

we continue to find ourselves legislating by crisis.

Today, 65 percent of our Nation's roads are rated as less than good condition. Twenty-five percent are in poor condition. In Texas alone, we have over 300,000 miles of public roads, almost 10 percent of which are rated poorly.

I urge my colleagues to commit to a long-term plan that will provide certainty, increase transit revenues, and keep workers in our construction industries on the job, especially during this upcoming construction season.

As our roads erode and our transit system decays, it is imperative that we do our jobs and be responsible legislators. I urge my colleagues to enact a long-term bill as soon as possible.

WILLIAMS SYNDROME

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, Williams syndrome is a rare neurological disease. May is Williams Syndrome Awareness Month.

According to the Williams Syndrome Association, there are between 25,000 and 30,000 individuals living with this rare disease, at least one of whom is a constituent of mine. His name is Brian Weaver. I had the pleasure of meeting him.

My bill, the OPEN Act, would provide an incentive for companies to test their drugs on a rare disease population. Over 150 rare diseases organizations wrote to us saying the OPEN Act "promises to improve the quality of life for the nearly 30 million Americans suffering from rare diseases."

Research into Williams syndrome could lead to advances in treating Americans with high blood pressure, diabetes, autism, and anxiety disorders. We must continue to fight for millions of Americans who suffer from rare diseases like Williams syndrome.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC SECURITY

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I appear here today filled with a sense of great pride but also deeply troubled.

I am proud of the work done by women every day in America, women like my grandmother, who raised family, put food on the table, and ensured that their children received the education and care that they deserved.

I am offended that, as I stand here today, more than 50 years after President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law, as a country, we are still, as women, seeking pay equality. Women are only earning 78 cents to every dollar earned by a man. For women of color, that gap is even greater.

I am deeply troubled by the lack of retirement security for women, American women, and all older Americans.

Today, I am alarmed at our failure to provide women who work hard with basic benefits like paid sick leave and paid family and medical leave.

I am not intimidated, as a Member of Congress, by these problems. I and my Democratic colleagues are energized and united to correct this page in American history because we know, when women succeed, America succeeds.

SUPPORTING THE PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the passage of H.R. 36, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. This legislation, which I cosponsored and voted for yesterday, will help protect unborn children by limiting abortion after 5 months, the point at which they can experience pain.

This is not a divisive concept. In fact, the majority of Americans support limiting abortion after 5 months. It is a fundamental issue of human rights and dignity.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the House Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and join us in protecting the right of life, without which all other rights are impossible.

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FY 2016 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the important hard work of Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH of Washington and all of the members of the Armed Services Committee, as well as the committee staff, on the FY 2016 National Defense Authorization Act. I am particularly proud of the work of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee, and I am particularly proud of working with Chairman JOE WILSON of South Carolina on critical national security priorities such as things like cybersecurity, one of the chief threats facing our Nation today, and also the work we have done on R&D, special operations, and counterterrorism. I also applaud the bill's investment in important undersea capabilities, such as the Virginia class submarines, the Virginia Payload Module, as well as the Ohio replacement program.

However, I am deeply concerned that the NDAA reflects a budget approach that locks in sequestration and severs that critical link between our national security and our economic security. It is unfortunate that a measure that has historically represented such strong bipartisanship and regular order has been

taken hostage by a refusal to address the Budget Control Act.

Mr. Speaker, we can do better. We need to avoid sequestration, properly fund our national defense, and I hope that these concerns will be addressed as we continue working to support the brave men and women who defend this great Nation every day.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEVADA APPEAL

(Mr. AMODEI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, New York Times, get out of the way. Chicago Tribune, San Francisco Chronicle, not good enough; keep trying harder.

May 16 marks the 150th anniversary of the publishing of Nevada's oldest daily newspaper, the Nevada Appeal, published in its capital city, Carson City.

I am here to say happy sesquicentennial birthday to the Nevada Appeal, which, by the way, was one of the first newspapers in the land that was owned by a woman, from 1878 to 1880.

The paper has been a mainstay of Nevada journalistic enterprise. Forget it, Las Vegas Review-Journal, Las Vegas Sun, Reno Evening Gazette. These are the folks that have been there for 150 years.

I couldn't be prouder because, as a matter of fact, in my more productive years, at the age of about 9 and 10, I was a paperboy for the Nevada Appeal and have a picture to prove it, with the paper bag with "Nevada Appeal" blazoned across it on the front of my Columbia Stingray bicycle that I delivered the papers on.

Go, Nevada Appeal. Happy birthday to the publisher, Mark Raymond, and the editor, Adam Trumble. Way to go.

IN MEMORY OF ED LYNCH

(Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable philanthropist, family man, businessman, and friend from southwest Washington who has made a lasting impact on our region. He passed away this week at the age of 94.

Ed Lynch was a cornerstone of our community. Known by all as caring and humble, Mr. LYNCH was truly a representation of a servant leader. He was a neighbor and a friend.

In 1957, Ed and his wife, Dollie, moved to Washington State to make Vancouver their home. After serving as president of Kiewit Pacific, Ed dedicated the remaining years of his life to making our region, the region that he loved, a better place.

During his retirement, Ed poured his heart and soul into southwest Washington and taught us all that transforming one's community starts with a