

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2014 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany for ten days from Friday, June 26–Sunday, July 5, 2015. During this ten day exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat Members, Bundestag and Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for ten days Saturday, May 9–Sunday, May 17, 2015. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington. The U.S. delegation is expected to organize and facilitate these meetings.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the program for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for

participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, today the House will vote for the tenth time to bypass a process established by law and instead, move to approve an oil pipeline that will harm the climate, do nothing to enhance our energy security, and create 35 permanent jobs. In the process, the legislation before us disregards the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the more than 2.5 million Americans who submitted comments to the State Department on the Keystone XL pipeline proposal.

Keystone XL is a proposed 2,000-mile pipeline to carry up to 830,000 barrels per day of tar sands oil from Alberta, Canada to the Gulf Coast. Because the pipeline crosses the U.S.-Canadian border, existing law requires that a Presidential Permit be obtained to ensure that the project is in the interest of the United States. TransCanada, the Canadian company planning to build the pipeline, was initially denied a Presidential Permit in early 2012. The company then split the project into two sections and reapplied for a Presidential Permit for the 1,200-mile section of pipeline from Alberta to Steele City, Nebraska. This section has undergone an environmental review process and the State Department is currently reviewing the public comments to determine if the project is in the national interest. This bill ends that review and deems the project immediately approved.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have participated in the hearings on this issue since 2011, and it is clear to me that Keystone XL is not in the nation's interest. It will provide an export route for one of the dirtiest fuels on earth, putting the U.S. at risk of a spill and unleashing billions of tons of future greenhouse gas emissions. Beyond the environmental impacts, TransCanada has acknowledged that this project will create very few permanent U.S. jobs and that most of the oil will be exported overseas rather than remaining in the U.S. market. In my view, this is a bad deal for the American people and should not be given a special legislative exemption in the form of this bill.

Construction of Keystone XL is also incompatible with our long-term climate goals and would put millions of Americans at risk of a

catastrophic oil spill. Tar sands oil produces up to 40 percent more carbon pollution than conventional oil on a life-cycle basis and is much harder to clean up in the event of a spill. In Michigan, a 2010 tar sands oil spill in the Kalamazoo River took over four years to clean up at a cost of over \$1.2 billion.

Despite claims from its backers, Keystone XL will not improve U.S. energy security or reduce our dependence on oil from the Middle East. A study commissioned by the Department of Energy found that U.S. oil imports from Canada will grow at "almost identical" rates with or without Keystone XL. The State Department's review of the Keystone XL proposal estimated that a majority of the oil that travels through the pipeline will be exported overseas. In fact, contrary to the company's claims in promotional materials, TransCanada has refused to guarantee that any of the oil will remain in the U.S. In 2011, I participated in an Energy and Commerce Committee hearing where TransCanada's President of Energy and Oil pipelines, Alex Pourbaix, acknowledged upon questioning that his company was not willing to guarantee in law or in shipping contracts that oil from Keystone XL will remain in the U.S. market. Several attempts to insert language ensuring that a portion of the oil remains in the U.S. have been rejected by the House Republican leadership.

Supporters of Keystone XL have widely touted the job-creation benefits of this pipeline, but in reality this project will provide less than three dozen permanent jobs. The projections in the State Department's environmental impact statement, made in consultation with TransCanada, reveal that up to 42,100 direct and indirect temporary jobs will be supported during construction of the pipeline. I do not diminish this factor. However, when construction is completed in less than two years, Keystone XL is expected to support only 35 permanent jobs.

Rather than investing in renewable energy technologies and infrastructure updates that would benefit millions of Americans, the House has chosen as its first order of business in the 114th Congress to provide a special deal to a Canadian company, without any guarantee that a single drop of the oil will remain in the United States. For this reason and the others I've stated, I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation and any further attempts to short-circuit the Keystone XL review process.

TRIBUTE TO RAY MONCRIEF

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most astute business leaders and job creators in southern and eastern Kentucky, Ray Moncrief, upon his retirement from the Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

For generations, southern and eastern Kentucky has relied upon the coal mining industry for good paying jobs; however, primarily in the last decade, we have witnessed a debilitating decline in our Appalachian coalfields. To help diversify our business portfolio, I have long relied upon the expertise of my dear friend Ray Moncrief. In fact, he helped form the cornerstones of one of the region's largest job creating organizations, the Southeast Kentucky Economic Development Corporation (SKED).

Knowing the challenges of entrepreneurship in his own startup companies, Ray has dedicated countless hours to small business owners and local developers, providing technical and managerial training, guiding them through loan opportunities, development costs and contracts, and advocating for community partnerships and investments. He has taught numerous innovative individuals how to start, operate and expand successful companies and organizations in our region and across the country.

Ray's finite business sense has been sought out by countless businesses and non-profit organizations. His resume includes Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mountain Ventures, Inc., and Fund Manager for both the Southern Appalachian Fund and Meritus Venture. He was previously a member of the NASBIC Board of Governors, and is currently a member of the Boards of Directors of the Community Development Financial Institution Coalition, the New Markets Tax Credit Coalition, the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, and NCB Capital Impact. He is also a founding director and the founding Chairman of Appalachian Community Capital, Inc. Topping off his long list of credibility, Ray is also a founding member of the Community Development Venture Capital Alliance (CDVCA) and is credited for designing the community development venture capital.

As noted in his biography, Ray is a nationally and internationally recognized speaker and writer on the use of equity as an economic development strategy, and has provided testimony to the U.S. Congress on various economic topics. President George W. Bush appointed Ray to the Community Development Advisory Fund in 2008. He has also received Lifetime Achievement Awards from CDVCA and the National Association of Seed and Venture Funds.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Ray Moncrief for manifesting the spirit of entrepreneurship that helps run America. His investment into the practices of small business owners across southern and eastern Kentucky will undoubtedly continue to create jobs for generations to follow. I wish Ray the very best in his retirement.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I propose H.R. 3, which grants approval to build the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline. The

public has been misled by the pipeline's advocates, who have played down the pipeline's potentially devastating effects on our nation's environment and on the American people.

For starters, this bill allows a foreign company to take property from U.S. landowners through eminent domain. The taking of private land for public purposes has always been for local government or local interests. We cannot allow a foreign company to take our private property to feed its corporate profits.

In addition, the bill exempts TransCanada Corp. and any other company producing, shipping, or refining tar sands oil for this project, from paying into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which helps to finance the federal government's response to spills. This exemption essentially reduces the companies' liability for spills from the pipeline and makes the U.S. taxpayers pay to clean up those spills. That's outrageous, especially when you consider the pipeline will go over the underground water supply for eight of our states.

