The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, October 10, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BRAD R. KEMP to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, going back to the days of Teddy Roosevelt, it has been a bipartisan principle that protecting the public health in America’s environment is the sacred obligation of all of us who have the honor to serve this Nation in elective or appointed offices. Unfortunately, the Administrator of the EPA, Mr. Scott Pruitt, didn’t get that memo.

Yesterday, Mr. Pruitt announced that he is precipitously going to strike down the Clean Power Plan rule sometime later today, which will turn the clock back in this country in terms of trying to get our arms around the issue of rising carbon emissions that scientists from across all sectors have universally recognized are causing rising sea temperature, rising sea levels, affecting climate, and clearly are linked to manmade carbon emissions that have been tracked for decades going back in time.

Mr. Pruitt’s argument is based on the discredited view that carbon pollution does not fall under the Clean Air Act, which is what the last administration was proceeding on when they actually designed the Clean Power Plan rule.

The facts are these:

In 1963, this Congress passed the Clean Air Act. It was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson and has been amended a number of times on a bipartisan basis to strengthen and enhance the protections that were built into that law when it was, again, enacted many years ago. In fact, in 1990, George Herbert Walker Bush signed the last update and upgrade to the Clean Air Act, which is exactly what the prior administration was proceeding under when they designed the rule.

The Supreme Court has weighed in on this question about whether or not greenhouse gases are covered under the Clean Air Act. In 2007, in Massachusetts v. EPA, a Republican-majority Court ruled in favor of the fact that greenhouse gases are in fact covered under the statutory umbrella of the Clean Air Act. This is what the Court said:

Because greenhouse gases fit well within the Clean Air Act’s capacious definition of “air pollutant,” we hold that EPA has the statutory authority to regulate the emission of such gases.

In 2014, the Court reinforced that ruling in a decision written by Antonin Scalia, the godfather of conservative lawyers all across this country, which reiterated the fact that greenhouse gases emitted from power plants are, in fact, subject to the scope and authority of the Clean Air Act.

Unfortunately, today, the EPA Administrator is completely striking down that important advance in terms of protecting the public health of this country and putting nothing in place. There is no alternative that Mr. Pruitt is putting out there in terms of trying to get this country to move forward on clean power.

It is unfortunate because, as the International Energy Agency announced this morning, for the first time ever, solar energy production now surpasses any other form of power production in the world. The same thing is happening here in the U.S. because of the renewable energy tax credits.

In my State of Connecticut, renewable energy solar panel jobs far exceed any other power production job in the State. We are seeing an incredible proliferation of people installing panels on their homes and businesses.

The U.S. Navy in Groton, Connecticut, now has solar panels on all Navy housing as well as a solar field to power the Nation’s oldest submarine base, which is there.

The decision by Mr. Pruitt is not a pro-growth, pro-economic decision. It is simply responding, unfortunately, to political forces that drove this administration to power from the fossil fuel industry.

The only saving grace of Mr. Pruitt’s order is that he allows a large and long public comment period for the people of this country who do care about clean air and who do care about our environment to weigh in on this reckless decision that turns the clock back for public health and safety and for our economy. That is where the growth is going to be, in renewables, and not power production of the past.
It is not a war on coal. Coal production is not singled out in the Clean Power Plan regulations. But what it does say is that any plant, whether it is coal, natural gas, or solar panels, you have got to address the question of carbon emissions. You don’t get a pass on carbon pollution and then have a mess behind you. That is a very simple principle that I think every American can understand.

Unfortunately, it is about to be torpedoed by the EPA Administrator, who, in the courtroom trying to argue against this in the courts back in 2014 and came out on the losing decision. I guess he got his revenge not just on the Court but, unfortunately, all of us who have to live with this terrible rule.

Mr. Speaker, again, let’s reverse that decision. Let’s move toward the future with a type of power that will protect the environment and grow jobs.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TROOPER TIMOTHY O’NEILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a fallen hero. Tragically, Michigan State Trooper Timothy O’Neill made the ultimate sacrifice in an on-duty motorcycle accident.

I rise to offer my support and love to Trooper O’Neill’s friends, family, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. As the proud parent of a police officer, I can only imagine the pain you must feel. Words are inadequate at such a time of sorrow, but please know you are in my prayers.

Trooper O’Neill was known by his friends, fiancée, and family for his sense of humor, compassion for animals, and deep love for his family. He is also remembered for his commitment to bettering our community and our safety.

I ask my colleagues and all those watching to join me in a prayer for Trooper O’Neill; his fiancée, Carli Hicks; parents, Kristine and Michael O’Neill; siblings, Sara O’Neill and Brian O’Neill; and his entire family.

May God bless them all.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THELONIOUS MONK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the most innovative jazz musicians of all time, the legendary Thelonious Monk.

This legend, Mr. Speaker, was born in my congressional district in the State of North Carolina, and would have turned 100 years old today.

Thelonious Sphere Monk was the second of three children born to Thelonious, Sr., and Barbara Monk on October 10, 1917, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Though Monk and his family left Rocky Mount for New York City when Thelonious was a child, scholars and fellow musicians say Monk’s North Carolina roots had an important influence on the man and his music.

Writer Sam Stephenson credited Thelonious Monk’s Carolina roots in the “Oxford American,” writing that Rocky Mount’s flourishing tobacco culture and rail yard was one of the largest in the country when Monk was born. Stephenson speculated those railways may have inspired Monk’s composition “Little Rootie Tootie,” which features train whistle sounds. Mr. Speaker, incidentally, the city of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is divided between two counties, Nash County and Edgecombe County. The railroad in that community is the dividing line.

Every day, the CSX and Amtrak trains come through that community. They have been doing that for a very long time. Those train tracks were first established in 1855, even before the Civil War. It was established as the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad. It was the longest railroad in the entire world, consisting of more than 160 miles of track. It came through Mr. Monk’s hometown.

Thelonious Monk began studying classical piano at the age of 11 and showed an aptitude for the instrument. By the time he was 13 years old, he had won the weekly amateur competition at the Apollo Theater so many times that management banned him from reentering the contest there in Harlem.

In 1941, Monk began working at Minton’s Playhouse in Harlem, where he joined the house band and helped develop the school of jazz known as bebop.

Alongside fellow jazz greats Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Eubie Blake, and Rubble Blakey, Monk honed his fast and often improvised style that would later become synonymous with modern jazz.

Thelonious Monk’s first known recording was made in 1941, when he worked as a member of the Coleman Hawkins Quartet. Monk did not record under his own name, however, until 1947, when he played as the leader of a sextet session for Blue Note.

In 1947, he married Nellie Smith, his longtime sweetheart. Two children were born to the marriage, whom they named after Monk’s parents, Thelonious and Barbara.

In 1952, Monk signed a contract with Prestige Records, which produced pieces like “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes” and “Blue Monk,” which he recorded with Miles Davis in 1954. In 1956, Mr. Speaker, Monk released his third album, “Brilliant Corners,” which is considered by many to be his first true masterpiece.

In 1957, the Thelonious Monk Quartet, which included John Coltrane, began performing regularly, with tours across the United States and Europe.

By 1964, Monk was popular with the mainstream audience and became one of the four jazz musicians ever to grace the cover of Time magazine.

The years that followed included several overseas tours, but by the early 1970s, Monk was ready to retire. He was ready to retire from the limelight. After battling illnesses for several years, Monk passed away from a stroke in 1976.

Finally, Thelonious Monk, Mr. Speaker, has been inducted into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame and the Grammy Hall of Fame, added to the Library of Congress’ National Recording Registry, awarded a Pulitzer Prize, and featured on a United States postage stamp.

Thelonious Monk left a legacy as one of the originators of modern jazz. That is why the city of Rocky Mount is so proud of their native son.

They celebrated this past weekend in various places throughout the city honoring and celebrating the life of this great musician.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to an outstanding American; the residents of Rocky Mount, North Carolina; and the country prepare to celebrate his 100th birthday.

BEAU BIDEN FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the formation of a partnership between the Beau Biden Foundation and Doylestown Health, which will clear the way for efforts to prevent, recognize, and react appropriately to child sexual abuse in our community.

This critical program will be funded through the generous support of the Cowhey Family ShopRite in Warminster and will retain local medical staff in the Darkness to Light’s Stewards of Children course utilizing online education tools.

There is no doubt that because of the compassionate efforts of these organizations, the Beau Biden Foundation, Doylestown Health, and the Cowhey Family ShopRite in Warminster, Bucks County, children will be safer and our community stronger.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of this vital new partnership and all efforts to protect our society’s most vulnerable.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER WARD, SR.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong Levittown resident, Christopher Ward, Sr., who passed away suddenly last month.

Born in Bristol, Pennsylvania, Chris as the co-owner of Bailey’s Bar &
Grille and Bailey’s Plaza. But to his friends, employees, family, and all those who had the pleasure of truly knowing him, Chris was a humble, kind, selfless man with a loving, caring heart. He loved to make everyone laugh with his unique sense of humor, but what made him the happiest was being “Chocolate Pop-Pop” and spending time with his family.

Mr. Speaker, Chris strove to be the very best father, son, grandfather, uncle and husband. He will be sorely missed by our entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Chris was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore as Dysautonomia Awareness Month. “Dysautonomia” is a general term used to address any disease that aggravates the autonomic nervous system, adversely affecting the body’s involuntary functions. There are many types of dysautonomia, which can lead to other devastating illnesses, including Parkinson’s disease and lupus.

Dysautonomia afflicts nearly 70 million people of all ages worldwide, including constituents in my district like Liz Kennerley. While there is no cure, there are many treatments to improve quality of life, including medications and lifestyle changes.

This month, we work to spread awareness of dysautonomia through education, community events, and lobbying, and we inspire family, friends, and neighbors to get involved and to take action.

It is necessary that communities hold events for spreading the word about dysautonomia and for funding research to find a cure. It is on us to educate the public about this illness and to race towards a cure.

UNFAIRLY WITHHOLDING TEACHERS’ SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS EARNED THROUGH SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent thousands of teachers across west Texas who have dedicated their careers to educating and preparing our children for the future.

As a former member of the Midland Independent School Board, I understand the impact these selfless individuals have on our communities. Unfortunately, we honor their service to our communities by unfairly withholding Social Security benefits they have earned through secondary employment.

While this policy, known as the windfall elimination provision, was well-intended, it has proven to be ill-conceived. Many educators have been harmed by the unintended consequences that have created uncertainty and temerity on the otherwise joyous occasion of retirement.

It is imperative that we solve this issue and give our Texas teachers the ability to collect the Social Security benefits that they deserve. I remain committed to working with my colleagues in the House to find a fair and equitable resolution to this issue to ensure that our educators have access to the Social Security benefits and pensions they most certainly have earned.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule 1, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOHMER) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

While Members come to the end of a long weekend of constituent visits, bless them and those with whom they consult, among those they represent with wisdom, patience, and generosity as they seek law and policy that benefits not only local interests but, where possible, the greater common good of our country.

We again ask You to impel those who possess power here in the Capitol to be mindful of those Americans who possess little or no power, most especially in these days those recovering in Puerto Rico.

Finally, we are mindful of yet another natural disaster unfolding in California, with massive wildfires. We ask You to protect those who combat these fires and comfort those who have or will lose their homes and possessions.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule 1, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BLUMENAUER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:


Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the people of southwestern Pennsylvania and to have worked with the talented and dedicated men and women of the United States Congress.

Sincerely,

TIM MURPHY.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many women who have lost their lives to breast cancer and those who have survived.

As you know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In order to prevent additional loss of life, it is essential that women educate themselves on prevention and receive regular screenings.

In 2008, I cosponsored legislation supporting the observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, in part, to help get the message out that this disease can and does kill men and women of all ages.

According to the American Cancer Society, since 2007, death rates in older women with breast cancer are decreasing, yet death rates in women under the age of 50 are steady.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all women watching to get screened regularly for this devastating disease.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic...
I appreciate South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster and Attorney General Alan Wilson, both of whom who are working hard to stop domestic violence in our State, encouraged by Laura Hudson of the Crime Victims’ Council. The Governor issued a statewide proclamation that designates October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Attorney General Wilson’s 20th annual Silent Witness ceremony, which he held last week, honored the past year’s victims of domestic violence at the statehouse. Specifically, the South Carolina Office of the Attorney General works to combat domestic violence through the STOP Violence Against Women program, dedicated to providing representation to victims of domestic violence and raising awareness of the issue; also, with the Pro Bono program, dedicated to providing pro bono legal representation in prosecution of domestic violence cases.

