

These rights extend to all persons, even those who are physically with us, but yet unborn. Indeed, life inside a mother versus outside of her is ultimately a matter of geography.

The rights of the unborn must be protected, and I believe we can never speak too strongly for those who cannot speak for themselves. Protecting life must be our top priority.

This debate is more than a simple disagreement about making choices. It is a debate about fundamental, God-given rights, the first of which, of course, is the right to life.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this House, the people's House, has no higher duty than to protect human life, no matter how big or how small it is or where it may be located.

As we approach the 43rd anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, I pray for all the families in our Nation who have chosen life and for all the life that we have lost.

IRAN TERROR FINANCE TRANSPARENCY ACT

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, it seems we can't go more than a few days without the regime in Tehran once again making the headlines.

From violating U.N. Security Council resolutions to firing rockets dangerously close to one of our aircraft carriers, to detaining our sailors, Iran shows no interest in actually wanting to be part of the international community.

What is worse, Mr. Speaker, is that this administration seems all too willing to look the other way, with new sanctions being announced all for the sake of preserving a flawed nuclear agreement.

Later this month the House will consider again the Iran Terror Finance Transparency Act, legislation that, in light of Iran's recent actions, is absolutely necessary.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time for strong American leadership, leadership that stands up to rogue regimes bent on the destruction of America and our allies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. J.S. STONE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness in my heart that I rise to acknowledge the death of a great leader in our community, Dr. J.S. Stone, a graduate of Talladega College and a graduate of Meharry Medical School, who leaves his beloved wife, Gertrude, a dear friend, and three children.

This was a great leader and a great medical professional, committed to service in our community, serving on

many, many boards and sharing his great brilliance with all of us.

He had a residency at Texas MD Anderson and hospitals in Philadelphia and became one of the first African Americans to participate in the Harris County Medical Society and to practice in hospitals that, for the first time, saw an African American doctor, such as St. Joseph, a community hospital that has remained historic in our community.

Again, I want to pay tribute to him for his service in the United States military as captain.

This is the kind of African American leader and a kind of American leader that stood tall, being born in 1930 in the face of segregation, but he never let the ills of the world overcome him. He became a servant of the people—not elected—but he became a servant in medicine and serving them.

I honor him today and express my deepest sympathy to his family, his wife, his children, and to the entire community in Houston, for we have lost a fallen hero. He is a hero.

I say well done, good and faithful servant. May you rest in peace, Dr. J.S. Stone.

PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year carbon monoxide kills over 400 people and sends an additional 20,000 people to the emergency room. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas, and poisoning from it most often occurs in households with a malfunctioning heat source.

Because of its nature, it can be extremely difficult to detect a carbon monoxide leak. Carbon monoxide detectors, however, are extremely effective in alerting families to a leak and have already saved lives.

I am introducing bipartisan legislation with Congresswoman ANN KUSTER to allow States to apply for grants to purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors in schools, in low-income homes, and, also, senior residences at no cost to the taxpayer.

The grants will also help and train local and State fire officials on the dangers of carbon monoxide and the best methods of prevention because, Mr. Speaker, it is important to educate the public on the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning and what people should do to protect themselves. This is one more way to do so.

OUR SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

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

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration has just issued a

series of executive actions attempting to limit our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

As the new chairman of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I have been entrusted with the responsibility handed down to us by our Founding Fathers of the power of the purse.

The Department of Justice and the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives have already been put on notice that, if they attempt to interfere with our Second Amendment rights, I have the authority, as chairman, to block their ability to move money within the agency, to block their ability, for example, when they submit a spending plan. That is a very powerful tool of persuasion, not always guaranteed.

The Founding Fathers entrusted the power of the purse to the Congress as a way to give a check and balance to an out-of-control executive.

I don't need an amendment. And I don't need any new authority. The Congress has it.

I will execute that authority entrusted to me to protect our Second Amendment rights and to make sure that Americans always have the right to keep and bear arms in defense of our freedom.

If the Obama administration wants access to our hard-earned tax dollars, they are going to have to assure me and the American people that they will not interfere with our constitutional rights.

HONORING KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

(Mrs. COMSTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on January 13, 1903, 102 Korean immigrants first arrived in the United States. Today we celebrate Korean American Day and the contributions of our Korean American community. Earlier this week, we had a celebration right here on Capitol Hill, with many of my colleagues joining our local and national community.

When I previously served as the State delegate and now, as a Member of Congress, I have been privileged to work with our Korean American community in northern Virginia and throughout the 10th District through organizations such as the Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area; the Korean Medical Society; the Korean Women's Chamber of Commerce, which has worked with us tirelessly on battling the human trafficking issue. These are a few of the many organizations that serve in our area.

I have also been privileged to visit with the Korean faith community and attended many cultural festivals, such as the annual KORUS Festival, which I

was honored to chair just last year, and Korean Independence Day, which we celebrate annually in August with our local community—and I know we celebrate it throughout our country—so that we can all unite in our passion for freedom and for the “One Korea” cause, something we are all united on.

Near my home in the 10th District is Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, which is home to the Korean Bell Garden, a gift to the community and to our park system from the Korean American Cultural Committee, which serves our whole community as a beautiful symbol of goodwill towards all.

I am proud to be a member of the Korea Caucus, and I appreciate that goodwill and the goodwill that is found throughout our Korean American community. I join with them today in celebrating this anniversary.