The legislation also gives this project special regulatory treatment by exempting the pipeline from all federal permitting requirements. Our federal permitting process exists to ensure worker safety, and to provide health safeguards and environmental protections for the American people. It is irresponsible to give this project a blanket exemption from these critical safety measures.

This is particularly true given that the tar sands oil to be transported is more destructive than any other oil in the world. Converting a barrel of tar sands into synthetic crude oil emits three times more greenhouse gas emissions than are emitted by producing a barrel of conventional crude oil. If this pipeline leaks, the health of thousands of Americans will be at risk—and Americans, not the Canadian company, will be held responsible for the cost of the clean-up.

Considering this foreign-built pipeline takes private property and poses serious economic and safety risks, I stand in firm opposition to this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, because of flight cancellations due to inclement weather, I was unable to vote on Roll Call 2, Election of the Speaker. Had I been present, I would have voted for Representative NANCY PELOSI for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 113TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I join the nation in celebrating the 113th Anniversary of Korean American Day this January 13, 2015. The Korean American community has been an integral part of

our American fabric, and I am honored to recognize their vital role in shaping communities throughout our great Nation.

Since the first Koreans arrived on the shores of Honolulu, Hawaii, on this date in 1903, they have excelled and shown that the American Dream is alive. Whether in military, education, science, business, sports or the arts, Korean Americans proved that with hard work, dedication and zeal for education, they can thrive and help make America even greater.

My time fighting in the Korean War gave me an enduring personal connection to Korea and its people. Since returning home from my service over six decades ago, I have witnessed South Korea's rise from a war-torn nation to becoming the world's 13th-largest economy, a transformation which has been largely driven by the resilience and industriousness of the Korean people. Here in America, Koreans have inspired us with the same entrepreneurialism and perseverance toward building success and wealth for their communities.

As a native and longtime Congressman of New York City, I am proud of its Korean American community and the greatness they contribute to our City and State. I applaud the services provided by many Korean American organizations to the Greater New York region, including free legal and medical help, immigration workshops, scholarship opportunities, and various cultural events. Koreans raise strong families and build successful businesses, active civic associations, churches, and charities that enhance our local economy and culture.

I am proud to serve as Honorary Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, and join my Colleagues and Korean American friends in celebrating their many milestones and triumphs. The Korean people will always have a very special place in my heart. I look forward to the continued friendship I cherish so much.

COMMEMORATING MARIO CUOMO

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit the text of an op-ed in *The Journal News* I wrote commemorating former New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

[From *The Journal News*, Jan. 2, 2015]

REP. LOWEY: MARIO CUOMO WAS MY MENTOR AND INSPIRATION

(By Nita Lowey)

Mario and Matilda Cuomo and their five children were our neighbors in Holliswood, Queens. Mario's parents, Andrea and Immaculata, lived around the corner.

When Mario, an attorney and law professor who gained prominence by successfully mediating thorny housing disputes in Corona and Forest Hills, first ran for Lieutenant Governor of New York in 1974, Steve and I promptly jumped into his campaign. He lost. But Gov. Hugh Carey, recognizing Mario's extraordinary talents, appointed him as Secretary of State. (His parents famously asked: "Mario—you're a lawyer and a teacher. How come you took a job as a secretary?")

My first job in public service was in 1975 as an assistant to Mario Cuomo, working as a

community relations officer in the New York metropolitan region. I worked closely with Mario, as he took charge of New York's anti-poverty programs following their devolution by the federal government through block grants to the states. He pursued housing, education, health, community development, and senior citizen initiatives, among others.

He was indefatigable and inspirational. A profound thinker and eloquent speaker, no wonder that he was elected lieutenant governor in 1978 and then governor three times.

Nobody articulated the ideals and values of public service better than Mario Cuomo. He aptly captured the essence of his brilliant career: "You campaign in poetry, but govern in prose."

During an event in 1984, when I was a New York state assistant secretary of state and Mario Cuomo was governor, Mario told me, "Now listen to me and you'll be OK." I listened, I learned, and I am doing OK.

I was honored when Gov. Cuomo spoke on my behalf at a ceremony celebrating my election to Congress in 1988. As we mourn his loss, I am confident that Mario Cuomo's legacy will continue and endure with the reelection of Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

TRIBUTE TO A.L. SINCLAIR

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a long-time friend and leader in southern and eastern Kentucky, Mr. A.L. Sinclair, upon his retirement from the Eastern Kentucky PRIDE Board of Directors.

In 1997, A.L. participated in a historic meeting at the Hazard Community and Technical College during which southern and eastern Kentucky's local elected officials joined forces to combat our region's troubles with pollution and illegal dumps. The late General James Bickford, former Secretary of the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, and I presented a battle plan to the group, declaring "war against pollution" in our beautiful region. Together, we launched the Eastern Kentucky PRIDE organization to promote "Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment" and A.L. immediately became a general in the war.

Since then, A.L. has volunteered as his hometown, Adair County's PRIDE Coordinator and a member of the regional PRIDE Board of Directors that now serves 42 counties.

A.L.'s passion for cleaning up our Appalachian hillsides and streams was truly driven by his many years of dedicated work with the U.S. Forest Service, and his tireless efforts as Adair County's Solid Waste Coordinator. He went above and beyond the call of duty, spearheading a variety of cleanup activities, including roadside dump cleanups, tire amnesty programs, white-goods buy-back opportunities and free tipping at the transfer station. Almost daily, he foraged the hillsides for illegal dumpsites and acted quickly to get them cleaned up and pushed for accountability and justice for those who marred our cherished land.

Due to A.L.'s deep pride in our region and courageous efforts to educate students, community leaders and families in southern and eastern Kentucky, he has been recognized with several prestigious awards, including the

Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission's Earth Day Award and PRIDE's Rogers-Bickford Environmental Leadership Award.

A.L. has inspired an entire generation to take pride in our region by keeping our hillsides and waterways clean, by creating innovative energy-saving projects in our schools, and bringing access to clean water and sanitary sewer to thousands of families over the last two decades.

"Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice, and is never the result of selfishness." Those words, written by Napoleon Hill, a motivational American author, define A.L.'s heart of service and commitment to work for a better future in our region.

I ask my colleagues to join me applauding the diligent work this great advocate for a cleaner, more beautiful place in America. We deeply appreciate A.L. Sinclair and he will be greatly missed, but his torch will be carried forward by the thousands of PRIDE volunteers who have joined the mission across southern and eastern Kentucky.

GARY FRONTIERS SERVICE CLUB
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicate nature of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his untimely death, reminds us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedoms. In his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, Dr. King embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. I am honored to rise today to recognize several individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District who will be recognized during the 36th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 17, 2015, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana. The Gary Frontiers Service Club, which was founded in 1952, sponsors this annual breakfast.