Eliminating domestic violence should be something we fight for during the month of October and every day of the year.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

TAX REFORM

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

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the last time Congress passed fundamental tax reform, I was 7 years old. It is long past due that our broken Tax Code is fixed and our country gets back on a path to robust and sustained economic growth.

As we consider tax reform legislation, we should look to my home State of Indiana for inspiration. During my time as a State senator, Indiana lowered business taxes by nearly 50 percent, and rates are scheduled to fall even further in the coming years.

By 2022, the Hoosier State will have the third lowest corporate tax rate in the Nation. At the same time, Indiana has removed many special interest loopholes and carve-outs to make the tax system simple and fair for all Hoosier taxpayers.

According to the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, Indiana has the eighth best business tax climate in the country, a number that will only get better as tax rates continue to go down.

The results speak for themselves: Indiana has an unemployment rate below 4 percent, strong economic growth, a AAA credit rating, and a $1.8 billion surplus in the bank.

Lower taxes combined with simplicity produces — this is the model that we need to embrace if our country is going to return to sustained 3 percent and greater growth.

NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tremendous impact forests have on our rural economies and natural environment. Next week is National Forest Products Week.

In Arkansas, we know that growing and sustaining jobs in forest communities begins with ensuring that working forests continue to thrive. Most working forests — over 70 percent — are privately owned by families, small and large businesses, and an increasingly broad array of Americans who invest in forest ownership.

When forest owners have confidence in their ability to manage and sell their timber productively, they will continue to grow and invest in forests and provide the foundation for the rest of the forest products supply chain. Federal policies have a significant impact on the long-term economic and environmental benefits we derive from these working forests and the livelihoods of those who own and manage them.

The forest products industry represents a key economic driver for rural economies nationwide, totaling nearly $92.8 billion in GDP. In my home State of Arkansas, environmentally friendly forestry-related businesses support more than 62,000 jobs, with more than $2.4 billion in annual payroll.

A strong marketplace for forest products helps keep rural America employed and U.S. forests robust. These healthy forests, in turn, provide crucial habitat for species, filter America’s drinking water, sequester carbon, and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for the public.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON, DC, OCTOBER 16, 2017.

HON. PAUL D. RYAN,
THE SPEAKER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 10, 2017, at 9:48 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 692.
That the Senate passed S. 1293.
That the Senate passed S. 1596.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely, KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 9 minutes p.m.,) the House stood in recess.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTMOR POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1858) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1858
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTMOR POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1858 introduced by Congressman MARINO from Pennsylvania. The bill names the Liberty, Pennsylvania, Post Office at 4514 Williamson Trail the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office in honor of Staff Sergeant Ostrom, who, in 2005, was killed in the line of duty in Iraq.
Mr. Speaker, I now yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MARINO), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation to rename the Liberty, Pennsylvania, post office after Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom.

Ryan was born on September 23, 1979, in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, where he attended High School. While in high school, Ryan excelled in soccer, basketball, and baseball—serving as the captain for the soccer and basketball teams.

After graduating from high school, he attended Mansfield University and pursued a degree in education science. Ryan planned to become a teacher and a coach to help young people become successful students, athletes, and leaders within the community.

Hope was before Ryan was set to graduate from college, his National Guard unit was deployed to Iraq. While serving his country in Iraq, Ryan made the ultimate sacrifice, as he was killed in action on August 9, 2005.

Ryan enlisted in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1997, serving with Company B, First Battalion 109th in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Ryan was described as a soldier with a bevy of previous accomplishments and commendations.

During his time enlisted, Ryan earned a Purple Heart, Combat Information Badge, Gold Star, Armed Service Reserve Components ribbon, and numerous other awards that gave Ryan the recognition he deserved for his heroic years of service.

Beyond these awards, Ryan also took advantage of what the military had to offer, graduating from the U.S. Army European Primary Leadership Development Course, which furthered his ability to lead both on deployment and in the communities about which he cared so deeply.

While Ryan will always be remembered for his valor and his years of military service, he will also be remembered for what he brought to the communities of which he was a part.

In his free time, Ryan could be found playing Monday night basketball with his friends at home and was an active member of the Eagle Base basketball team during his deployment.

Staff Sergeant Ryan Ostrom prioritized the world around him—his country, his community, his family—all over himself. His years of service and his record speak for themselves, but beyond that, Ryan made a positive impact as a friend and a role model wherever he was.

He was a soldier and leader on his deployments and an active member of the community back home in Wellsboro. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members support this legislation to honor Ryan by renaming the Liberty Post Office as the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1858, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office.

Born in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, in 1979, Mr. Ostrom graduated from high school and then joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard while beginning his studies at Mansfield University. A sports lover, Ryan could frequently be found playing and coaching basketball in his free time.

In 2002, Ryan joined his father, Scott Ostrom, on a peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, and he later deployed to Iraq with the 109th Infantry Regiment.

Staff Sergeant Ryan Ostrom tragically made the ultimate sacrifice in August of 2005, when he sustained fatal wounds from enemy small-arms fire in Iraq. He was, as mentioned, awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and Combat Infantryman Badge from the Department of the Army, as well as the Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to recognize and selflessness of the honorable service of Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 1858, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of Staff Sergeant Ostrom’s sacrifice to our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1858.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SPECIALIST JEFFREY L. WHITE, JR. POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 452) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SPECIALIST JEFFREY L. WHITE, JR. POST OFFICE

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

Mr. Speaker, today in support of my legislation to honor Ryan Ostrom, the Staff Sergeant Ryan Ostrom Post Office at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Liberty, Pennsylvania, I rise today in support of H.R. 452 introduced by Congressman LUETKEMEYER from Missouri. The bill names the Pacific, Missouri, Post Office at 324 West Saint Louis Street the Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office in honor of U.S. Army Specialist White, who, in 2012, was killed in action in an IED attack in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 452, legislation to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office.

U.S. Army Specialist White grew up in Catawissa, Missouri, with his parents, Jeff and Paula White, and his brothers, Michael and Kyle. He graduated from Pacific High School in 2008, and enlisted in the Army in October of 2009.

Specialist White served our country honorably as a member of the First Battalion, 501st Airborne, Fourth Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, unit.

Specialist White deployed for Afghanistan in December 2011, and after serving our country bravely, he gave his life for our country when an IED detonated near his unit on April 3, 2012, roughly one week before he was scheduled to return to the United States.

Specialist White was a highly decorated servicemember. His awards and medals include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army
Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the NATO Medal, among many others.

As an avid sports fan, White shared my love of the St. Louis Cardinals. He witnessed their 2011 World Series Championship win shortly before his deployment and was planning to attend opening day in 2012. Specialist White was honored by the Cardinals, who invited his family to raise the 2011 World Championship flag on opening day in his memory.

Specialist White was an upstanding citizen and beloved by his family, friends, and community. Hundreds of individuals lined the streets in the pouring rain to honor his final journey home and memorial service.

We can never fully express our thanks to our military and their families. Their service and sacrifice for this country goes beyond a level of bravery most people have never seen. While the naming of this post office is not nearly enough to honor Jeffrey White, nor will it heal the pain felt each day and every day by the family he left behind, it is my sincere hope each time the community pass by this building they are reminded of how grateful and how proud we are to call Specialist White one of our own.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Missouri delegation and Pacific community for their support of this designation, and I ask every Member of the House to join us in honoring our hometown hero, Jeffery L. White, Jr.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 452, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building.

The bill designates the post office located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the Janet Capello Post Office Building. Janet Capello was a prominent citizen in her Vallejo, California, community. Born in 1935, she served on the city’s Planning Commission, the Civil Service Commission, and the Charter Review Committee, among others. She loved her community, and she gave back in whatever way she could before passing away in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 2254, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the Janet Capello Post Office Building.

A lifelong resident of Vallejo, California, and granddaughter of Italian immigrants, Janet Capello took great pride in her heritage. Her deepest passion was the Sons of Italy, an organization where she served as a dedicated member of Lodge Number 1626 for over 63 years.

She held two of the organization’s most prestigious posts—vice president of the Grand Lodge of California and Secretary of the United Lodges—and led efforts to bring the group’s scholarship program to Vallejo. In doing so, she helped hundreds of young men and women attend college.

Ms. Capello oversaw a number of charity efforts, and helped raise thousands of dollars each year for Alzheimer’s research. She earned a degree from the University of California-Davis. Ms. Capello’s dedication to these causes earned her the Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award, the highest honor granted by the Sons of Italy.

In addition to these accomplishments, Janet Capello was an active participant in local Vallejo politics, serving on the city’s Planning Commission, the Civil Service Commission, and the Charter Review Committee, among others, and was an active member of the St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church until her passing in 2012, at the age of 77.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to commemorate the life of Janet Capello, and recognize the lasting contributions she has made to the Vallejo community.

I urge the passage of H.R. 2254, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

As an avid Dodgers fan, I think Specialist White would get a kick out of the fact that I am here and that the St. Louis Cardinals are still beating the Dodgers.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2254.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY POST OFFICE

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2464) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”.

The Chair recognizess the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2464) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office. The bill was read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2464, introduced by Congressmen STEPHEN LYNCH from Massachusetts. The bill designates the post office located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office.

John F. Kennedy was the 35th President of the United States. During his tenure, he is possibly most famous for his handling of the Cuban missile crisis, preventing a thermonuclear conflict with the former Soviet Union.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of President Kennedy’s birth, and we thank him for his service to our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2464, legislation that I introduced back in May of this year to officially designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office.

This bill reflects the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform’s commitment, on the 100th anniversary of the birth of President John F. Kennedy this year, otherwise known as the JFK Centennial.

I would like to thank our former chairman, Jason Chaffetz of Utah; our current chairman, Jason Chaffetz of Utah; our ranking member, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Cummings); the chairman of our Subcommittee on Government Operations, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Meadows); our ranking member, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Connolly); and all of the Subcommittee on Government Operations for their efforts to move this legislation forward.

I would also like to thank the entire Massachusetts House delegation for their effort in sponsoring this measure. H.R. 2464 honors the life and enduring legacy of our Nation’s 35th President, John F. Kennedy, and his immeasurable commitment to public service, equality, peace and diplomacy, and ensuring a better quality of life for every American.

Our special remembrance of President Kennedy this year also affords us a distinct opportunity to reflect on and appreciate his vision and wisdom in the context of the many challenges we are facing as a nation today both at home and abroad.

As we grapple with difficult issues ranging from healthcare to economic reform, let us recall President Kennedy’s understanding that: “For one true measure of a nation is its success in fulfilling the promise of a better life for each of its members.”

And in contemplating issues pertaining to equality and civil rights, we would be wise to remember President Kennedy’s advancement of the principle that the rights of every person are diminished when the rights of one person are threatened.

As we continue to address matters of contention with adversarial nations, we must bear in mind President Kennedy’s admonition and foresight that “civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof.”

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to also thank my colleague and friend, Congressman JOSEPH KENNEDY from the Fourth District of Massachusetts, for his work on this legislation as well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2464.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make the gentleman from California aware that I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of President Kennedy’s sacrifice for our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2464.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ENDY NDDIOBONG EKPANYA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 294) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 294, introduced by Congressmen STEPHEN LYNCH from Massachusetts. The bill designates the post office located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.
Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 294, introduced by Congressman PETE OLSON of Texas. The bill names the Pearland, Texas, Post Office, located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard as the Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building in honor of the Pearland police officer who fell in the line of duty in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON), the sponsor of the bill, so that he can explain the bill.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to thank my friend from Montana for bringing this bill forward this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great day back home in Pearland, Texas, because right now this House is about to honor a fallen hero from Pearland, Endy Ekpanya.

Endy was born in Nigeria in 1985, the same year I graduated from college. When he was 11, his family left Nigeria to come to America to provide a better life for them. They moved to Long Island in 1996. He obtained a degree in psychology and sociology from Hofstra University in New York and later earned his MBA and master’s degree in criminal justice from the University of Maryland.