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, having been the location for the State of the Union Address last night, we agree that we care deeply about this country, but there were some things that were said here from this lectern right here, where national and international leaders speak when they are invited to speak here in the House, that I felt needed some deliberation.

It is noteworthy. My late mother, English teacher that she was—if I had given this speech, the first thing she would have harassed me about was that you start the first five paragraphs—and this is the content: I have come, I know, I also, I hope, I will keep, I don’t, I want, I want.

My mother would have made big red circles around there and said: Eliminate the first person. It tells people that you care more about yourself. Get rid of that. Quit having so much first person.

Of course, she would have done the same thing toward the end of the speech when we have: I hold, I know, I intend, I can’t, I am asking, I see, I will be, I can, I travel, I see, I see, I know, I see, I see, I see, I see, I see, I see, I know, I believe, I stand.

No doubt my late mother would have taken a red pen and said: Son, if you want to give a great speech, quit talking about the first person “I” all the time. You have got to eliminate it if you want to give a great speech.

So, Mr. Speaker, since we care deeply about each other in this country, those who are in elected positions, I thought maybe, since the door is not always open to me at the White House—I know that going back to the ObamaCare days when the President said: If you have got better ideas, my door is always open.

I know my office kept trying to get me into that open door. I am sure the

President was telling the truth. I am sure his door was open. But there were so many Secret Service agents and staff members between me and that open door, I was not allowed to come present my better ideas on health care.

□ 1230

I still have them. Hopefully, we will get a chance to work those in. Some of the things, PAUL RYAN and I have been on the same page for years; some of them are a little different. TOM PRICE has had some great proposals, MIKE BURGESS. We have a lot of doctors here that have had some great ideas on how to fix it. From that experience, I know that the door is not always open, so this is the format in which I have to point these things out.

When the President said, “second, how do we make technology work for us and not against us,” what immediately comes to mind is what many Republicans have been concerned about and some of my Democrat friends have been very concerned about. Don’t seem quite as concerned under a Democratic President as they were under President Bush, but, nonetheless, still concerned that the President asked, perhaps rhetorically, how do we make technology work for us.

Mr. Speaker, I would humbly submit that the President has got technology working for the administration pretty well. You have got NSA that has been amazing in their ability to use algorithms and sort through emails. You have got the Federal Government, as we found after the Snowden revelations, after we had been told by both Bush and Obama administration officials that we are not checking people’s phone calls, we are not getting that information.

It turned out that, in the FISA court, both administrations had been seeking and getting blanket orders not consistent with the Constitution, which requires specificity. You have to specifically name what it is being searched for and specifically the reason you have for searching it. There is no specificity. They just said: We want every list of everybody’s phone call in your phone company. The judge said: Oh, sure, that is specific enough—every single phone call without any reason, just need the information. So you have got emails, you have got phone calls.

Then, of course, under ObamaCare, the Federal Government is going to get to have everybody’s medical records. It sounds like crony capitalism involved in having a deal with a private entity to gather everybody’s medical records. So you will have the Federal Government and a private company gathering everybody’s medical records.

Then we have the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau that, under the guise of trying to protect people from unscrupulous banks, you have the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau say: We want every debit and credit card record of everybody. That way we can watch for unscrupulous banking practices and banks.

Well, that is not the way the Constitution requires things be done. As a judge, if you wanted somebody’s bank records, you had to come to a judge like me in a felony case and you had to have probable cause established under oath that there is probable cause to believe a crime was committed, this person committed it, and only then would I sign an order allowing them to get someone’s bank records. Not under the CFPB. Under the guise of helping people, they are gathering people’s bank records, whether they want them to have them or not. That needs to stop.

The President said: “We have done all this while cutting our deficits by almost three-quarters.” The trouble is I remember back in 2006 when Democrats were rightfully and righteously pointing out that with a Republican President, President George W. Bush, and Republicans in control of the House and Senate, they felt it was outrageous that we were going to have a \$160 billion deficit, that we would bring in \$160 billion less than we would spend.

They were right. We should have had a balanced budget then. We were trying to get there. We were pushing for cuts trying to get there. But they convinced the American public Republicans can’t be trusted; they have got you a \$160 billion deficit. You put us in charge, and we will cut that to get a balanced budget.

Then we got a Democratic President, a Democratic House, and a Democratic Senate, and what happened? The budget that they gave us created about a \$1.6 trillion deficit. So much for the \$160 billion that we were lambasted for allowing. They 10-times that right up to \$1.6 trillion or so.

People need to understand, when the President says we have cut the deficit by almost three-quarters, when you still haven’t gotten back to that \$160 billion deficit that we were lambasted for back in 2006, you still have not done an adequate job. We wish that the President and Democrats in the Senate would work better with us so that we can get back more to the kind of budget the Democrats promised Americans back in the fall of 2006.

Then the President said: “More and more wealth and income is concentrated at the very top.” I want to applaud the President, Mr. Speaker, for stating the truth. Under his watch, more and more wealth and income has been concentrated at the top. The President has actually admitted on the record a couple years or so ago that it is true that for the first time in American history—it has never happened before under any other President—the first time in American history, under President Obama’s watch, 95 percent of all income in America has been reported went to the top 1 percent of income earners in America. Ninety-five percent of the country’s income went to the top 1 percent. It never happened before, not under a Republican, not under a Democrat, not under anybody. That has never happened before.