The Gary Frontiers Service Club will pay tribute to local individuals who have for decades selflessly contributed to improving the quality of life for the people of Gary. This year, Reverend Dwight Gardner and Deborah McCullough, M.D., will be honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major Award for 2015. Additionally, several individuals will be recognized as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Marchers at this year's breakfast, including Judy Ball, Ph.D., James Henley III, Eugene Johnson, and Reverend Mary Watkins. Finally, Sam Frazier was selected as the 2014 Yokefellow of the Year.

Though very different in nature, the achievements of each of these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated.

Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and faced them with unwavering strength and determination. Each one of the honored guests' greatness has been found in their willingness to serve with "a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." They set goals and work selflessly to make them a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these honorees, as well as the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers, President Oliver J. Gilliam, Vice President James Piggee, Recording Secretary Linnal Ford, Financial Secretary Sam Frazier, and Treasurer/Seventh District Director Floyd Donaldson, along with Clorius L. Lay, who has served as Breakfast Chairman for fifteen years, and all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

RECOGNIZING CAROLYN CRNICH
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carolyn Crnich, longtime recorder and registrar of voters for Humboldt County, on her retirement.

Carolyn's service to Humboldt County and the regional community has been exemplary. A fifth generation Humboldt County native, she began her work with the county in 1976 as a drafting supervisor in the Humboldt County Auditor's Office. Carolyn served as county recorder beginning in 1990. Carolyn was re-elected and served unopposed in 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006 and 2010, as the recorder, county clerk and registrar of voters offices were merged.

Carolyn was certified as a California Registered Elections Official by The Election Center in Houston, Texas, and by the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials. Her work was also recognized by the American Association of University Women, which named her Women's History Month honoree in 2009. Carolyn was a key founding member of the Humboldt Election Transparency Project, which has been recognized by the National Association of Secretaries of State, the Lori Grace Foundation for Election Integrity, the Election Verification Network, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. Speaker, Carolyn Crnich's commitment to county government and the vital role of elections in the community is commendable and worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to her.

IN HONOR OF LOU CALCAGNO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of the House to the remarkable

public service career of Lou Calcagno. I have had the distinct honor and pleasure of working with Lou for nearly 40 years in many capacities ranging from local land use questions to federal farm policy. Today is his last meeting as a Monterey County Supervisor and I wanted to take a moment to recognize his record and example.

Lou was born in 1937 on his family's ranch in Moss Landing, California, the youngest son of Italian immigrant parents Pietro and Clara Calcagno. He grew up in his family's dairy operation and attended Monterey County schools. Hoping to take the family business to the next level, Lou left home to study dairy husbandry and manufacturing at Cal-Poly, San Luis Obispo. He then returned to put his expertise to use and built a career as a highly successful dairyman, which included service as: Chairman of the California Milk Advisory Board, Chairman of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board and Chairman of the California Co-Operative Creamery, and co-founder of the California Milk Advisory Board.

As Lou was building his successful dairy career, he married Carol Lanini. Together, Carol and Lou raised two children: Louis Franklyn (Carolyn) Calcagno and Debbie Calcagno Soares; and, they have three grandchildren: Adam (Colleen) Soares, Lauren Soares, and Jennifer Calcagno and one great-grandson, Bradley Franklyn Soares.

Lou's work in the dairy industry and agriculture more broadly pulled him into the world of public policy. Lou quickly became involved in local and state government and many other public service efforts, including leadership positions with the Monterey County Planning Commission, the Ag Land Trust, the Monterey County Fair, the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency, the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority, the North County Water Issues Advisory Committee, LAFCO, the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority, the Monterey Regional Waste Management District, TAMC, and is the only Republican to chair the California Coastal Commission, just to name a few.

The culmination of Lou's public service was the 16 years he spent as a member of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. As one of his predecessors on that board myself, I know first-hand how much difference you can make in the lives of the people of your community. Lou's service was definitive proof of that truth. He amassed a dynamic record of pragmatic leadership and problem solving that including turning around the finances of Monterey County's public hospital, prioritizing the preservation of prime ag land in local land use planning, and many more accomplishments than I have time to list now. Lou's retirement will diminish a voice leadership in Monterey County has known and relied on for half a century.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to extend the gratitude of the House to Lou and his family for his leadership and vision and for the countless hours devoted to the minutia of local democracy and governance. It is the service of people like Lou Calcagno that make America the world's greatest democracy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on January 12, 2015 I missed recorded votes #17–19. I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were present.

On Roll Call #17, I would have voted YEA (Passage of H.R. 203).

On Roll Call #18, I would have voted YEA (Passage of H.R. 33).

On Roll Call #19, I would have voted YEA (Approval of the Journal).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, during the week of January 6, 2015 I missed recorded votes #1–#16. I was unavoidably detained due to the death of my brother in California.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here and sworn into office:

On Roll Call #1 I would have voted present (Quorum Call).

On Roll Call #2 I would have voted for JOHN BOEHNER for Speaker.

On Roll Call #3 I would have voted yes (Motion to Table).

On Roll Call #4 I would have voted yes (Previous Question).

On Roll Call #5 I would have voted no (Motion to Recommit).

On Roll Call #6 I would have voted yes (Passage of House Rules Package).

On Roll Call #7 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 22, the Hire More Heroes Act of 2015).

On Roll Call #8 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 26, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act).

On Roll Call #9 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 37, the Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act).

On Roll Call #10 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 23, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization).

On Roll Call #11 I would have voted yes (Previous Question).

On Roll Call #12 I would have voted yes (Rule for H.R. 3 and H.R. 30).

On Roll Call #13 I would have voted no (Motion to Recommit).

On Roll Call #14 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 30, the Save American Workers Act).

On Roll Call #15 I would have voted no (Motion to Recommit).

On Roll Call #16 I would have voted yes (Passage of H.R. 3, the Keystone XL Pipeline Act).

HONORING LARRY BLAKENEY FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO ALABAMA ATHLETICS

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Larry Blakeney, an exceptional Alabamian who has made an enormous contribution to athletics and the development of young people in my state.

Coach Blakeney is best known as the head coach of the Troy University Trojan football team, a position he held for 24 years, retiring this past December. During that time, Coach Blakeney built a little-known Southeast Alabama team into a conference powerhouse and a nationally-competitive program. His remarkable career at Troy has included six 10-win seasons, five Sunbelt Conference championships, and 178 wins—a total that places him among the top three Alabama college coaches, behind the legendary Paul “Bear” Bryant and just ahead of his mentor and winningest Auburn coach Ralph “Shug” Jordan.