The call to serve his country and his community never left Endy, which is why, after moving to Pearland, Texas, he entered the Alvin Community College Police Academy. He graduated with the 105th class in December of 2015, and he was sworn in as a Pearland police officer 6 months later.

In less than 6 months after December of 2015, his time with us was cut short just 2 days before his 31st birthday. At approximately 4 a.m. on the morning of June 12, 2016, Endy was hit head-on by a drunk driver while responding to an emergency call. He was the first officer to die in the line of duty in Pearland in over 40 years.

Endy’s life embodies the selfless dedication of our law enforcement officials back in Pearland. His sacrifice will never ever be forgotten. That is why I am proud that today this House will pass a bill to name the post office at 2700 Cullen Boulevard after Endy. It will be a source of great pride for our local community and will ensure that his sacrifice is remembered for generations.

This small gesture can’t make up for the loss of Endy’s life. The grief his wife, his young son, and his parents have will never go away. The Pearland community has suffered, but this small gesture is a testament to Endy’s commitment to protect and serve. It will be an inspiration for future generations to strive to improve their community just like Endy did in his short time with us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on this bill.

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 294, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard as the Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office.


Endy’s deep love of family and community inspired him to join the police force so he could help those in need. He hoped that his hard work in the classroom and the field would help him be a role model for his young son, Julian.

As a rookie member of the Pearland Police Department, Officer Ekpanya took his duty to protect his community seriously but always found a way to brighten his fellow officers’ days. Tragically, on June 1, 2016, Officer Ekpanya was killed when a drunk driver struck his police cruiser as he was responding to a call.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor Officer Endy Ekpanya’s dedication to his education, family, and community, and to remember the sacrifices he made while working to protect those he loved.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 294, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill in recognition of Officer Ekpanya’s sacrifice to our Nation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1617.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017 would designate the Border Patrol checkpoint on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint”.

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) A native of La Feria, Texas, Border Patrol Agent Javier Vega, Jr., served his country first as a member of the United States Marines Corps and then proudly as a border patrol agent in the canine division with his dog, Goldie.

(2) Agent Vega was assigned to the Kingsville, Texas, Border Patrol Station as a canine handler and worked primarily at the Sarita Border Patrol Checkpoint.

(3) On August 3, 2014, Agent Vega was on a fishing trip with his family near Raymondville, Texas, when 2 criminal aliens attempted to rob and attack them.

(4) Agent Vega was shot and killed while attempting to subdue the assailants and protect his family.

(5) Agent Vega is survived by his wife, parents, 3 sons, brother, sister-in-law, niece, and dog, Goldie.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION.

The checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint”.

SEC. 4. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, or other official publication of the United States to the checkpoint described in section 3 shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017 would designate the Border Patrol checkpoint on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint.

After serving his country honorably as a United States Marine, Agent Vega joined the United States Border Patrol in 2008. During his time in the United States Border Patrol, he served as a canine handler and was involved in 42 seizures of narcotics and 38 separate cases involving the apprehension of 238 illegal immigrants. He was a man of honor and duty, a man who loved his family, and a man who would give his life in service to his country.

On August 3, 2014, in Raymondville, Texas, Agent Vega took his wife, three children, and parents out for a day of fishing. While fishing with his family, two illegal immigrants attempted to rob them.

These illegal immigrants had been deported multiple times for various crimes. Law enforcement believed they had conducted a string of similar robberies at the behest of a Mexican cartel.

Agent Vega sprung into action to defend his family. While drawing his firearm, Agent Vega was shot in the chest.
His father was also shot and wounded. Though his family did everything possible to help, Agent Vega, tragically, passed away.

On September 20, 2016, Border Patrol determined that Agent Vega’s actions were instinctive as a result of his law enforcement training. He did what law enforcement in America does: he put himself in harm’s way. As a result, his death was determined to have been in the line of duty.

The bill honors the service of Agent Vega. He made the ultimate sacrifice for his family and his country. Today, the House will name the Border Patrol checkpoint after him where he and his service dog, Goldie, served.

Every day, the men and women of the United States Border Patrol put on their uniforms and put their lives on the line to protect America’s borders. Tragically, as we see in the case of Agent Vega, even when spending time with family, they may be called to serve.

On Sunday, President Trump unveiled immigration enforcement policies that will not have to face the devastating loss of a loved one at the hands of an illegal immigrant. I hope Congress can work together to make those proposals a reality. I believe it is more than fitting to name this checkpoint after Agent Javier Vega, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of my good friend from Pennsylvania, and I, too, rise in support of S. 585, a bill to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint.

Javier Vega, Jr., was killed in the line of duty on August 3, 2014, while trying to stop a criminal act and trying to protect his family in Raymondville, Texas. While fishing with his wife, with his children, and with his parents, two men approached him and tried to rob his family.

Agent Vega attempted to stop the robbery by drawing his gun, and we know that Border Patrol agents may carry their guns when they are off duty because they are law enforcement officials. He was shot in the chest. Agent Vega was rushed to the hospital after he was shot but died soon thereafter.

It was determined that Agent Vega was aware of a pattern of robberies in the area due to his role as a Border Patrol agent before he was fatally shot. The U.S. Border Patrol considered those facts and later determined that Javier Vega, Jr., was murdered in the line of duty, ensuring that Agent Vega’s name was enshrined at the Customs and Border Protection Valor Memorial.

Agent Vega was a U.S. Marine veteran and had served with the United States Border Patrol for 6 years before his untimely death. He served his country with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation honoring the life and death of Javier Vega, Jr., by naming this checkpoint after him. I urge my colleagues to pass S. 1617, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The motion is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1617.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]  
YEAS—397  

ARRANGEMENT OF VOTES, YEA  

[53x174]Mr. BARLETTA, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-345) on the resolution (H. Res. 562) providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, to October 20, 2017, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules.

RECESS  

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK) at 6 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.


MR. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-345) on the resolution (H. Res. 562) providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, to October 20, 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order: H.R. 1858, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 2946, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

STAFF SERGEANT RYAN SCOTT OSTROM POST OFFICE  

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1858) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 36, as follows:
So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**State of:**
Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call No. 558.

**JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY POST OFFICE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2464) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office", on which the yeas and nays were ordered. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 0, not voting 38, as follows:

**[Roll No. 559]**

**YEA—395**

Abraham, Carter (TX)  
Aderholt, Rob (AL)  
Aguiar, Jared (CA)  
Allen, G.K. (AL)  
Amaah, Tawanda (NY)  
Amodei, Peter (NV)  
Arrington, Doug (GA)  
Babin, Jeff (LA)  
Banks (IN)  
Barbetta, Rich (NC)  
Barletta, Lou (PA)  
Bartton, Architect (PA)  
Berman, Jamie (CO)  
Berg (MN)  
Biggs, Paul (AZ)  
Bilirakis, Gus (FL)  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (GA)  
Biship (UT)  
Black, Tom (OK)  
Blum, Eric (FL)  
Blumenauer, Earl (OR)  
Blunt Rochester, Chrissy (NY)  
Bommarico, Jim (CA)  
Bost, Kristi (GA)  
Boyd, Collin (NV)  
Browner, Adam (OR)  
Buck, B.E. (Tenn)  
Budge, Matt (OR)  
Bustos, Dan (IL)  
Byrne, Steve (MA)  
Calvert, Mark (CA)  
Carney, Mike (NM)  
Caruso (NY)  
Carter (GA)  
Cassidy, Bill (LA)  
Chabot, David (OH)  
Chapman, Scott (CA)  
Chapman, Todd (WA)  
Cochran, Roger (MS)  
Espy, Tom (MS)  
Evans, Don (GA)  
Farley, Bruce (NY)  
Farr, G. K. (CA)  
Farenthold, Jodey (TX)  
Ferguson, Terri (TX)  
Fischman, Joe (NJ)  
Fioresi, Vinnie (NJ)  
Foster, Martha (CA)  
Fox, Lisa (MI)  
Francey, Frank (FL)  
Francisco, Del (CA)  
Frelinghuysen, Scott (NJ)  
Gaetz, Matt (FL)  
Gallagher, Tom (NJ)  
Gallego, Ruben (AZ)  
Garamendi, Glenn (CA)  
Garrett, Joe (TX)  
Gianforo, Dave (NJ)  
Gibbs, Meeks (GA)  
Gohmert, Louie (TX)  
Gomez, Henry (CA)  
Gonzales (TX)  
Goodlatte, Jeff (VA)  
Gosar, Paul (AZ)  
Gottheimer, Josh (NJ)  
Granger, Lois (TX)  
Graves (GA)  
Greene, Al (GA)  
Green, Gene (NY)  
Grimm (IL)  
Gretchen, John  
Guthrie  
Hagedorn, Reid (MD)  
Hakim, Mohammad (CA)  
Harrington, Tom (NM)  
Harms (CO)  
Hastert, Dennis (IL)  
Hassan, Moulton (ME)  
Hassan, Philip (NH)  
Hauser, Michelle (WI)  
Hawkins, Frank (NY)  
Hayes (NY)  
Heck,  
Himes, David (CT)  
Himes, Bill (NY)  
Hinojosa, Henry (TX)  
Hixon (FL)  
Hodanoback, Troy (PA)  
Hogan, Anthony (MD)  
Hobson, Jim (OH)  
Hodges, Mike (NC)  
Holt, Joyce (NJ)  
Honda, Ted (CA)  
Holmes, Charles (OK)  
Holmes, Don (NM)  
Hollingsworth, Steve (IN)  
Holt, Tom (IL)  
Horn, Michael (TX)  
Hostetler, Thomas (MO)  
Houghton, Matt (NY)  
Hunley, Jeff (AL)  
Hutchison, John (KS)  
Hutchinson, Adam (AR)  
Hutchinson, Jason (AR)  
Hutchinson, Sue (AR)  
Hutchison, Wesley (CO)  
Hutchison, Tim (TX)  
Hutchinson, Trent (CO)  
Hutchinson, Troy (AR)  
Hutcheson, Morris (KY)  
Hulett, Tom (WY)  
Hunt, Ron (OH)  
Hunter, Martha (SC)  
Hurt, Mike (NC)  
Hutchinson, Jake (AR)  
Hutchinson, John (AR)  
Hutchinson, Peter (AR)  
Hyde, Peter (MI)  
Hyde, Todd (IN)  
Hyde, James, Jr. (OH)  
Hyde, Rick (IL)  
Icardo, Justo (MD)  
Inouye, Ford (HI)  
Jackson, Sean (SC)  
Jackson, William (MS)  
Jackson, Yin (CA)  
Jenkins (NY)  
Jenkins, Joe (GA)  
Jenkins, John (GA)  
Jenkins, ranking member (GA)  
Jenkins, Sarah (GA)  
Jenkins, Susan (GA)  
Jensen, Cindy (IA)  
Jensen, Sara (IA)  
Jindal, Jay (LA)  
Johnson (ND)  
Johnson (SC)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson, Bill (OH)  
Johnson, Christy (GA)  
Johnson, Dan (LA)  
Johnson, John (NY)  
Johnson,7bJohnson, Ken (IL)  
Johnson, Pat (IA)  
Johnson, Rep. (WI)  
Johnson, Richard (UT)  
Johnson, Thomas (MN)  
Johnson, William (MA)  
Johnson, Yvette (GA)  
Johnson, Zach (MN)  
Jordan, David (NC)  
Jordan, Jim (SC)  
Jordan, Robert (NC)  
Jova, Sam (CA)  
Joyce (NJ)  
Joyce (RI)  
Joyce (NY)  
Joyce (IN)  
Joyce, Kevin (IN)  
Joyce, Matt (ME)  
Joyce, Peter (IN)  
Joyce (MA)  
Joyce, Thomas (PA)  
Joyce (NH)  
Joyce, William (NY)  
Kagan, Christine (OH)  
Kagan, Dianne (MD)  
Kagan, Mark (MD)  
Kagan, Reuven (HI)  
Kagan, Sharon (IL)  
Kagan, Thomas (NY)  
Kagan, Wendy (PA)  
Kagan, William (MD)  
Kagan, Yehuda (NY)  
Kahne, William (WA)  
Kalbfleisch, Fern (WI)  
Kantor, Sheryl (NY)  
Kemp (GA)  
Kemp, Jody (GA)  
Kennedy, Catazaro (NY)  
Kennedy, Charles (MA)  
Kennedy, E. S. (NY)  
Kennedy, John (NY)  
Kennedy, Joseph (MA)  
Kennedy, Paul (MA)  
Kennedy, Richard (MA)  
Kennedy, Robert (MA)  
Kennedy, Stephen (MA)  
Kennedy, Thomas (MA)  
Kerry, John (MA)  
Kerry, John (MA)  
Kerry, Shark (MA)  
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**NOT VOTING—38**

Messrs. VARGAS and ELLISON changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE**

October 10, 2017
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, since 1997, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, has provided low-cost health insurance for millions of children across the United States of America.

