

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ESTEBAN TORRES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege for me to be able to participate in today's special order recognizing the service of my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. TORRES).

As a freshman, I have unfortunately not had the honor of serving with the gentleman from California (Mr. Torres) for very long. What I do know, though, from my brief association is that we are saluting a great individual, someone who has committed himself to improving the quality of life for all Americans and particularly America's Hispanic community.

Since being elected to Congress in 1982, the gentleman from California (Mr. TORRES) has represented his constituents and community passionately, demonstrating in his work both a fierce dedication and a keen understanding of the legislative procedures.

He has worked tirelessly to improve the American economy and to help create jobs. He has been an indispensable friend to consumers. He has successfully championed affordable housing for low and moderate income families. His environmental efforts have met with equal success, as has his work to crack down on gang crime. The list goes on and on and on.

But above all, above all, I think this is how I will remember him most, the gentleman from California (Mr. TORRES) is someone who has displayed perseverance for the people, exemplifying what voters want from their leaders in politics, and especially in Washington.

That is indeed a legacy of which to be quite proud, and the gentleman from California (Mr. TORRES) is indeed someone I am glad to call my friend.

Very shortly the gentleman from California (Mr. TORRES) will be saying farewell to this chamber. For those of us who remain behind, your good-bye will be bitter sweet, but I know how nice it will be for you to call your time your very own.

I want to join with everyone here today and wish for the gentleman that

the years to come bring him good health, happiness, and time to enjoy his family. All of my best.

#### TRIBUTE TO GAIL BETHARD OF SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAPPAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Gail Bethard upon her retirement from 18 years of service to the Somerset County, New Jersey 4-H Youth Development Program. During this week, which is National 4-H Week, it seems fitting to pay tribute to a woman who has devoted so much time, so much of her life to making the 4-H program such a success.

While working as a middle school mathematics teacher, Gail initially joined 4-H as a volunteer with her husband Wilson over 23 years ago. She then became involved with 4-H on a part-time basis until she became a full-time Program Associate. Gail has overseen the youth public speaking program, which quickly became widely-recognized and respected around New Jersey. In addition, she has been a liaison for the individual 4-H clubs, assisting them with daily operations and inter-group projects.

If these tasks were not enough, Gail's involvement with 4-H expanded as she began to coordinate the annual Somerset County 4-H fair. For the past 14 years, Gail has overseen and organized the 400 plus volunteers who assist with exhibits, demonstrations, and other highlights of the three-day fair. She has, indeed, made the 4-H fair an event for all of us to enjoy.

Gail has been described by her peers as respected, a good mentor, and someone who has always been there for all the clubs. We are all indebted to Gail for her commitment to helping all of those involved with 4-H, especially the young people.

I have enjoyed her advice and assistance in working with Somerset County's great 4-H'ers. I thank Gail Bethard for her dedication to Somerset County 4-H and wish her happiness in her retirement and happy trails during her much anticipated travels with her husband Wilson.

The Somerset County 4-H program is better because of Gail Bethard and her extra-special treatment of all those she comes in contact with. She will be missed by hundreds of people who respect and love her for not just what she has done but because of who she is.

#### LESSONS LEARNED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, as we consider launching an impeachment inquiry, it is useful to contemplate the lessons we have learned about impeachment.

In 1775 Patrick Henry made this profound statement, "I know of no way of judging the future but by the past." This Nation is a model for other nations, and we function best when we follow the guiding principle that has made us a model. That principle is that the government does what is good for the many rather than what is just good for the few.

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Some, for political gain, want to impeach the President at any cost, at all costs. That may be good for them, but it is not good for America.

There are 3 main reasons why we should approach this matter with great care. First, we have never, never impeached a President. Second, the Constitution is very specific as to what constitutes "impeachable offenses." We must not attempt to substitute our personal views for what the Constitution prescribes. Third, we are establishing precedent, dangerous patterns that will follow us for years and years to come, criterias that may govern how our citizens are treated.

Only 2 Presidents have faced impeachment: Andrew Johnson in 1868, and Richard Nixon in 1974. Johnson was acquitted, and Nixon resigned before trial. Indeed, in the 60 impeachment proceedings since 1789, no President, no President, has ever been impeached.

What are the lessons we learn from that history? One vice president faced impeachment. Spiro T. Agnew in 1973. However, the House refused to impeach him. What are the lessons we learned?

Impeachment of a President is a grave and serious undertaking for this country. It is a constitutional process, one carefully designed to allow the will of a majority of Americans to be frustrated and overturned. The President has been elected twice. We should approach this process with extreme caution, circumspection, and care. It should not be taken lightly or done frivolously.

The Constitution set out the reasons a President can be removed from office; for "Treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors." Nothing I have seen or heard to date rises to the level of treason or bribery. Those are the specific reasons set out in the Constitution. The term, "other high crimes and misdemeanors" set out general reasons.

Basic to legislative drafting and statutory interpretation is the concept that the specific governs the general. In American jurisprudence that when a listing of items include both specific and general items, the specific items will govern what the general items mean.

Surely, none would suggest that what the President is alleged to have done is the same as treason or bribery. For the few who disagree with the overwhelming majority of the American people, politics should not be confused with punishment.

Former President Ford has recommended a punishment that may be