Among the defining characteristics of Larry Blakeney-coached teams was the fearless attitude they took into competition. “Any team, anytime, anywhere” was Troy's motto, never phased or intimidated by traditional college football powers. And the Trojans would not just compete against the best, they would win. Simply put, Larry Blakeney has personified Troy Football, so much so that the field on which the Trojans play bears his name.

Larry Blakeney's impact on the game of football in Alabama started as a player in high school, when he led the Gordo Green Wave to a record of 24–2–2 and three-straight Warrior Conference championships. He enrolled at Auburn University, where he became the first sophomore to start at quarterback under Coach Ralph “Shug” Jordan, a distinction that shows the extraordinary trust the legendary coach placed in him.

Blakeney began his coaching career in the high school ranks, first at Southern Academy, then Walker High School and Vestavia Hills High School. He was then hired at his beloved alma mater, Auburn, where he served as an assistant coach for 14 seasons. Auburn would experience one of its most successful runs ever with Coach Blakeney calling plays, including three-straight SEC championships in 1987, 1988 and 1989. Coach Blakeney's success and championship drive made him the perfect choice to lead Troy's burgeoning football program beginning in 1991.

His success on the gridiron has led to many accolades, including multiple “Coach of the Year” honors and placement in the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. However, Coach Blakeney's impact goes far beyond the playing field.

From Gordo to Auburn to Troy, he has maintained close, warm relationships with his teammates, fellow coaches, and players. The Auburn Creed, which outlines how Auburn men and women are supposed to live, emphasizes “the human touch,” which cultivates love, understanding and sympathy with your fellow man. Larry Blakeney personifies and embodies that “human touch” to a great and rare degree.

Hundreds and perhaps thousands of once-young men are, today, better husbands, fathers, and citizens because of the positive influence of Coach Blakeney; a good man who used the game of football to teach integrity, character, and perseverance throughout his entire career.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to acknowledge Coach Blakeney's positive impact on young people in Alabama, to celebrate his remarkable career, and to honor his place among the greatest college football coaches to walk the sidelines in my state.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIMMY CATES

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jimmy Cates who is retiring as Public Works Manager of the City of North Richland Hills after a 30 year career with the City's Public Works Department. As Manager of Public Works, Mr. Cates was responsible for the operations of the city's streets, transportation, water distribution, and wastewater systems. These responsibilities include the duties assigned to the Divisions of Streets and Drainage, Transportation and Water/Sewer Maintenance and Repair. Ultimately, Mr. Cates ensured that the citizens of North Richland Hills had an efficient, effective and safe transportation system, water supply, sewer and stormwater system which would meet the needs of current and future residents.

A graduate of Indiana University, he is a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), American Public Works Association (APWA), International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA), Texas Water Utilities Association, and the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

I am honored to represent Mr. Cates and the City of North Richland Hills in the U.S. House of Representatives, and I gladly join the City and the appreciative citizens of the 26th Congressional District, whom he has dutifully served throughout his career.

RECOGNIZE THE SERVICE OF KUO-YU HANS CHIAO

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of Kuo-yu Hans Chiao. Mr. Chiao is the outgoing Senior Officer in the Congressional Liaison Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative office, TECRO. Mr. Chiao is returning to Taiwan for his next assignment in the Department of North American Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan). During his service as the TECRO contact for my office, as well as the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Senate Committee on Finance, and House Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. Chiao has served as an invaluable resource for my staff and me.

In 2009, Mr. Chiao was hand-picked to serve as a congressional liaison for TECRO.

During his 6 year tenure in this position, Mr. Chiao developed a strategy that pro-actively expanded partnerships with key U.S. congressional offices to enhance Taiwan's impact and credibility in Washington. Mr. Chiao worked tirelessly to garner support for S. 1683 that would allow the transfer of naval vessels to Taiwan. This legislation passed the Senate and the House, and was signed into law in December 2014. Mr. Chiao was also part of the TECRO team that worked toward the passage of H.R. 1151, which directs the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the triennial International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly (ICAO). This became public law in July 2013. Additionally, Mr. Chiao organized and oversaw many Congressional Member and Staff Delegation visits to Taiwan, forging solid ties between our two countries.

Mr. Chiao has served in Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2005. Early in his diplomatic career, he served in Department of North American Affairs. Mr. Chiao received a Bachelor of Arts degree from National Taiwan University, majored in Foreign Languages and Literatures and minored in Political Science.

Though Mr. Chiao secured many legislative victories for Taiwan while he served in Washington, D.C., he made even more long-lasting relationships. My colleagues and our staff are proud to call him a friend, and we hope to see him back in Washington, D.C. one day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for three roll call votes on Monday, January 12, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Roll Call Vote #17—Clay Hunt SAV Act—YES.

Roll Call Vote #18—Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—YES.

Roll Call Vote #19—Journal Vote—YES.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,085,826,074,241.57. We've added \$7,458,949,025,328.49 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martin Luther King Observance Committee, located in Morristown, New Jersey as it celebrates its 45th Anniversary.

Since 1970, the Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, has engaged the involvement of the whole Morris County community in programs and services that commemorate the extraordinary life and accomplishments of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year, the Committee encourages the community to join together in celebrating the birth of Dr. King by promoting and preserving his legacy.

January 19, 2015 marks the 30th year that Dr. King's birthday will be commemorated as a National Holiday. Dr. King would have turned 86 this year, calling all Americans to remember his incredible life, and the impact his legacy has had on the course of American history. Fifty-two years ago, Dr. King stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, here in our nation's capital, to deliver his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to those participating in the March on Washington. In his speech, which proved to be a defining moment in the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King charged Americans, "As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead." In celebrating the life of Dr. King as a holiday each year, we renew our pledge to continue in his legacy and promote the complete equality of all people in this nation.

Though it has only been a National Holiday for 30 years, the Martin Luther King Observance Committee has celebrated the birth of Dr. King for 45 years under the direction of Dr. Felicia B. Jamison. This year, to celebrate their anniversary in conjunction with Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Committee will hold two events on January 19th. First, their 30th Annual Interfaith Breakfast will begin the day by gathering all members of the community in celebration, as well as reflection on the legacy left by Dr. King. Following the breakfast, the committee will hold their 45th Annual Service of Celebration, properly honoring the life accomplishments of Dr. King and his influence in the Civil Rights Movement.

The Morris County community of all ages or economic status, of all religious persuasions, and of all political affiliations have recognized and acknowledged the invaluable contributions Dr. King has made to each and every American. That is why the theme of the Committee's celebration this year is appropriately titled "The Dream is Freedom; The Outcome is A Community of Persons." Regardless of the various differences that define us, all Americans can recognize and celebrate the influential legacy of a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Just last year, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, which you, Mr. Speaker, called possibly "the most consequential piece of legislation" in history. At the ceremony, Dr. King and Mrs. Coretta Scott King posthumously received a Congressional Gold Medal for their accomplishments. The

Martin Luther King Observance Committee has expressed renewed encouragement in celebrating their 45th Anniversary, due to these awards recently presented to the Kings.