Unfortunately, in another apparent sabotage to our Nation’s healthcare system, Congress failed to reauthorize CHIP funding before it expired on September 30. Without immediate action, States will soon have to curtail care for our neediest children.

In my home State of Illinois, alone, over 255,000 children rely on CHIP for everything from routine checkups to immunizations. Congress’ continued failure to reauthorize this critical program is jeopardizing the well-being of millions of America’s children.

Congress will be going into recess again next week without taking any action to reauthorize this bipartisan and essential program for children. Meanwhile, millions of kids could go without care because of our failure to act. We must do better.

CELEBRATING THE MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND LEARNING CENTER AND PRE-K PROGRAM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind on its new Lighthouse Learning Center and Pre-K program.

The Miami Lighthouse has served south Florida since 1931, offering life-changing programs and resources for those who have visual impairments. President Virginia Jacko and her staff are making history once again with the Miami Lighthouse Learning Center.

The Miami Lighthouse is partnering with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to provide a comprehensive learning program for pre-K students using an evidence-based curriculum to support and empower visually impaired students to achieve their potential. Children in this program will receive the training they need to perform at the same level as their sighted peers by the time they enroll in school.

Mr. Speaker, it fills me with great pride to recognize Virginia Jacko and the entire staff at the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind for their tireless work in launching this wonderful learning center in the heart of Little Havana, located in my congressional district.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO REAUTHORIZE CHIP FUNDING

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

Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, I had the opportunity to participate in both the opening and the closing ceremonies for the traveling version of the Vietnam War Memorial Wall. The traveling wall was in State College last Thursday through Sunday, and it was a truly moving experience for all those who visited.

The theme for Centre County was “Welcome Home.” We all know that in many instances, our Vietnam veterans did not receive a warm welcome home when they returned from war. This is a scar on our history and one that we are working to heal.

The traveling wall serves as a reminder of the efforts to promote liberty and freedom that our Vietnam veterans put forth. It finally recognizes their struggles and thanks them for their service after years of underappreciation.

Mr. Speaker, the wall tells the story of so many Americans. They were sons and daughters. They were our friends and our neighbors. They are American heroes.

It is never too late to honor our veterans to ensure that they receive the recognition that they deserve.

TRUMP RAMPS UP DEMANDS FOR NEW DACA DEAL

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleague from Illinois and demand that the Children’s Health Insurance Program that will help millions of children have healthcare be reauthorized now, and certainly it should be done before we leave for the work recess.

I also want to hold up the headline of the Houston Chronicle that says: “Trump Ramps Up Demands for New DACA Deal.”

Sometimes we think that these are just statements that don’t impact people’s lives. The name of the young lady on this front page is Karen, who watches her parents work 17 hours a day, trying to ensure that the children who came here through no fault of their own can be contributing Americans.

We stood together yesterday with 122,000 in the State of Texas. We thought we had a reasonable deal to be able to work together to help these young people. But with the ridiculous demands that have been made by this administration—$15 billion border wall, cutting legal immigration, sending out the door unaccompanied children—it is absolutely ludicrous.

Does anyone care about human life? Then we stood together with the chief of police, the sheriff, the constables, and Moms Demand Action and fought against ridiculous nonregulation of guns that can kill people, military guns. We need gun safety legislation, and we need to do it now.

THE VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL TRAVELING WALL VISITS CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I had the opportunity to participate in both the opening and the closing ceremonies for the traveling version of the Vietnam War Memorial Wall. The traveling wall was in State College last Thursday through Sunday, and it was a truly moving experience for all those who visited.

The theme for Centre County was “Welcome Home.” We all know that in many instances, our Vietnam veterans did not receive a warm welcome home when they returned from war. This is a scar on our history and one that we are working to heal.

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It is never too late to honor our veterans to ensure that they receive the recognition that they deserve.

RELIEF EFFORT IN PUERTO RICO AFTER HURRICANE MARIA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is never too late to honor our veterans to ensure that they receive the recognition that they deserve.
Trump administration better wake up

President Trump is playing a dangerous game with North Korea. He is playing a dangerous game with American lives.

The President probably thinks he is being clever when he taunts Kim Jong-un and calls him “little rocket man.” The President probably thinks he is a tough guy when he threatens to rain down fire and fury on North Korea. But the President is not clever, and he is not tough.

A clever President would know that peace is preferable to war. A tough President would understand that threatening war with a highly armed, petty dictator makes the United States look weak and risks American lives.

President Trump’s saber-rattling could draw the country into nuclear war that no one wants. If the United States is drawn into the President’s ego, people will die, Americans will die, and thousands, if not millions, of North Koreans will die.

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALTO “BUD” ADAMS, JR.

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bud Adams, who passed away at his home on Adams Ranch in Fort Pierce, Florida, on September 22. He was 91 years old.

Mr. Adams was a larger-than-life cowboy. He was a fixture in Florida’s agriculture community, and the patriarch of Adams Ranch, a 4-generation family operation that spans 80 years and spreads across 50,000 acres in Florida in four counties.

After serving in the Navy in World War II, Bud began managing Adams Ranch with his father and quickly became a legend among Florida cattle-men for innovations like the development of the Bradford breed of beef cattle, a breed capable of withstanding Florida’s hot and rainy summers.

He has also served as the President of the Florida Cattlemen’s Association and is a member of Florida’s Agricultural Hall of Fame.

He was an avid outdoor photographer and award-winning conservationist. He has shown a generation of farmers and ranchers and admirers like me that it is possible to work the land while still preserving God’s beauty.

Bud is survived by his loving wife, Dot, of 67 years, his three sons, his 14 grandchildren, and his nine great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Florida has lost one of its greatest sons, and it was an honor for me to serve him here in the House.
FAA REAUTHORIZATION IS CRITICAL

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

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the 21st Century AIRR Act. This critical FAA reauthorization offers the best possible plan to finally modernize our antiquated air traffic control system.

I recently traveled to Ottawa, Canada, with congressional colleagues to learn firsthand how Canada’s private air navigation service provider has been efficiently and safely moving 12 million aircraft each year since 1996.

This model consistently upgrades and improves air traffic control technology and isn’t subject, as it is in the United States, to onerous government procurement rules. It is clear that this system works far better than its U.S. counterpart.

These reforms would also benefit the environment, as the updated technology allows for more direct routes. For instance, in Canada, over the last 20 years, this has resulted in 1.4 billion fewer gallons of fuel that have been used just in the last 10 years, and twice that amount in the last 20 years.

This needed change has widespread bipartisan support, and it would guarantee consistent funding for modernizing our air traffic safety system.

WE CANNOT REST UNTIL CAITLAN COLEMAN AND HER FAMILY ARE FREE

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago today, Caitlan Coleman, an American citizen from York County, Pennsylvania, which I am privileged to represent, was taken hostage by the Haqqani Network, an offshoot of the Taliban, while hiking near the Pakistan and Afghanistan border.

Caitlan has given birth to two boys while in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity, boys whose only life together was when in captivity.

These reforms would also benefit the environment, as the updated technology allows for more direct routes. For instance, in Canada, over the last 20 years, this has resulted in 1.4 billion fewer gallons of fuel that have been used just in the last 10 years, and twice that amount in the last 20 years.

This needed change has widespread bipartisan support, and it would guarantee consistent funding for modernizing our air traffic safety system.

RECENT DISASTERS THAT HAVE BEFALLEN OUR AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of Jan. 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader. Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, there are so many things that we need to talk about. Important events are spilling upon Americans, just cascading upon us. We could spend hours today, indeed, for the Speaker’s announced policy of Jan. 3, 2017.

We think about California, and the massive floods, and the 200,000 people who were evacuated from their homes in my district.

We think about the recent hurricanes as they slammed into Houston, Florida, the Keys; and Hurricane Maria, as that hurricane devastated Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These traumatic disasters are now in our memory, but they are also our reality.

In California today, in my district, and in my colleague MIKE THOMPSON’S district, thousands of homes have been burned to the ground and people have died.

These disasters are not new to America, and, over the years, we have set up a mechanism to deal with them. That mechanism is the firefighters across this Nation who respond, the emergency plans that have been put in place.

I know during my period as insurance commissioner in California, I would often arrive at these disasters, some of which go back more than 30 or 40 years, and console people who will have lost their home and attempt to deal with their insurance issues. And I would always remind those who were in the path of these flames, or hurricanes, or tornadoes, to be prepared; that Boy Scout motto: Be Prepared. And now, in California, the same message goes out by the first responders and, indeed, by myself here on the floor of the House of Representatives:

Be prepared. Be prepared to evacuate. Think about what it is you need to take ahead of time, those important papers, those scrapbooks, those photo albums, the dog, the cat; and when the time to go arrives, that message arrives on your cell phone, or on the loud speaker from the police car out in front, get out. Get out because you have already prepared.

Yes, you should have had that insurance policy that you forgot, that flood insurance program. Yes, you should have had it. And all too often, we have to rely upon the generosity of charities, and, thankfully, they are there. And we also rely upon the Federal, State and county governments.

Today, here in the House of Representatives, and in the Senate, as well as in the administration, we are beginning to gear up for yet another emergency appropriation to pay for the relief efforts that are underway. It is not going to be enough. It may take care of part of what occurred in Houston, or in Florida, in the Bahamas, certainly not going to be enough to take care of the devastation in Puerto Rico.

And I know, as the fires continue to rage in California, the appropriations that are being discussed, the emergency money for FEMA, will not be enough.

While we are looking at these disasters and the billions upon billions of dollars that will be needed to rebuild the infrastructure, to rebuild the schools and hospitals, to pay the bills for the emergency work that is going on, this House of Representatives, this Congress, must figure out how to pass a massive tax cut that will take trillions of dollars of revenue away from the Federal Government.

It is estimated anywhere from $2 trillion to $5 trillion, depending upon the details, over the next decade, that will not be available for the next disaster.

Will it be added to the deficit? Possibly.

Will those revenue reductions be balanced by cuts to Medicare? Yes. It is already being discussed. It is in the Republican budget.

Will those $2 trillion to $5 trillion reductions in revenue be added to the deficit, or will we cut Medicare? They tried to do it in the Affordable Care Act, now they are coming back with a budget bill that would cause it to happen again—more than $1 trillion plus billion dollars that will not be available.

And so there will be another disaster, a slow-building disaster of millions of Americans who will not be able to get healthcare.

So, added on top of the burden of rebuilding America, the emergency appropriations to pay for the ongoing and past disasters, we need to be aware of the inconsistency of thought that is going on here.

We are looking at an appropriation bill to pass something in the range of $15 billion, in addition to the previous $12 billion, which we know will not be sufficient to deal with the existing disasters; to say nothing of the billions of dollars that are owed to the counties and States for disasters going back, at least in California, 10 years, where the Federal Government has yet to reimburse the counties and States for the obligations that the Federal Government accepted, in some cases, a decade ago.
In the face of all of that, we are going to reduce revenues to the Federal Government.

Who gets the tax breaks?

Well, here is a fact that the Vice President—excuse me, Mr. Speaker, if I might—has suggested in California: that is kind of based upon this week—one that I introduced in the last session—that is kind of based upon the fact that Americans across this Nation are able to refinance their homes at a lower interest rate. It is a great idea. I have done it. I suspect many of the people who are listening, and certainly many of the Members of Congress, have been going to their home to get a lower interest rate.

But if you have a student loan that may have been from 5 or 8 years ago, or you are about to sign a document this fall for a Federally financed student loan, you cannot refinance that.

Why?

