer in an attempt to provide help, the man outside the car quickly asked him for a tool to break the car window, leading Manuel to go back inside to retrieve the appropriate device.

Upon returning, however, the situation rapidly shifted when one of the passengers stuck inside the car cracked the window open begging Manuel not to break the window. The passenger quickly revealed that the man outside the car was armed and threatening to kill the mother and her four children inside. Manuel, demonstrating an incredible measure of bravery did not hesitate to act but began pleading with the assailant, even while unarmed, to stop, attempting to deescalate the situation and fervently insisting that he not act on his impulses and harm the family.

At this, the man turned his weapon on Manuel, placing him directly in the line of fire, and instructed him to return to his home and stay out of it—yet Manuel refused to back down. Running back to his home, he grabbed his own gun, and quickly returned outside to help. However, in that short amount of time, the assailant managed to shatter the car window and force his way inside the car with the family. In seeing this, Manuel immediately stepped in to subdue him, once more placing himself in harm's way in the hopes of disarming the shooter. Refusing to drop his firearm, the man turned the gun on Manuel once more, firing at him and hitting him in the left shoulder and chest, shattering his clavicle and causing severe blood loss. Despite being shot at two more times, Manuel held his ground, ready to protect the mother and her children as the shooter fled the scene. It took one instant and Manuel single-handedly changed the course of events in the lives of a mother and her four children, choosing selflessly to place their wellbeing before his own. Manuel narrowly escaped the ordeal with his life, with his heart stopping a total of 3 times mid-emergency surgery and requiring over 30 liters of transfusions. Though he faces a long road to recovery and subsequent surgeries, Manuel maintains that he would do it all over again if necessary. Since his successful discharge from the hospital, the community of Ave Maria has coalesced in a show of solidarity and pride around him, offering their prayers and support.

Manuel Milanes is the preeminent example of the very kind-hearted, God-fearing and free-

dom-loving immigrant our country has long thrived as a result of. Originally from Cuba, Manuel made the United States his home in 2017 after living in the Dominican Republic, where he met his loving wife, Kenia Rodriguez. Together, they set down roots in the Ave Maria community, building a family and a successful business. He notes that it is his Christian faith that has guided him in choosing a business that serves others, while also providing generously for the families of his 50 employees.

Beyond his business pursuits, Manuel is a passionate anti-communist freedom fighter who has never forgotten his Cuban roots or the mission of achieving true democratic freedom for Cuba. Turning his convictions into action, Manuel created a YouTube channel dedicated expressly to denouncing the brutal Castro regime's human rights abuses and raising funds to support political prisoners and their families in Cuba. To this day, he remains blacklisted by the regime for speaking out against the ruthless dictatorship.

Through his efforts, he has successfully provided medicine, food, and financial support to those still fighting for freedom, both in the opposition and those wrongfully imprisoned under the regime's oppressive hand.

Exemplary citizens like Manuel Milanes are the very reason I remain hopeful for the future of our Nation and remain convinced the American Dream is yet alive and well today. His unrestrained willingness to risk his life for others, his unwavering commitment to freedom, and his deep faith make him a true patriot and a living example of the values we cherish in this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Manuel Milanes Pizonero, a hero who represents the best of America. We remain forever grateful to him and his family for their selfless contributions to our community and our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2024

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday September 25, 2024, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 454. Had I been present, I would have voted NO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2024

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 452; YEA on Roll Call No. 451; NAY on Roll Call No. 453; YEA on Roll Call No. 454; YEA on Roll Call No. 450; YEA on Roll Call No. 455; and YEA on Roll Call No. 449.