I commend the members of the Martin Luther King Observance Committee, especially committee chair Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, for their dedication to promoting the rich legacy of the life and works of the Dr. King. Through the annual celebration of Dr. King's birth, the Committee has consistently demonstrated a dedication and commitment to advancing his philosophy and teachings.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Martin Luther King Observance Committee as it celebrates its 45th Anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW COLUMBIA ADMISSION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the New Columbia Admission Act with 93 original cosponsors, a record number. I am introducing the District of Columbia statehood bill as my first bill for the 114th Congress, an indication of its importance to the residents of the District of Columbia. This bill got its first-ever Senate hearing last Congress, ensuring that statehood is on the congressional agenda. Residents were so encouraged by the prospect of the first Senate hearing on our bill that more DC residents attended than had come to any DC hearing in memory. Their enthusiasm reflects that residents of our nation's capital have always been citizens of the United States but remain the only taxpaying Americans who do not have full and equal citizenship rights. The denial of local control of local matters and of equal representation in the Congress of the United States can be remedied only by statehood.

Therefore, I am introducing the New Columbia Admission Act to create a state from essentially the eight home-town wards of the District of Columbia. This 51st state, of course, would have no jurisdiction over the federal territory or enclave that now consists of the Washington that Members of Congress and visitors associate with the capital of our country. The U.S. Capitol premises, the principal federal monuments, federal buildings and grounds, the National Mall, and other federal property here would remain under federal jurisdiction. Our bill provides that the State of New Columbia would be equal to the other fifty states in all respects, as is always required, and the residents of New Columbia would have all the rights of citizenship as taxpaying American citizens, including two senators and, initially, one House member. The District of Columbia recognizes that it can enter the Union only on an equal basis and is prepared to do so.

The New Columbia Admission Act was the first bill I introduced after I was first sworn in as a Member of Congress in the 102nd Congress in 1991. Our first try for statehood received significant support in the House. In 1993, we got the first and only vote on statehood for the District, with nearly 60% of Democrats and one Republican voting for the

New Columbia Admission Act. The Senate held a hearing on various approaches to representation, but the committee of jurisdiction did not proceed further. In the 113th Congress, our statehood bill got unprecedented momentum with the Senate's first-ever hearing on statehood, which was the first congressional hearing held on statehood in more than 20 years, since the House held its hearing on statehood in 1993, and obtained a record number of cosponsors in the House and Senate, including Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID, as well as the other top three Democratic leaders in the Senate. In addition, President Obama endorsed DC statehood in a public forum before the statehood hearing was held.

Statehood is the only alternative for the citizens of the District of Columbia. To be content with less than statehood is to concede the equality of citizenship that is the birthright of our residents as citizens of the United States. That is a concession no American citizen has ever made, and one DC residents will not make as they approach the 214th year in their fight for equal treatment in their country. This bill reaffirms our determination to obtain each and every right enjoyed by citizens of the United States, by becoming the 51st State in the Union.

CLAY HUNT SUICIDE PREVENTION FOR AMERICAN VETERANS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 203, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans (SAV) Act, which will help stem the epidemic of veteran suicide.

Tragically, an estimated 22 veterans commit suicide each day—more than 8,000 each year.

Of the more than 2 million Americans who have served in combat in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is estimated that one-third, roughly 600,000 men and women, have traumatic brain injury, PTSD or Depression.

Mr. Speaker, combatting the epidemic of veteran suicide must be one of the nation's highest priorities.

The bill before us is important to our nation and critically important to my home state of Texas, which has one of the highest rates of veteran suicide in the country.

According to an analysis conducted by the Houston Chronicle, suicides among Texans under the age of 35 who had served in the military "jumped from 47 in 2006 to 66 in 2009—an increase of 40 percent."

According to that same analysis, "last year, suicides made up nearly 25 percent of the deaths of Texans younger than 35 who served in the military. That percentage is more than twice the rate of suicide in the comparable civilian population."

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 203 expands access to mental health services for our nation's veterans and increases the capacity and efficiency of VA care to deal with the more than one million veterans returning from war.

Our veterans deserve to have our support. These individuals put their lives on the line for our country to stay safe.

Specifically, H.R. 203, which enjoys broad and deep bipartisan support:

1. Establishes a peer support and community outreach pilot program to assist transitioning service members with accessing VA mental health care services.

2. Requires the VA to create a one-stop, interactive website to serve as a centralized information source regarding all mental health services for veterans.

3. Takes steps to address the shortage of mental health care professionals by authorizing the VA to conduct a student loan repayment pilot program aimed at recruiting and retaining psychiatrists.

4. Requires yearly evaluations—with interim reports due in the first two years and a final report due the third year and every year after—conducted by a third party, of all mental health care and suicide prevention practices and programs at the VA to find out what is working and what's not working and to make recommendations to improve care.

Passing H.R. 203 is an essential first step in ensuring that our veterans are receiving the help and care they need.

I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 203.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SER- GEANT WILLIAM J. ROSSMAN JR.

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting this statement to honor the extraordinary life of a proud Wisconsinite, an American hero, and a friend: Sergeant William J. Rossman Jr. Sergeant Rossman recently passed away at the age of 91. He was a husband and father, a decorated military veteran, and an outstanding member of his community. And despite his storied military career and numerous accolades, those who were fortunate enough to meet Sergeant Rossman know he preferred to go by the much more modest title of "Bill."

Bill was your typical World War II Veteran. He was proud of his service, but never one to boast or brag of his accomplishments. He understood the true meaning of service: that you put others ahead yourself. And he practiced this throughout his entire life, whether it was with his family, his work, or his community. But it was nearly 71 years ago, during his time fighting in the war, that Bill performed an act of service that still leaves me in awe to this day.

On February 14, 1944, after bombing the marshalling yards at Verona, Italy, Bill's B-24 Liberator was hit by a fierce concentration of flak that knocked out two of its engines. Unable to keep up with the bomber formation, six Messerschmitt ME-109s attacked the bomber, knocking out a third engine and starting a fire. The pilot, Lt. Robert Gernand, rang the alarm bell and ordered the crew to bail out of the aircraft. The bomber was in flames and falling in a tight spiral, quickly losing altitude. Under these dire circumstances, it would have made sense for Bill to follow the orders of Lt. Gernand and immediately do what was necessary to protect his own life. But that's not

what happened. Bill noticed that his crew member Sgt. Louis Vasquez, the aircraft's radioman, was wounded and immobile. With complete disregard for his own life, Bill attended to Vasquez, removing his helmet and flak suit and securing his parachute before finally pushing him out of the camera hatch. Finally, Bill, who was also severely wounded, secured his out parachute and exited the aircraft.