The Federal Government—there is $1.3 trillion of student loans out there. Nearly $800 billion of that $1.3 trillion is owed to the Federal Government.

Why don't we refinance those loans?

What if we were to do that? What would it mean to the students out there who are paying 5, 6, 7, 8 percent interest to the Federal Government when the interest rate is 1.5 percent and borrow money for 10 years at 2 percent?

That is a pretty good margin.

Even the fat cats on Wall Street can't have a margin that big, but the Federal Government can. If we were to refinance these high interest rates so that the Federal Government can literally profit on their backs.

Let's see what happens.

By the way, why are we charging a fee to these students so that they could borrow money? Don't we want them to get an education? Don't we want them to be able to pay for themselves? Yet we require a fee. So let's eliminate the origination fees.

The Federal Government can borrow money at less than right around 2 percent—maybe a little less right now; add a percent for management fees, 3 percent. That is a huge amount of student loans. $800 billion to $900 billion of student loans.

The government would go out and borrow it at 2 percent for 10 years and tell the students and those who are no longer in school: We are going to allow you to refinance. Take an interest rate at that that is half of what you are getting now.

By the way, why are we charging a fee to these students so that they could borrow money? Don't we want them to get an education? Don't we want them to be able to pay for themselves? Yet we require a fee. So let's eliminate the origination fees.

It is as though the Federal Government were some sharks out there dealing with home mortgages. No. We are talking about the needs of America.

We are dealing with the needs of America. We have enormous defense needs. We have other needs that we have for our military. You only need to listen to the Secretary of Defense and others as they talk about the need to rebuild much of the American military. The admiral responsible for the Pacific Theater says that he needs something rather important: munitions.

Munitions. Wow.

We have needs. We have students who are paying interest rates far higher than is necessary, unable to refinance their Federal student loans because the law doesn't allow it. But it is possible. In fact, it would make a lot of economic sense. These young men and women might actually start a family; might actually be able to buy a home or a car, start a new business, start a small business. There are a lot of possibilities.

But if the superwealthy need another tax break?

I don't think so. I don't think so at all. And I don't quite understand the happy talk by our leaders of this administration who like to say: Not to worry. You are going to have to get to deduct the first $25,000.

Well, yes. And then what? Oh, by the way, there is this 20 percent increase in the top rate, from 10 percent to 12 percent. That is a 20 percent increase. At the top tax rate, it goes from 35, unless you are able to maneuver into their little scheme where you can actually reduce your tax rate to 15 percent by being an LLC—a limited liability corporation—or a subchapter S corporation.

Well, if you have the money to hire a good accountant and a lawyer, there are a lot of ways you can scheme and scam. And if you are a corporation, being our largest corporations are able to hire the lawyers and the accountants and dodge their taxes entirely.
October 10, 2017

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

The list is long. The list is actually rather maddening. Apple, GE, AT&T, and others, the big ones, their tax rates are down in the zero or in the less than 10 percent range, and they want more.

So Puerto Rico is devastated. My counties in California are facing rampaging wildfires, and perhaps as much 2,000 homes have already burned. There will be another tornado and another hurricane.

The question for us is: Will there be the money for the Federal Government to put to work the billions and the billions that we spend on infrastructure, the economy will grow by 2 or more and have a foundation for future economic growth. I know that when we rebuild the infrastructure of our communities that have been devastated by hurricanes, tornados, floods, and fires, that the communities can come back strong and the economies for those communities can flourish. I know that it takes a strong American Government to make that happen.

Mr. Speaker, as we enter this week, my heart and thoughts go out to those millions of Americans who have been devastated by the hurricanes, floods, and fires; those people in my district who have lost their homes, and those who have lost their lives.

I come here to the floor to say: Let us think seriously about what our obligation is to Americans, to those who have little, to those who have lost everything. What is our obligation to them?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. King) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to be recognized to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives and to discuss the topics that are on my mind. Hopefully, you will consider these arguments as well, Mr. Speaker. I know that people across this floor and across the country have a lot of these same considerations in mind.

I rise to the floor today to address the DACA situation and take you through a little bit of the history of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals which was implemented by Barack Obama in an unconstitutional fashion. He knew it, and all of America knew it. We know that Barack Obama, 22 times, said that he didn’t have the constitutional authority to implement a program that granted the equivalent of amnesty—let alone a work permit which he added to the program by executive edict, flat, or order. Instead, it requires legislation in order to enable such a policy.

A President can’t grant amnesty. A President can have prosecutorial discretion. Prosecutorial discretion is a legal term for what the Justice Department does when they are determining whether the resources they have to prosecute crimes are adequate to enforce against the most serious offenders. Barack Obama, President Obama, did implement some of those relatively prudent policies with prosecutorial discretion. He prioritized the most violent criminals and every criminal. And identify, at least by policy. He turned a lot of them loose too, by the way, onto the streets of America in the course of all that. So it was a very confusing policy that emerged without consistency under President Obama. However, he also exercised a legal prosecutorial discretion when they looked at each case on an individual basis.

But I recall when his Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, something happened. There was a need to testify about this program on DACA, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—or some might say the deferred action for children of aliens. Her testimony and the memos that came down, the Morton memos, set up four different categories of people who would be granted a quasi-amnesty underneath the President’s policy.

There, Secretary Napolitano testified over and over again, and it reflected over seven times. It was referenced on an individual basis only—an individual basis only—seven times. I can repeat it for the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, but that is what was going on, which told me, as I listened to her testimony and had read the documents prior to the testimony, that they knew what the law said. They knew it required—that it required an individual basis only and a prioritization of applying the law to bring about the best effect of the utilization of the resources of the Justice Department.

Yet Barack Obama, President Obama, around the country multiple times, in the 1½ to 2 years building up to his implementation of the DACA policy, multiple times he said he that he didn’t have the constitutional authority to implement the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Multiple times. It turned out to be at least 22 that we have a videotape on.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that I recall was in a high school just outside of the Capitol here in Washington, D.C., where he was speaking to a high school group.

He said: You are smart students. You know that there is a separation of powers. I don’t have the authority to grant this legal status to people who are here illegally even if their parents did bring them in or even if they came in on their own under the age of 18. I don’t have the constitutional authority to grant amnesty—let alone a work permit which he added to the program by executive edict, flat, or order. Instead, it requires legislation in order to enable such a policy.

That is Congress that has the authority.

I should remind everyone, Mr. Speaker, that President Obama taught constitutional law. He was an adjunct professor teaching constitutional law at the University of Chicago. The University of Chicago has a good reputation for understanding the Constitution, and Barack Obama demonstrated that when he said: You are smart students, and you know that we have three branches of government, a separation of powers. Congress is Article I. They make the laws.

He said: I am Article II, the executive branch. My job is to enforce the laws. And Article III is the judicial branch of government. They interpret the laws.

So when the courts interpret the laws that Congress writes, the executive’s job is to carry them out. He knew he was violating the separation of powers because he defined that to be a work permit multiple times. But he did anyway.

I believe that President Obama made a calculation, a political calculation. The political calculation, in my estimation, was that if he could get away with it, he wanted the power that Congress wouldn’t pass the policy because we have great respect for the rule of law, and we don’t want to reward lawbreakers. That happened in 1986, and we are paying the price for that amnesty act of 1986. He couldn’t get the DREAMers legislation through Congress, so he calculated that he could get away with implementing that as a policy even though he knew it was unconstitutional.

Some of us went to work to initiate lawsuits to have the courts strike down the executive edicts of Barack Obama that was the foundation for DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

As it wandered through the courts, the lead in the primary case was Chris Crane, the president of the ICE, Immigration Custom Enforcement, union. His name was on the case first. It was Crane, et al. v. Napolitano, et al. in the district court. It went to the Court of Appeals, and by the time you follow it through a circuitous route, you find out that Crane, et al. v. Napolitano, et al. got shifted off to the side. It was declared to be a decision that had to do with the administrative rules that if he had a grievance, he had to take that grievance through the administrative rules process rather than through the courts to address the policy itself. So it got parked off on a side rail, so to speak.

Then we saw a parallel case come forward from the DAPA case of Deferred Action on Parents of Americans was how the President described it. I would have said parents of aliens myself. But that
case was found by Judge Andrew Hanen down in Texas to be unconstitutional. It was a very similar and parallel case. The President couldn’t grant amnesty to parents of children who were here, and the President couldn’t grant amnesty to children who came here. That same constitutional principle applies to both.

We know that Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, and others with about 9, 10, or 11 other State attorneys general had prepared to file a suit to litigate the DACA case in parallel fashion that DAPA was litigated successfully. They set a date of September 5 and said to the President: If you don’t end DACA by September 5, we are filing this case.

So that is about the day and probably exactly the day that President Trump came out with his decision on DACA.

I moved too fast forward, Mr. Speaker, and I am frustrated. Barack Obama, President Obama, finished out his term while growing the DACA recipients by hundreds of thousands. By the time he finished his term, that number was estimated at 700,000 recipients. And he got a little card that says: You get to stay in America for 2 years, and there won’t be any immigration law enforced against you as long as you don’t commit any of these serious crimes, felonies, or a combination of three different misdemeanors.

Then also he created out of thin air a work permit. Now, Congress isn’t going to grant work permits to illegal aliens, but Barack Obama did. Congress isn’t going to grant a “come out of the shadows and stay on the streets of America” permit for DACA recipients, but President Obama did. He went outside.

This Congress should have had its back against us, I am frustrated. I am frustrated with the lack of conviction on the part of the Members of this Congress. Mr. Speaker, you stand in here once every 2 years, and you take an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. That includes acknowledging that the Constitution is the supreme law of the land. It includes the requirement that you understand the difference between Article I, Article II, and Article III.

Article I writes the laws—that is all of us here and over in the Senate. We write all of the laws for the United States of America. That is how the Constitution starts out: The legislative power is not vested in one person, but in a body of men chosen by the people to represent them. That body is elected in the Federal Government of the United States, our Chief Executive Officer, in carrying out the execution of our laws. The President of the United States takes an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. But also it requires that he takes care that the laws be faithfully executed. Now, that means carry them through our legislative authority, executive authority, and judicial authority.

By the way, some of the laws that President Obama defied and gave orders to defy and to ignore were signed into law by Bill Clinton. So the legitimacy of the United States Congress and our effectiveness has been diminished by President Obama who went outside the bounds, the lines that are drawn. We have an executive authority, an legislative authority, executive authority, and judicial authority.

Now, our Founding Fathers set that up to be a static relationship. They expected and believed that the courts would be the weakest of the three branches of government. They expected also that since you always have ambitious people reaching for more power, they wanted to divide that power, and they wanted to restrain the power. That is the system that we have today. That is why we redistrict every decade. That is why they called for a census so we can count all the people of America and set up congressional district so that there is a proportional representation in each of the 435 seats here offset by two Senators from every State so that we have a geographical representation—a small population State with a big voice or maybe a big population State with the same kind of voice—over in the United States Senate.

But here in this Congress, in this House, everyone has roughly the proportional same number of constituents, and your vote means the same amount here that it does for each one of us, whatever your particular role is.

So this was set up to have this balance of power. What our Founding Fathers envisioned was each branch of government would jealously protect the power they had through the Constitution. They didn’t imagine that there would be a Congress that would be in opposite—they actually didn’t imagine the two-party system, as I understand some of the history that I read, but they didn’t envision that there would be a Republican majority in the House, a Republican majority in the Senate, and a Democrat President who clearly, openly, and blatantly defined it in advance and then violated the Constitution.

Our Founding Fathers never expected that this House of Representatives would sit on its hands and simply let that Constitution be violated for 2 years or longer just on DACA alone. But that happened. I brought amendments to the floor time after time after time that cut off the Federal funding that supported the unconstitutional acts of the President of the United States. Those amendments passed off one nomination of the House of Representatives, and they were killed off over in the Senate.

Our Founding Fathers did not imagine that the Constitution could be openly, defiantly, and blatantly violated and not have this Congress hold together and shut off the funding. The power of the purse is the power of bringing that President back in line and making him keep his constitutional oath.

The will wasn’t there.

