

hundreds of hearings, thousands of questions for the record, and countless requests for information which all helped our subcommittee make the best informed resourcing decisions.

Mr. Sauner led engagement efforts for senior Air Force leadership in defense of the Air Force budget request for military construction, housing, environment, and BRAC. Hundreds of Air Force officers, enlisted, civilians, and contractors have benefitted from his experience and counsel as a strong and capable mentor, resulting in a bond of trust between this subcommittee and the Air Force that will have lasting positive effects well into the future.

Prior to his dedicated service in his current role, Mr. Sauner served twenty-five years in the United States Air Force, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. With his four years as a Congressional Liaison Officer on active duty, Mr. Sauner can claim twenty years of experience working with the Congress—a rare feat indeed. Mr. Sauner leaves a lasting legacy both in the Executive and Legislative Branches of our government as a result of his quiet professionalism and embodiment of the Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House please join me in extending our most sincere thanks for his service and best wishes for the days and years ahead as he begins a new journey.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE REPUBLICAN ANTI-POVERTY AGENDA

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, last week, a group of 8 Republicans traveled to the House of Help City of Hope, a private residential drug and alcohol treatment program here in Southeast DC. There they unveiled their proposal to reduce poverty in America.

Make no mistake: the Republican Party has simply repackaged the same proposals that have locked our most underserved populations in poverty for generations.

I appreciate the group's advocacy for drug and alcohol treatment, but it is misguided and offensive to associate poverty with addiction. We should not be surprised that they are clinging to the tired narrative that victims of poverty are too lazy or irresponsible to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps. The "bootstraps" narrative leaves out the reality that too many children in America are born without bootstraps to parents who never had bootstraps themselves. In the cycle of poverty, opportunity rarely presents itself.

From the schoolhouse to the workplace, children from wealthier and well-educated families arrive at every door with a very different set of skills and expectations than those from underserved backgrounds. For example, research suggests that children from low-income families hear 30 million fewer words than their wealthy peers by the age of 3. Other studies show that less than 50 percent of children living in poverty arrive at school prepared with the math and reading skills, emotional and behavioral control, and the physical well-being necessary to learn. These gaps persist into adulthood.

These are not excuses. They are facts.

The children of the wealthy are provided tutors, lawyers, contraceptives, therapy, and more when they stumble socially, physically, and academically. Their less affluent counterparts are instead met with financially struggling parents, probation officers, and ill-access to basic health services. Social scientists call the protections afforded to wealthier children in times of trouble "air bags."

It's time to dispel the blanket notion that the poor are to blame for their poverty. The government has a role to play, and for many, it is the star of the show.

When opportunity presents itself in low-income communities, it comes via a Head Start teacher, an after-school program, a Job Corps coach, a Pell grant, a Social Security check, a child tax credit, and through other resource programs implemented during and after the War on Poverty.

Our friends across the aisle want the American people to believe that the effective anti-poverty programs of the War on Poverty have been a waste of taxpayer dollars. In truth, the safety net's effectiveness at reducing poverty has grown nearly ten-fold since 1967.

Pell grants, senior centers, the breast and cervical cancer early detection program, grants to improve water and waste disposal systems, Job Corps, and the Foster Grandparent program are just some of the programs that have been effective in helping millions of Americans into the middle class. Despite the progress made under these programs, the Republicans deem them all as welfare.

The Social Security program has lifted 27 million Americans out of poverty, including 1.6 million children yet Republicans have proposed to privatize and cut the program.

The Earned Income Tax Credit has lifted 9 million working Americans out of poverty and has reduced poverty for 22 million more. Despite these tremendous benefits, the Republicans did not include this program in their proposal.

The SNAP program, which the proposal cuts, has lifted 10 million Americans out of poverty and 5 million more out of deep poverty.

Seventy percent of Americans will turn to the safety net at some point in their lifetimes. Attempts to cut these programs are rooted in dangerous and misguided ideology.

I was sent to Congress to build upon programs that work and craft new proposals to create ladders of opportunity into the middle class for my constituents.

On the contrary, the Republican blaming strategy is not "A Better Way"—it's the wrong way. On behalf of the hardworking Alabamians I represent, I urge all of my colleagues to reject this dangerous agenda.

HONORING RICHARD TWISS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE CITY OF INDIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to congratulate City of Indio Police Chief Rich-

ard Twiss who is retiring after 32 years of service to the people of California and the citizens of the United States. Throughout his career, Chief Twiss has been an exemplary public servant. He has taken on his vocation to service with a sense of duty and a strength of character that is needed to accomplish such a noble calling.

Richard Twiss' time in uniform began in 1984 as a United States Marine and continued as a police officer with the City of Indio Police Department. Through his leadership, Chief Twiss led a police force that helps build a safer community and is an incredible influence on the lives of hundreds of residents in the Coachella Valley located in California's 36th Congressional District.

Chief Twiss' distinguished career in law enforcement spans from his time as an officer at the Indio Police Department, to an investigator for the County of Riverside District Attorney's Office, to a special agent for the California Department of Justice, and for the last four years as the Chief of Police for the City of Indio.

At a national level, Chief Twiss has lent his expertise to help advance the cause of public safety. Chief Twiss participated in the President's National Committee on 21st Century Policing and served as a member of the California Attorney General's Community Oriented Policing Subcommittee. Most recently, he was appointed to the California Police Chief Association Homelessness and Mental Health working group. Chief Twiss implemented the Community Outreach Resource Program as a way to reduce homelessness and provide resources to the most vulnerable members of our society. This program received local, national, and international recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize and honor Chief Richard Twiss for his service. And on behalf of the thousands of families of California's 36th Congressional District, I offer my sincerest thanks and congratulate Chief Twiss for his exceptional commitment to public safety. I wish him and his wife, Anna, all the best on his well-deserved retirement.

THIS IS THE WEEK WE MOURN TOGETHER IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 49 LIVES LOST JUNE 12, 2016

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, this is the week we mourn together. As one nation. This week we know no party, we know no prejudice. This is the week we all as Americans suffer loss together, come together, and resolve together that we will not fall to the architects of terror.

Mr. Speaker, this is our Paris.

The mass shooting in Orlando is now one more defining moment of our time. One more defining moment of terror. And one more defining moment in the fabric of modern America. Innocent brothers and sisters were targeted by evil, in the name of a radical Islamic jihad against America that despicably perverts religion to justify taking the life of innocent people. But this is the week we resolve to destroy terror forever, to destroy those who wish to destroy us.

In an election year, its natural for anger to divide us, to draw us into a partisan divide.