Bill's story does not end there. After touching down, he was discovered by Italian resistance fighters who gave him medical care and transferred him to a monastery, where he posed as a wounded French civilian and remained silent to avoid being discovered by the Germans. But after ten days, Bill was identified as an American and taken away by German forces. He spent the next 15 months in various POW camps in different countries. Throughout his imprisonment, he was starved, his life was threatened, and received no medical attention for his wounds. He was marched from camp to camp, and faced numerous near-death experiences. Finally, in April 1945, Bill and his fellow prisoners in Bavaria were liberated by the Thirteenth Armored Division, led by a name familiar to all Americans: General George Patton.

Amazingly, Bill continued his career in the military after returning home to America. He remained in the Air Force and married his wife, Alice, in 1947 while attending Officer Candidate School. In 1949, he was discharged from the service after six years with the Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force. He returned to Racine, Wisconsin, where he and Alice raised their daughter, Pamela, and Bill worked in the private sector for 36 years until his retirement in 1986. In 2002, I had the privilege of presenting Bill with the Distinguished Flying Cross, America's oldest military aviation award. In addition to this and many other honors, Bill was also a recipient of a POW medal and the Purple Heart.

Bill was a true American patriot. I am submitting this statement for the record to honor his incredible life and help ensure that his story is remembered for years to come. His legacy sets a standard of what it truly means to serve. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Alice, his daughter Pamela, and his son-in-law Michael. He will be greatly missed by his friends, his family, the state of Wisconsin, and the United States of America.

CLAY HUNT SUICIDE PREVENTION FOR AMERICAN VETERANS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support of the bipartisan H.R. 203, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act. The bill will reiterate our commitment towards our courageous veterans who have fought to defend this country. Statistics of the Department of Veteran Affairs say an average of 22 veterans commit suicide every day, meaning that this tragic news occurs every 65 minutes. The cases account for 20 percent of suicides in the U.S. These brave men and women suffer with

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, and other types of mental injuries. Mental illness can also lead to other issues, including homelessness and substance abuse. The issue is of national importance, and more needs to be done. Their well-being deserves our highest priority and we have to ensure that their illness is adequately addressed. With this legislation, Congress can prevent further tragedies and ensure our veterans have the mental health services they deserve.

HONORING REV. JOHN WOOD

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, Rev. John Wood was honored for his 25 years as Pastor of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville.

Almost everyone who has heard John Wood speak believes he is one of the greatest preachers this Nation has ever produced.

He is not loud or flashy or flamboyant, but he preaches the Gospel in a sincere, intelligent, humble way that relates well to all types of people.

I think he is one of the most brilliant men I have ever known, and I have felt that way since I first met him in one of his early days in Knoxville.

Under his leadership, Cedar Springs has become one of the largest Presbyterian churches in the Nation. His sermons are both enjoyable and thought-provoking, and, most importantly, Biblically-based.

He somehow has the ability to teach the Bible in a way that is helpful to Biblical scholars as well as to beginning Christians. He preaches in a kind, down-to-earth manner that gives his listeners the feeling he is preaching to himself as well as to everyone who is listening.

John has been a true friend and an inspiration to me and my family. He has been with us through good times and bad, and I am very fortunate to have known him and have him as a part of my life for these last 25 years.

Much more important than the help he has been to me, however, is the fact that he has touched thousands of lives in a good and positive way.

He has brought the Christian message to churches and meetings through the U.S. and to many countries around the world.

I want to congratulate John Wood on his 25 years at Cedar Springs and encourage all my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to listen to one of his sermons on the internet or hopefully someday in person.

I would also like to call attention to the article that appeared in the Knoxville News Sentinel on January 13, 2013, entitled "Pastor John Wood: Best leaders are servants."

PASTOR JOHN WOOD: BEST LEADERS ARE
SERVANTS

(By Josh Flory)

Legendary University of Tennessee football coach Robert Neyland was famous for his seven maxims of winning football. In that spirit, the News Sentinel offers a series that highlights maxims for the 21st century—not about football, but about effective leadership.

On one Sunday every month, the Business section will highlight an East Tennessean from spheres including athletics, the arts, religion or the public sector, speaking about their "leadership maxims" for the 21st century.

John Wood, senior pastor, Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church: "The best leaders are those who help people accomplish good things, not by ruling over them, but by serving alongside them."

Q: Tell me about your philosophy of leadership as a pastor and a minister.

A: I think "leader"—just at its rawest, most basic definition—a leader is someone who gets other people to follow them and to get something done.

But a good leader is someone who encourages and motivates people to get something good or something necessary done. A great leader, the best leaders, are those who accomplish that—who encourage, who motivate, who really get people excited about being a part of something that they're doing—not by ruling but rather, as Jesus said, by serving.

It's servant leadership. And it's not just Jesus' word, it's really the whole picture of leadership, positive picture of leadership in the Bible. And (it) often contrasts between the very good leaders and very bad leaders, those who ruled and those who served. . . .

To me, the ultimate example of servant leadership, integrity in the Bible is John 13, where just the night before he was crucified, Jesus, having loved his disciples, loved them to the end and took off his robes, put a towel around his waist and did the one thing that no Jewish family could force another Jew who served them to do, and that was wash feet. . . .

And so Jesus lays aside His robes, puts a towel around His waist and crawls from one set of dirty feet to the next, washes feet, and then when He resumes his place He says: "Do you understand what I've told you? You call me Lord and master, I am. I'm your master, I'm your teacher. And if I, your master and teacher, have washed your feet, how much more ought you?" This is servant leadership. This is what it looks like."

Q: You mentioned the service aspect of leadership. At the same time . . . you mentioned this issue of mastery and being a master. In some sense your role involves challenging and confronting people at certain times, I would imagine. How do you balance those competing demands of confronting at times but also serving and being humble?

A: When Jack Kennedy was inaugurated as president, he asked Robert Frost to write a poem and read a poem for him, which Frost agreed to do. When Frost's friends heard that he had agreed to participate in Jack Kennedy's inauguration, they said how could you do this, you've always hated liberals?

And he said, Kennedy's no liberal. And they said, what do you mean, what's your definition of a liberal? And he said, a liberal is a man who cannot even pick his own side in an argument.

Now I always tell our people, Christ was never, in calling us to be humble, telling us that we can't have principled views—hopefully biblically formed and shaped—for which we are willing to stand and passionately take a position and debate it, but debate it charitably without demonizing people who hold a different view.