As I went before a committee to present an amendment to get Rules Committee consent to an amendment, I reminded everybody on that panel: You all took an oath to support and defend the Constitution. If you meant it, if you take your word seriously, if your oath to the Constitution means anything that you don’t have the power to open the door so that my amendment comes to the floor and we have an opportunity to debate it and force a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives, not only is that the case, if you don’t support this, this is why we have the oath to the Constitution is called into question.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, I just remind people that I chair the Constitution and Civil Justice Subcommittee. There are a couple of reasons for that—more than a couple—and I have defended this Constitution every day that I have been here in this United States Congress, and I take it seriously.

My father used to lecture the Constitution to me at the supper table. He would bring out the Constitution, set it down at the table. The Bible would be on the end table. The Constitution and the Code of Iowa would be on the kitchen table, and he would open it up and say: Now, we are going to trace back for you how “pick your law out of this book” gets back to the Constitution. Where is the authority for “pick your law out of this book”? He would debate that and discuss it with me. That is where I learned that I shouldn’t ever utter an opinion that hasn’t been thoroughly thought out. He was the most effective critical thinker I ever met in my life. But he steeped me in the great respect for the rule of law and a great respect for the supreme law of the land, our Constitution, and the structure that is guaranteed in the Constitution: a republican form of government.

That, Mr. Speaker, means a representative form of government, where the people select their Representatives and send them off to be their voice here in this Congress.
It was a fantastic piece of wisdom and historical knowledge that put this together in the fashion that it did. Now we have not just the oldest constitution on record, but we have the most successful constitution on record.

You can put this together. I believe that our Founding Fathers, as they put this together, were inspired by God to write the Declaration, to fight the war, to shape the Constitution. I think that our Founding Fathers were moved around like men on a chessboard to bring about this fantastic country that we have.

A big part of this fantastic country is the rule of law. When I write “rule of law,” for years, I capitalized the word “rule.” I capitalized “rule” with an “R” and “law” with an “L” so that it stands out on the page, so that it looks as important as it is when you read the phrase: rule of law.

Rule of law is an essential component of American exceptionalism. It is a pillar of American exceptionalism. I hope you think about what went together to make this great country that we have, I would add up a whole series of things. I would trace our American exceptionalism back all the way to Moses. The Mosaic Law was borrowed by the Greeks. The Greeks kind of teased each other: Well, that isn’t ours. We borrowed it by the Romans. The Romans set up republican forms of government. They also had a very good and healthy rule of law so that, at least in theory, they applied that to everybody.

That rule of law spread across Western Europe by the Romans all the way to Ireland. When the Dark Ages came—the Visigoths sacked Rome in 410 A.D. When that happened, historians, more or less, the signal of the world falling into the Dark Ages.

For several hundred years, not much happened that was reported to us. People lost the ability to think and reason. We had a very good memory. We could remember what happened that was reported to us. We had a very good and healthy rule of law and that’s what the Visigoths did. They brought with them Christianity. They were driven by the idea of spreading Christianity around the world.

That went on through the 1500s, where they were settling and developing in that part of the world, and conducting some atrocities as well. Mr. Speaker—just to address what otherwise somebody would ask me to yield and listen to, they had some atrocities. They began to develop and bring Western civilization, though, to the New World.

The other end of this thing, in 1607, the first people who settled and built a permanent settlement in the North American continent were there at Jamestown, just down the road from us a little ways. It was 1607.

The Christians who landed there came for religious freedom. They sat across there on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and they knelt at that cross and prayed. The prayer was: Lord, thank You for sending us to this new land. We hear Your call and we call out to You to guide us and bless us. We will that nation be rich and great. We will build their farms, their shops, their bakeries. They will invest it in efficiency— and how the invisible hand, that is the person who is buying the loaf of bread off the shelf, if that shelf is empty, you put more bread on there and sell more. If you are selling more than you can make, you raise the price a little. If somebody thinks you are making too much money, they start up their bakery. They get their bread on the shelf, and then it competes with each other. The shelf is always full of bread and the consumers get a product that they demand. That is the concept of free enterprise capitalism. The name of it is “The Wealth of Nations.”

No one has surpassed that document at this point. If you allow people to keep their own goods, earn their own profits, invest that, he explained with utter clarity how it will improve the productivity—they will invest it in efficiency—and how the invisible hand, that is the person who is buying the loaf of bread off the shelf, if that shelf is empty, you put more bread on there and sell more. If you are selling more than you can make, you raise the price a little. If somebody thinks you are making too much money, they start up their bakery. They get their bread on the shelf, and then it competes with each other. The shelf is always full of bread and the consumers get a product that they demand. That is the concept of free enterprise capitalism. The name of it is “The Wealth of Nations.”

We also developed here a meritocracy. If you have freedom, you can be rewarded for merit. We don’t talk about meritocracies anymore. We give out participation trophies for kids. They don’t really want them to be winners or losers, just participants. The American way is: we get in, we compete. There is bound to be a lot of losers. We don’t want to have them be winners or losers, just participants. The American way is: we get in, we compete. There is bound to be a lot of losers because there is only one winner at the end. Of course, the losers all learn something and so does the winner. If the winner gets lazy, then the others are competing for the lesser position, the former winner, and he is going to have to get a little sharper in his game. That makes us all better.

When I look at my neighborhood, Mr. Speaker, I see that we have got some counties in particular that have excellent competition between the public...
schools and parochial schools. They have a number of different churches to choose from. They have a lot of banks that will loan money and compete with each other to invest back in the communities so entrepreneurs with ideas or families dollars, it is competing for the business investment dollars among the banks, it is churches competing for the faith and competition to save the maximum number of souls, and it is a very healthy environment.

If you take competition out, this goes flat and the vitality that exists today and just the vibrant humming of the lives that I am thinking of would be gone. It becomes complacent. I fear that is where America is going: if we are able, but we compete, we are afraid to defend our values.

Free enterprise capitalism. I think every college campus in the country has some professor who will speak against it. Some of them have many professors who speak against it. They are teaching against free enterprise capitalism. They are teaching socialism. They are teaching Marxism. They are rejecting conservatism.

By the way, I can’t find a school in the country today that has an effective course on Western civilization itself. That doesn’t mean they aren’t out there. This is just me asking questions of people who should know the answer to that. They are saying; I can’t name one, unless it would be Hillsdale College or maybe Liberty University.

I grew up in an era where every school had multiple courses on Western civilization. Because we understand our culture, we respect it. We know that Western civilization, the world would be so void of the contributions that came from Western civilization.

Sometime a year ago last summer, I found myself on a panel at MSNBC. Mr. Speaker. One of the panelists said: One could be an optimist and hope that this is the last Republican convention where old White people have anything to say about it.

There is no way to let a comment like that pass. So I pointed out: There is a First Amendment, there is freedom of speech, religion, assembly, the press. There are all of those together in the First Amendment, and they are put up there in the First Amendment because, without them, without an open dialogue, without ideas baying to compete in the public square, then we don’t test those ideas, and our Founding Fathers understood that. They wanted debate to take place here on the floor of the House of Representatives. They wanted debate to take place here. They wanted these ideas to be tested.

For me, I have long believed that I should engage in debate; and if I can’t sustain my position in debate, I only have two choices: I can either adopt the other guy’s position, or I can go back and do my homework and get that research done, up my game, so to speak, and be prepared to defend myself for the next round. That is usually what happens. I try to defend myself. But over the years, I pay a little more attention to preparation than I used to when I was younger, and so that is how it is, and the best ideas can be sorted forward.

I am in a meeting here, we can be discussing these ideas; somebody brings up an idea, might get knocked down like that. I don’t think the public gets to see how many ideas are not successful in competing with other ideas, but sometimes there is a power structure, too, that is involved. What troubles me is when good ideas can’t have a fair hearing because others want their idea to come through to have their name on it. That is a bit of a side issue, but I point that out.

So freedom of speech, religion, press, the right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances, First Amendment, all pillars of American exceptionalism.

Yes, the right to keep and bear arms. We have had a lot of discussion about the right to keep and bear arms, but our Founding Fathers put that provision in the Bill of Rights, not so that we could hunt or collect or target shoot, but rather the right to keep and bear arms. The Second Amendment is in our Constitution so that we can defend ourselves from tyranny, from a future tyrant who would come in; and if they confiscated our weapons, then they can force anything upon the people of this country.

History has proven that over and over again. The first thing a tyrant does is go after your guns. The second thing they do is they go after all the other rights, and pretty soon you are a subservient people. Imagine North Korea or Cuba to get a model or an example of that. And you can go on up the line: the protection against unreasonable search and seizure, constitutional right.

I am naming pillars of American exceptionalism. Without them, we would not be an exceptional nation. There is no pillar that we can pull out that the edifice wouldn’t tumble if we lost our First Amendment or Fourth Amendment.

Our Fifth Amendment, we have lost a part of it already with the Kelo decision. Mr. Speaker. The Fifth Amendment says, “nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.” In the Kelo decision, the Supreme Court ruled—I believe it was a 5-4 decision. And I know that Justice Scalia dissented, as did Justice O’Connor in one of her last major dissents that she had written, but the Supreme Court ruled that out—I will say, de facto struck out—the terms “for public use” from the Fifth Amendment.
They ruled that a locality could condemn private property and hand it over to another private interest, provided they had a government interest and the private interest being served. And so they could take, let’s say, a senior housing home, and force that into the hands of a private investor.

That decision is a terrible decision that weakens American exceptionalism, weakens our property rights in America.

I had a private conversation with Justice Scalia, and he told me that he expected the Kelo decision to be reversed one day. But to amend the Fifth Amendment, effectively, by a decision in the Supreme Court, “nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation,” this private property was taken not even for public use, but for private use.

Now, they didn’t write in there “nor shall private property be taken for private use,” because that was a given that that would not be the case. It is absolutely implied in the Fifth Amendment itself, but the Supreme Court ruled the way they wanted to rule, and they weakened a pillar of American exceptionalism.

Free enterprise capitalism, another pillar of American exceptionalism. And, by the way, if you take the naturalization test, there is a series of flashcards, laminated flashcards, and these flashcards, you can hold them up and you can ask these aspiring citizens some questions. And part of some of the questions are this: “Who is the father of our country?” And then you flip that little card over and it says: “George Washington.”

“Who emancipated the slaves?”

“Abraham Lincoln.”

“What is the economic system of the United States of America?” It is on a flashcard: “Free enterprise capitalism.”

That is under assault. Our religious values are under assault. Our family values are under assault. The very definition of the Constitution itself is under assault, and the very definition of the Constitution is under assault.

I market-tested your immigration policy for 14 years, and you knew how lowens were going to respond and how most people across the country were going to respond because I market-tested it.

And he did a great job with it, and he gave it more clarity than I have given. But throughout all of that, it was: build the wall and secure our borders and enforce domestic immigration law and secure and reinforce Border Patrol and CBP, put that all together, and the birthright citizenship. Support English as the official language. These are just some of the pieces along the way, and we have refined some of this since then.

And also, it was the New IDEA Act, the act that denies deductibility for wages and benefits paid to illegals, and let’s see IRS come in and do the enforcement through the normal audit procedure. Under the New IDEA Act and did a normal audit, they would run the Social Security numbers and other pertinent information of employees through E-Verify. If E-Verify confirmed that these employees could legally work in the United States, the employer will get safe harbor for having hired them; if they couldn’t verify it, the employer gets 72 hours to cure, we see, 72 hours to correct the record.

But, if on site they see illegals, then the IRS would say, “All right. But you can’t deduct this $10,000, $20,000, $100,000 that you paid illegal, and so we are going to have to charge taxes on that because that deduction is not a business expense; it is actually income instead.

So the tax that would be applied to that $100,000, so to speak, plus interest, plus penalty, and it would turn your $10-an-hour illegal into about a $16-an-hour legal worker. That is what it does.

And we require, also, that the IRS and the Social Security Administration that is collecting Social Security deposits from workers all across this country, sometimes multiple sources on the same Social Security number—100 years, scores and hundreds of people on the same Social Security number.

Social Security stopped sending out no-match letters some years ago under the Obama administration. We put that back together, and we require the IRS communicate with and trade information with the Social Security Administration to target and flag those false Social Security numbers. And then also bring the Department of Homeland Security to the table so that the IRS, Social Security Administration and the Department of Homeland Security are all working together to cooperate to enforce immigration law and denying, then, the deductibility of the employer.

The employer will have all kinds of incentives to clean up his workforce. In fact, we have a 6-year statute of limitations that compiles or accrues over the years. And so if you are sitting there with a 6-year potential liability, you are going to want to be with a clean workforce.

That is another piece that is a policy that the President has been for, at least in the past. Now, things move on, but we are—we have an immigration policy that became part of the platform for the President of the United States, and in that policy and throughout there are—there are multiple times in speeches he announced that he is going to end DACA. He is going to end DACA, and we all expected that that would happen at noon January 20 of this year when the President was inaugurated on here on the west portico of the Capitol not very far from where I stand right now. That would have been consistent with his campaign promise: build the wall, and the unconstitutional DACA.

And so while he was signing executive orders—and I give him credit. He went to the Oval Office, and at least he had a formal signing of multiple executive orders that day, launched his Presidency with work right on the spot instead of—he shortened up the parade for himself and went to work for America. Hats off to President Trump for that, and I support his entire agenda, and I am going to do my best to help him keep his word on that entire agenda.

But we found out weeks later that DACA permits were still being issued, and they were still being extended, and those permits also included work permits.
So President Obama’s unconstitutional DACA—deferred action for children of aliens—program was continued, and it continues actually to this day under the Trump administration, completely in contradiction with the campaign promises he made. I would say many of them. Barack Obama made the statement that he didn’t have the constitutional authority.

Barack Obama violated the Constitution. President Trump has continued that violation. And I am calling upon him right now to fulfill his campaign promises and store the respect for the rule of law; and DACA, by the executive action, just sign it off and end it.

If we fail to do that—and I have worked for 31 years to restore the respect for the rule of law with regard to immigration. In 1986, Ronald Reagan signed the Amnesty Act. At least he was honest about it. He called it the Amnesty Act.

I listened to what I could on the debate from the House and the Senate. And I didn’t believe it would pass either Chamber, but it passed both Chambers, and it was messaged to President Reagan’s desk. I read the material and I thought through that. I thought I don’t have to worry about this. Ronald Reagan will know that, if he signs the Amnesty Act, it does great damage to the rule of law and it will take years to restore it.

Now, the deal was to be that if you sign the Amnesty Act, we will give you the reinforcement and will enforce the law from this point forward, and illegal immigration will no longer be a problem in America. That is what the deal was. They promised us that this Amnesty Act in 1986 would be the last one ever, that they were going to then set about establishing respect for the law.

Well, it seems to me that most everybody in this Congress has lost any memory they may have had about what was done in 1986. Things haven’t changed. There is nothing really new under the Sun. Human nature is human nature. It is what it has been for 2,000 or more years.

But when there is a promise made that is “first you give us this, and then we will see to it that you get that,” let me see, we had Ronald Reagan’s successor, Bush 41—George Herbert Walker Bush, a great American as well—who took the promise and said: “Read my lips: no new taxes.” He said that more than 22 times, too.

But when it got to the point where he was wanting to get some spending cuts, the Democrats went to him and said: Do you know what? We have to raise taxes if you are going to get spending cuts. We will follow through on our part of the deal if you just sign the tax increases that they pass.

So Bush 41, dealing honestly and straight up in believing that the people he was speaking to had the level of integrity that he had, signed the tax increase in exchange for the promise of the spending cuts. And we all know the answer to that. Mr. Speaker. We know the story. When you make a deal like that and you don’t have the things on the table that you are supposed to get for that deal, never comes first. You don’t see them.

So George H. W. Bush 41 signed the tax increase. He violated his pledge of: “Read my lips: No new taxes.” Not only did he sign that and not get the spending cuts, but they beat him over the head with that at his reelection. He lost his reelection because of it, and we ended up with Bill Clinton.

I think that lesson should be enough to make us all smart enough to know not to make a deal like that. Ronald Reagan recanted and regretted that he signed the Amnesty Act because of the damage he did to the rule of law when he signed that. There were to be 1 million who would be recipients of the Amnesty Act of 1986. It turned out to be 3 million because, let’s say, the estimate was there were a lot of fraud and corruption, and people slipped through because we didn’t have tight enough security on it.

So 3 million people got amnesty in 1986, and they were on a path to citizenship—a fairly short path to citizenship—as well. I have talked to some of them, and they say: It was great for me.

And some of them think that amnesty for another group of people is all right.

But if the law means nothing to someone and they violate the law, or it is an obstruction and they slip around the law, today, some number that is 750,000 to 800,000 DACA recipients, they are demanding that we grant them amnesty. Illegal aliens came here to the Capitol, right out here on the grass, 2 weeks ago, on a Monday, gathering around, demanding that Congress grant them amnesty.

Now, how do you go to a foreign country and be unlawfully present in that country and you go protest to the government that they should ignore their own laws because you have something that you want that you slipped across the border to have access to? And I do not buy the idea that most of these DACA recipients are kids. The average age is 23. Some of them go all the way up to 37. Some of them are bald. Many of them have gray hair in their beard. Some have a build like mine. I don’t think of them as kids when I look at them. Yet there are some who came across the border without ever on their mother’s arm. And, no, they didn’t know and they didn’t form intent.

But there are a whole lot of them who would qualify under this, who did have intent and did know. And we know of the really bad ones also—and I have witnessed this with my eyes and helped to collar some of them as this goes on, and I have walked through the desert and seen the burlap backpacks that they haul marijuana in into the United States. And it is not only marijuana.

But some of these will qualify under DACA. Drug smugglers will qualify.

And they say: We will do background checks.

Well, how do you do a background check on somebody who doesn’t have a legal existence in their home country? If there is no record of them existing there, then they will say: Well, we don’t find anything negative. Of course not. The person didn’t exist.

I know I had an individual I wanted on my Hispanic Advisory Committee. A smart, personable, young businessman. I said: I would like to have you sit down with me and I would like to hear your advice. I would like have your finger on the pulse because I want to know what is going on in the minority communities, and I want to make sure that I am doing a good job of representing them, too.

And he said: That is fine. I am interested.

And I said: Before, before I put you on this committee, I have to make sure. So I want to see—and he said he was born in America—no. Excuse me. He said he was born in Mexico, but he is a naturalized citizen.

And I said: Well, I would like to see your birth certificate.

And he said: Okay. I can get it for you.

And I said: How long will that take you?

And he said: Well, it will only take me a few days. What do you want the birth certificate to say?

Now, that is a legal document, and you don’t get to ask that question if you have respect for the rule of law.

I just dropped him as a potential candidate on my advisory committee. And a year or two later, I found out that ICE had come in, picked him up, and deported him. I didn’t know that he was illegal, even at that time. I just didn’t trust him any longer when he asked me that question. So that is another individual that could have been, and may still be, to qualify as a recipient.

Those that come across the border, I have come down and looked into the jail cells of the Border Patrol, and there were hundreds there at the times that I have been there—hundreds of them. They are sorted between children, women, men. And the men far outweigh the numbers of women or children. Some of the numbers we looked at were 80 percent men. Some of these men will present themselves as under 18—many of them will.

And I have seen the cell with those minor males that are in there. And some of those, supposedly, minor males have gray hair in their beard. They would also qualify, or at least apply for. And if we didn’t have a way to do a background check on them—and many cases we don’t—and they give you a false name, what do you do after that if they are here illegally? They qualify.

And MS-13. We know that there have been a significant number of MS-13
Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as with any moment in the history of our Nation, in the world, there are tragedies and disasters which rear the conscience and call us to action not only because we are American, but because we are human.

Some of these tragedies are man-made, others are the work of nature. Some hit close to home, such as the hurricanes that devastated Texas—my home State—Florida, and Puerto Rico, taking many lives and inflicting billions of dollars in damage. Some are the work of one man, like the shooter in Las Vegas, who took 58 lives.

Like many in this Chamber, I have spoken up on these tragedies close to home.

Tonight, I would like to speak to a humanitarian crisis far away from us; that is, the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya Muslims in Burma.

Since late August, 500,000 Rohingya have been forced out of their nation. The Rohingya, after being driven out of Burma, have sought refuge in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and India. Some have even come as far as the United States of America.

These victims had been driven out of the country whose ancestors have called home for hundreds of years through a systematic campaign of murder and rape and the destruction of entire villages and communities.

It can be challenging for host governments to care for these displaced populations, which can lead to additional instability, especially in countries with low incomes or with governments already under stress to provide services to citizens. We see this pattern worldwide.

The refugees from the war in Syria have fled to Lebanon and Turkey, to Iraq, and across the Mediterranean to Europe. Over a million Syrian refugees are in Lebanon, which is over one-sixth of that nation's population. Over 3.2 million refugees have found their way to Turkey, and 600,000 in Jordan. Almost 1 million have sought refuge in Europe.

There are similar crises in the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan, and Yemen. Millions of people have fled conflicts and instabilities in these regions, usually finding refuge in

No country is free of corruption, but that is what it takes to keep that individual in America. I think that much of that individual. I like this individual a lot and respect this individual a lot, but I love the rule of law. I love the rule of law because, without it, we descend into the Third World.

So this debate about, 'don't you have a heart, don't you know that these are just 800,000 kids, and can't we just give them the confidence of having a legal status in America,' I say, no, not if you love the country, you can't do that.

And it is not our doing. They either came here of their own volition, formed the intent, or their parents did. The law is the law. We don't tell the judge: Don't be putting this criminal in prison because he has kids at home.

We don't worry about the separation of families when it comes to enforcing the law against American citizens, but we worry about enforcing the law against people who have intentional and willfully divided themselves.

Now, what happens if we should grant amnesty to DACA recipients and then deport their parents?

That splits up the family. I say: Get right with the law, go to your home country and apply to come in the legal way. By the way, when you arrive in your home country, if you truly are characterized for DACA, you will have a free American education that the American taxpayers pay for. You will be bilingual. You will have familial connections in your community. You will have a skill set that is there, a good educational set. You will know what it looks like to live in a country where things work generally right.

And if you think of the 7,000 Peace Corps workers that are working in about 130 countries in the world and how much good they do, they go to countries without speaking the language, they don't know where they are going to land, they find a way to help out and come home going home is not being condemned to hell. People going home is like sending out 750,000 or 800,000 fresh Peace Corps workers back to their home countries.

What could be a greater economic development plan for Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua than for their best and brightest to go home and build their countries while they apply to come back to the United States?

That is the best solution we can have, Mr. Speaker. And we don't even have a serious debate on that in here unless I bring it up.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives this evening. I am hopeful that we made a little bit of progress. I will continue to defend the rule of law and the Constitution. I challenge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.
Chairman ROYCE stated plainly: “This is ethnic cleansing.”

Mr. Speaker, I must agree.

Every conflict is complex, and this one is no different, but it must be made clear that under no conditions should the acts of Aung San Suu Kyi be abridged. To the Government of Myanmar, we must make it equally as clear that their behavior will not be tolerated. I recently met with constituents from Utica, New York, in my district office. Utica, the largest city in New York’s 22nd Congressional District, is home to a vibrant refugee community. We are home to the largest Bosnian refugee population in the Nation, a population that was also fleeing ethnic cleansing in their own home country of the former Yugoslavia.

My constituents shared with me their personal stories and deep despair over the violence in their home country. They asked that I do all I can to make their voices heard, and tonight I am proud to speak on their behalf. They shared with me horrific pictures of violence and death, of torture of children, of young people, of women, of men, of families. It was simply just amazing.

Mr. Speaker, when our Nation faces moral challenges, it is in our nature not to back down. I must insist that this time be no different. I call on my colleagues to stand up and speak out and to act on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas and my colleague for highlighting this very important issue. I urge all of my colleagues to understand this is a tragedy of major proportions that is happening in our world today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas again for bringing this issue to the floor.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TENNEY for joining us this late hour to speak on this issue.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, this is so important. I really am grateful to my friend from Texas for doing this.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York for her comments.

This humanitarian crisis in Burma, or Myanmar, requires international attention and action, as Representative TENNEY said. The actions of the Burmese State in ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Roghingya demonstrate this need for international action.

The most immediate need is to facilitate access by NGOs and international organizations in the Rakhine State. There are tens of thousands of Roghingya internally displaced within the Rakhine State.