Being a leader means that you're going to have to go to people, often if you see them working what you think is outside of their own gifting, and say: "Look, you know, you have so many really wonderful gifts, and I want to help you use those gifts. We need for you to be using your gifts. We've got you in the wrong place. This is our fault. We asked you to do something that is outside of your gifting."

Or it's something that you clearly have no interest in. I think you could do it, but you've got no interest. Now let's help you get in a place where you can really be fulfilled and be, in our context, serving Christ and serving others by using your gifts. And let's deploy you rightly. . . .” But also as a pastor, and a pastor who believes that the Bible is God's word written, there's often the responsibility of confronting—hopefully gently, lovingly but firmly—someone who's simply wanting to go along and be part of the family of Christ and yet wanting to live way outside clear teaching of God's word. And that doesn't mean on secondary and tertiary issues, but on things where the Bible is clear, where Christians have always everywhere believed these things.

You have to be able to go in love and say: “Look, I love you too much to watch you on a destructive course. And this isn't an option for you. How can I help you get out of this thing? And I'm willing to walk with you or we'll find somebody who will walk with you.”

And again, I think too often as pastors we want so much for everybody to like us and for the numbers to keep increasing and for the money to keep coming in, and so we don't want to say the hard things. We say hard things that we know everybody agrees with. . . . We preach to the choir and they (say) “Oh yeah, go get 'em.” And I don't want to preach to the people that are out there; I want to preach to the people that are here by preaching first to my own heart, confronting my own idols, my own demons, my own brokenness.”

WE MUST FIGHT THE PRESIDENT'S UNILATERAL AMNESTY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, we must fight to defund and reverse the president's unilateral amnesty.

Last summer, our nation experienced the consequences of the president's refusal to enforce the law. His unilateral actions enticed tens of thousands to unlawfully enter the country. According to the statistics, a vast majority of them remain in the U.S. today.

The president is now going around the legislative process again to grant amnesty to millions more. He wants hard-working American taxpayers to fund this disastrous plan. My constituents will not stand for it.

The president's unilateral amnesty must be completely defunded. Americans' tax dollars should be used to secure the border and keep this nation safe—not to reward those who have broken the law.

PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 33, the “Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Respond-

ers Act,” which clarifies that volunteer firefighters and first responders are not to be counted towards an employer's calculation of its full-time employees for the purposes of determining if the employer falls under the ACA's employer responsibility requirement.

I support this bill because it protects fire departments from being required to pay for the insurance of their volunteers.

If they were required to pay, it is likely that many fire companies would be forced out of business.

This bill is identical to H.R. 3979, reported in the 113th Congress by the Ways and Means Committee by a 37-0 vote, and passed on the House floor by a bipartisan 410-0 vote.

The only reason this bill was never delivered to the President's desk was that the Senate ran out of time in their effort to pass the FY 2015 National Defense Authorization Act, preventing the Federal government from shutting down.

Within the state of Texas, nearly 85% of fire departments are operated entirely on a volunteer or mostly basis.

Failure to pass this bill would mean dire consequences for the future of these volunteer fire departments.

As this bill was passed unanimously in the previous House, I see no reason why it should not do the same in this one.

I ask that my colleagues to join me in protecting our nation's fire departments by voting for the passage of this bill.

IN HONOR OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICES FOR CHILDREN

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Voices for Children for their outstanding commitment and dedication to foster youth in San Diego.

This year, Voices for Children will celebrate its 35th year of operation since its founding in San Diego County. There are 5,100 children and youth living in the San Diego County foster care system. Voices for Children is fighting to ensure those children are placed in a safe and permanent home. Voices for Children recruits, trains, and supervises 1,400 Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers (CASAs) each year. CASAs are exemplary role models and volunteer mentors for the abused, neglected, and abandoned children and youth in San Diego's foster care system. These volunteers advocate for the best interests of foster children, provide vital information to judges in Juvenile Court and speak up for San Diego's foster youth in courts, schools, and the community.

I commend Voices for Children for their contributions and ongoing dedication to providing safe and permanent homes for every child in foster care, as well as, their commitment to changing the lives of thousands of abused, neglected, or abandoned children in foster care.

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO AMBASSADOR ABDALLAH BAALI OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I say good-bye to a distinguished member of the Washington diplomatic corps—His Excellency Abdallah Baali of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. During his six years in Washington, Ambassador Baali has made a tremendous effort to engage with Congress and strengthen the U.S.-Algeria bilateral relationship. A man of calm demeanor and wise insights, the ambassador not only represented his government with honor and great ability, he worked hard to educate and inform Congress about Algeria's important role in the Maghreb-Sahel region, as well as the economic, human rights, and democratic progress being made by his country.

During the 113th Congress it was my honor to serve as the Democratic co-chair of the Congressional Algeria Caucus, along with my Wisconsin colleague Representative SEAN DUFFY. The work of Ambassador Baali and his staff was critical to re-establishing the caucus and I am deeply grateful for all of his efforts.

During his visits to my office I listened to Ambassador Baali's words closely as we discussed the relationship between our two nations and the need for a partnership in the Maghreb-Sahel region to combat extremism, promote security, and guarantee self-determination and freedom for the people of the Western Sahara. Algeria's role in regional security is critical and I greatly appreciated Ambassador Baali's wise counsel and valuable insights.

I wish to thank President Bouteflika and the people of Algeria for sending my nation such a capable, professional, and trusted diplomat. Ambassador Baali shall always be welcome in my office and I wish him much success and happiness as he returns home to Algeria.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. LEE ROY “TEX” KEITH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Mr. Lee Roy “Tex” Keith, who passed away December 23, 2014 at the age of 96, leaving behind a proud legacy.

In 2010, it was my privilege to present the 26th District of Texas Congressional Veteran Commendation to Lee Roy Keith. He honorably served our nation as a Marine aviator in World War II and the Korean War. Keith began pilot training in January 1943 and was commissioned as a captain serving at El Toro, CA where he flew military combat supplies to the Pacific. His Okinawan deployment involved evacuation of casualties from Japanese beaches and reconnaissance missions following the two atomic bombings. After assignment in Hawaii, he returned stateside and was released from active duty on October 30, 1946.

Keith earned a Bachelor of Science degree, established a ranching business and joined the USMC Reserves, achieving the rank of Major. On October 22, 1951, Keith was summoned again to active duty service to our nation in the Korean conflict. Following his distinguished military career, Major Keith served as an FAA Flight Inspector from 1960 to 1975. As a token of the esteem with which he was held by his peers, he was given the distinct honor of piloting the first official commercial aircraft landing at the new Dallas-Fort Worth Airport. Upon retiring from a post-military career with the FAA, Mr. Keith served as the Veterans Service Officer for Denton County and was elected to successive terms as President of the State VSO Association. He continued to support his fellow veterans by serving in multiple American Legion Commander positions, and as the Post 71 Boys State Chairman for 35 years.

With his impressive service record and unquestionable dedication to our country, it was an honor to represent Major Lee Roy "Tex" Keith in the U.S. House of Representatives and I extend my condolences to his family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 12th, 2015, I was unable to cast my votes on the House Floor due to repeated flight delays. Had I been able to avoid these travel complications, I would have voted as follows:

YES on H.R. 203 the Clay Hunt SAV Act Suspension Bill;

YES on H.R. 33 the Protecting Firefighters Emergency Responders Act Suspension Bill; and

YES on the Journal Vote.

SAVE AMERICAN WORKERS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2015

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I vehemently oppose H.R. 30, wrongfully named the Save American Workers Act of 2015. H.R. 30 does not "save" American workers, rather it endangers the health insurance of up to a million American workers. H.R. 30 would eviscerate and emasculate the Affordable Care Act: It raises the threshold of hours employees must work before they are eligible for employee-based health insurance from 30 to 40.

Why, Mr. Speaker, would we choose to weaken the Affordable Care Act when Gallup reported, on January 7, 2015, that in the last quarter of 2014 the uninsured rate dropped to a record low of 12.9%? The Affordable Care Act is working as it was intended to work, and the 114th Congress should be working to strengthen and improve it rather than weaken and repeal it.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, passing the Affordable Care Act was the right thing to do in 2010 and standing up to defend it is the right thing to do today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 19, approval of the Journal, I was inadvertently absent. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

MEDAL OF HONOR BOWL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, the citizens of historic Charleston, South Carolina, hosted the second annual Medal of Honor Bowl to further underscore America's deep appreciation of Medal of Honor recipients who have made our freedoms possible.

Under the visionary leadership of Chairman Tommy McQueeney and tireless efforts of 57 volunteers, the weekend began with a tribute gala on Friday night as a prelude to the bowl game on Saturday afternoon at The Citadel's Johnson Hagood Stadium. This celebration of our nation's heroes served to raise awareness of the sacrifices made by our military and their families. Proceeds from the events are to support the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation and other charities to help disabled veterans and wounded warriors.

The National Medal of Honor Museum is located on board the USS Yorktown aircraft carrier, permanently docked at the Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Mt. Pleasant. This museum is home to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, whose members have earned our nation's highest award for military valor, and this weekend's bowl game served as a tribute to them.

TOP TEN MISREPORTED STORIES OF 2014

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the media watchdog organization Accuracy in Media recently recounted the "Top ten misreported and underreported stories of 2014."

At the top of their list was the media's failure to adequately report on the Benghazi scandal. Very few in the media expressed any interest in covering the attack on our embassy that led to the death of four Americans including a U.S. ambassador.

Other biased stories on the list include the media downplaying the rise of the Islamic State, portraying Israel as the aggressor in its

dealings with Palestine, and the holdings by federal judges against President Obama's actions on immigration and Obamacare.

In December, a federal judge in Pennsylvania ruled that President Obama's executive actions on immigration are unconstitutional. This was block-buster news but most Americans never heard or read about it.

The media should give the American people the facts, not cover them up.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH B. HAUCK

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people in New York's—9th District to express our sincere appreciation for the dedication and sacrifices of Kenneth B. Hauck.

Kenneth B. Hauck selflessly and courageously served in the United States Army between October 1942 and May 1946. During his period of service Kenneth B. Hauck participated in World War II, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge with Company B, 112th Infantry Regiment and was a Prisoner of War. His personal sacrifice and steadfast loyalty during this time go unparalleled. For his service he was awarded the American Campaign Medal, EAME campaign medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

It is an honor to know that such impressive and dedicated men and women like Kenneth B. Hauck are willing to sacrifice so much in the name of freedom. It is my honor to recognize and thank Kenneth B. Hauck for his exemplary service to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call votes numbers 17, 18, and 19.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on Roll Call number 17 to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 203, the Clay Hunt SAV Act.

I would have voted aye on Roll Call number 18 to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 33, the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act.

I would have voted no on Roll Call number 19 to agree to the Speaker's Approval of the Journal.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 18, H.R. 33, the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act, I was inadvertently absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

REMEMBERING GOVERNOR MARIO
CUOMO

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a true New York legend, Mario Matthew Cuomo, and to thank him for his service to the people of New York and this country. Mario Cuomo was not only one of the greatest governors in the history of New York and an orator whose skill rivals legends throughout history; he was a man of great principal and humility. At a time when New York needed a bold leader, Mario Cuomo stepped up and led the state in a truly unique and inspiring fashion.

Something that was so telling is when I visited the Cuomo family during Mario's wake. For our current Governor Andrew Cuomo and his sisters and brother, the day was about beginning the process of saying goodbye to their father. But for the long lines of people waiting outside to pay their respects, Mario Cuomo was a man who understood their struggles and worked every single day to make their lives better.

Governor Cuomo was a man of deeply held convictions, who used his time in office to make a difference in peoples' lives. He constantly strived to make progress in economic, environmental, and social justice, putting a face to what true progressivism looks like in the modern era. Even when his choices were not popular in the short term, Governor Cuomo had the foresight to understand that history would marvel at his wisdom for decades to come.

The list of accomplishments to Governor Cuomo's name is extensive and will serve as

a high bar to future governors across our great country. A deeply caring family man, Governor Cuomo worked to better the life of children by implementing health care and education programs. A student of history, the Governor knew that we needed to increase our investment in infrastructure to rebuild roads and bridges across the state to boost our economy and put people to work. And the Governor was decades ahead of his time in aggressively advocating for environmental protection, understanding that leaving a more beautiful and healthy New York for the next generation was of the utmost importance.

The passing of Governor Cuomo reminds us all that we should be doing our best every single day to advocate for our constituents and give a voice to the voiceless. We need to be both practical and bold in our thinking, something the Governor mastered. Living up to the example left by Governor Cuomo is an enormous challenge, but one that will leave this country in a much better place.

May Governor Cuomo rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on January 7, 2015, on Roll Call #8 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 26—Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On January 7, 2015, on Roll Call #9 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 37—Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act, I am not re-

corded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On January 7, 2015, on Roll Call #10 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 23—National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On January 8, 2015, on Roll Call #11 on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On January 8, 2015, on Roll Call #12 on H. Res. 19—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 30) the Save American Workers Act of 2015, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On January 8, 2015, on Roll Call #13 on the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 30, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On January 8, 2015, on Roll Call #14 on Passage of H.R. 30—Save American Workers Act of 2015, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On January 9, 2015, on Roll Call #15 on the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 3, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On January 9, 2015, on Roll Call #16 on Passage of H.R. 3—Keystone XL Pipeline Act, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.