Violence against Roghingya, including the burning of villages, continues despite international condemnation. Just this week, a full year after the beginning of this crisis, 11,000 Roghingya reportedly crossed over into Bangladesh.
Access by international groups would allow the rest of the world to deliver assistance to the Rohingya still within Rakhine and to help prevent further violence.

The United States, in partnership with our allies and the world, must also assist Bangladesh in providing for the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya they lost. This includes food, water, shelter, and medicine. We cannot allow this humanitarian catastrophe to escalate further.

We know a political settlement to repatriation is possible. Bangladesh and Burma have arrived at such agreements in the past. The United States and our allies must support the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and the Bangladeshi Government’s effort to identify all Rohingya who have arrived.

Given the Burmese Government’s reluctance to acknowledge Rohingya as Burmese citizens, leaving them stateless, the United States would assist Bangladesh in repatriation by defining who originates from Rakhine State.

The Rohingya have suffered violence and forced displacement for decades. Hundreds of Rohingya villages have been burned to the ground, and they can no longer return to their homes, because in many cases, those homes no longer exist.

The full extent of the catastrophe is not yet known, as thousands of Rohingya remain unaccounted for. More Rohingya have fled Myanmar in the past 2 months than remain in Rakhine State. Would the Rohingya want to return if given a chance? What would need to be done to create the conditions required for such a return?

Tackling the underlying issues that led to the violent displacement of the Rohingya will take decades to resolve, the most important of which will be a military that lacks transparency or oversight; that is, the Burmese military.

Burma’s Government and military currently face a dozen separate insurgencies against forces claiming to represent minority communities. While the Burmese Government has taken steps to reach a cease-fire and political agreements with a number of these groups, continued fighting in various parts of the country undoubtedly contribute to the military’s independence and free rein.

Allowing the Rohingya to be comfortable in Burma will require assurances by the Burmese Government to respect the rights of Rohingya to live on the land they have lived on for hundreds of years. This can only come with citizenship for the Rohingya, and greater democracy, where the government is responsive to the needs of the population and respects the human rights and civil liberties of ethnic and religious minorities.

Developing a political settlement towards greater accountability in the Burmese Government and citizenship for the Rohingya will be difficult and may take years.

Important actions the United States can take include limiting our support for the Burmese military, given their complicity in these crimes. For example, Congress could consider withholding support for the Burmese military this year. That will not occur, given the actions of the Burmese military.

I believe sanctions with individuals found to be complicit in ethnic cleansing, including local military commanders, are warranted.

Designating military commanders in Rakhine State as Specially Designated Nationals, SDNs, would send a powerful message that these crimes will not be tolerated anywhere in the world, including in Burma.

On the other hand, I would like to recognize the immense generosity the people and Government of Bangladesh have shown during this crisis. Over 500,000 people, most of whom are women, children, and the elderly, have fled to Bangladesh since August 25. The Government of Bangladesh has accepted these people and worked to provide for them within the limits of their abilities, while supporting international efforts to address the root causes of the crisis.

Bengladesh, a country not much larger than Iowa, with a population of more than 150 million, faces significant challenges in taking care of this refugee population. The 500,000 Rohingya join hundreds of thousands who have arrived in Bangladesh during previous such forced migrations.

Bangladesh has done an admirable job, but the limits on the Bangladeshi Government to provide for these refugee populations are real, and the nation requires international assistance. This includes assistance from the United States, the United Nations, Europe, and Japan. Countries in the region must also step up and provide support for the refugee populations in Bangladesh, especially China and India, which maintain close relationships with both Bangladesh and Burma.

As I mentioned previously, we are in an age of accelerated news, and with social media, we are in an age of knowing. Things that were once far away that were hardly seen or known directly or firsthand can now be seen across the internet, on Twitter, on other social media. The pace at which news comes at us now can give us a case of whiplash, and governing in this body and trying to deal with even the things that just affect the United States of America, such as the hurricanes that have hit Texas and Florida and Puerto Rico, can sometimes feel overwhelming. There can be a temptation to hunker down, to look no further than our own borders, to try to solve the problems that confront us not only as Americans but as fellow human beings.

These days, with everything going on in our own Nation, sometimes it doesn’t seem like there is a time to take our focus off of our challenges and speak about other things, some of them far away. But it is important that we think about, that we remember, that we reflect, and that we try to solve the problems and challenges of other people.

It is often said that the United States can’t be the policeman of the world, and I believe that is true. But there are things that call our country, that do move us to action, where I believe that we do have a responsibility to act as the leader among nations in the world.

The crisis in Burma, the ethnic cleansing that has victimized the Rohingya people, defines who originates from Rakhine States would assist in repatriation by defining who originates from Rakhine State.

Rakhine State. Would the Rohingya remain unaccounted for. More Rohingya have fled Myanmar in the past 2 months than remain in Rakhine State. Would the Rohingya want to return if given a chance? What would need to be done to create the conditions required for such a return?

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The crisis in Burma, the ethnic cleansing that has victimized the Rohingya people, defines who originates from Rakhine States would assist in repatriation by defining who originates from Rakhine State.
fester within their country. The current military campaign is only making things worse. What should we be doing?

First, all available leverage should be brought to bear on the Burmese military to end its violent campaign against the Rohingya people. Its actions to date are entirely removed from any concept of rule of law and make a mockery of the government’s obligation to protect its people.

Second, the government must ensure full and unfettered humanitarian access to Rakhine state. Given the dimensions of the crisis, this means letting in experienced aid organizations in addition to the Red Cross.

It also means ending the threats, allegations and misinformation against humanitarian staff who have sparked fear among humanitarian workers, especially national staff, and contributed to an environment in which targeted attacks against humanitarian staff have taken place. Enough already.

Third, the Burmese government must grant access to the fact-finding mission authorized by the UN Human Rights Council last March, after a two-day “fact-finding operation” the military conducted from October 2016 to February of this year. Now more than ever, we need an objective international presence on the ground.

Fourth, a roadmap to ending this crisis already exists. It’s found in the Final Report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State led by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

International actors, including this Congress, must do all we can to make sure that the Burmese government implements the recommendations included in that report—especially the ones that have to do with ending statelessness and poverty. Otherwise, we should not be surprised if the situation in Burma just gets worse and worse.

Finally, we need to be clear-eyed about the nature of the Burmese government. I have been among those in Congress who have welcomed the political transition in Burma that began with the 2015 elections. But if that is true, what kind of “democratic” government are we talking about?

As events have unfolded in Burma in recent weeks, a lot of criticism has been focused on Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel laureate and de facto leader of the civilian government. Her defenders have responded that the military still has a lot of power, and that she has to walk a very fine line.

But if that is true, what kind of “democratic” government are we talking about? If the military is still in charge—if the civilian government is powerless to stop ethnic cleansing—then we need to recognize that.

If not, then let’s be clear about the requirements of moral leadership. Standing by in silence—even worse, downplaying the seriousness of what is happening to the Rohingya people because of political convenience—is not the leadership we expect from Aung San Suu Kyi.

Those who want to claim the mantle of human rights leader must defend the human rights of all people.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o’clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 11, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2804. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Toltenpreny; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0040; FRL-9544-30] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2805. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s notification of its 2017 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency’s current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1832(h); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1206(a); (103 Stat. 523); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2806. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s direct final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrasurface SIP Requirements for the 2012 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-RA-2017-0012; FRL-9965-58] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.


2808. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Tall oil fatty acids; Exempt Fluoroisocyanates from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2017-0012; FRL-9965-58] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2809. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-10-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2810. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0012; FRL-9965-58] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2811. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-10-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2812. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s direct final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9965-58] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2813. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementing Regulations for Permit Source [EPA-R08-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-01-Region 8] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2814. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementing Regulations for Permit Source [EPA-R08-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-01-Region 8] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2815. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementing Regulations for Permit Source [EPA-R08-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-01-Region 8] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2816. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0268; FRL-9969-10-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; California; Ambient Ozone Monitoring Requirements [EPA-R09-OAR-2017-0255; FRL-9969-18-Region 9] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2815. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Alabama; Regional Haze Plan and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2012 PM2.5, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2008 Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R04-OAR-2017-0104; FRL-9969-21-Region 4] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2817. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Miscellaneous Sources of Air Pollution Control, Region 6 [EPA-R04-OAR-2017-0356; FRL-9969-19-Region 4] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2819. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Amend to the Administrative Consent Order, Grain Processing Corporation, Muscatine, Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0145; FRL-9969-14-Region 7] received October 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2820. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Implementing the Energy Storage Technology Study Act of 2016; and implementing andamendments to the Energy Storage and Ratepayer Protection Act of 2017; and implementing the Energy Storage Research and Development Act of 2017; and providing for plan implementation and enforcement; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2821. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Policy Division, Office of International Trade, U.S. Department of Commerce, transmitting the Report of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Pursuant to Section 207 of Title 19, United States Code, for the 30-day period preceding release from a public institution; to the Committee on Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

By Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 378. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost-saving disclosures, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-119). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

By Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2194. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information for certain recipients (Rept. 115-342). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

By Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 3031. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-341). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

By Mr. GOWDY: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 3243. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-343). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 309, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1977) to provide for the implementation of a mechanism to allow borrowers to establish a reasonable plan to refinance student loans, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-344). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. McNERNY (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER): H.R. 3995. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to submit to Congress a report on promoting broadband internet access service for veterans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself and Mr. NADLER): H.R. 3996. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to permit other courts to transfer certain cases to United States Tax Court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROCKFUS (for himself and Ms. GABBARD, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. CURBelo of Florida, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. LEHTINEN, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. DENT, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. STEFANIC, and Mr. PERLMUTTER): H.R. 3997. A bill to prohibit the manufacture, possession, or transfer of any part or combination of parts that is designed and functions to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle but does not convert the semiautomatic rifle into a machinegun, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. COMSTOCK: H.R. 4000. A bill to provide for the establishment of a mechanism to allow borrowers of Federal student loans to refinace their loans, to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend the employer-provided educational assistance to employer payment of interest on certain refinanced student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BUNYOS, Mr. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. DEVALAURE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. TONKO, Mr. COSTA, Mr. NOLAN, and Ms. PINGRE): H.R. 4001. A bill to provide for the refinancing and recalculation of certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4002. A bill to amend chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that in the case of an agency that appeals the ruling of a court under that chapter, and does not prevail on appeal, the court shall award the prevailing party reasonable attorney’s fees and costs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4003. A bill to require that in a notice of proposed rule making for a new rule, the notice shall identify two rules which the agency intends to repeal; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4004. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require employees of the White House to enroll in Obamacare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TONG:

H.R. 4005. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for medical assistance under Medicaid for inmates during the period prescribed by a public institution; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
By Mrs. ADAMS (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NGORTON, Ms. KILPOLE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. BEATTY, Ms. DINGELL, Mr. NADELLER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HOIGEN of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. JONES of Georgia, Mr. KENNETH MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. HASTINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WEXFORD, Mr. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TOM LEVIN of California, Ms. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CHIST, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CLARK of New York, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. BASS, Mr. WALKER, Mr. RUPTPERGER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. MCLEAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MILL, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H. Res. 563. A resolution honoring the accomplishments of the 9 historically Black colleges and universities that celebrated their sesquicentennial week on September 24, 2017, to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. RUDY):

H. Res. 564. A resolution affirming the constitutional power of Congress over the Nation’s debts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NGORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BASS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BRENDAN F. ROYCE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. MOORE):

H. Res. 565. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of October 9, 2017, as “World Post Day”; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mrs. COMSTOCK).

H. Res. 566. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of October 4, 2017, through October 10, 2017, as World Space Week Week; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

129. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 7, urging Congress and federal departments and agencies responsible for stewardship of public resources, as specified, to make collaborative, statewide salmon fishery restoration an urgent and high priority; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

130. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Resolution 2010, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

131. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arizona, relative to House Concurrent Resolution 2013, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

132. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 5, urging the Congress of the United States to pass a law to reschedule marijuana and cannabis and its derivatives from a Schedule I drug to an alternative schedule; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary.

133. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 6, requesting the Governor to request the President of the United States, Members of Congress, and the Federal Highway Administration to dedicate increased funding to California to accelerate and support the planning and development of the plan and to accelerate the completion of existing nonmotorized recreational trails; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Transportation and Infrastructure.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 3995. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
- Article I, Section 8, Clause 17

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 3996. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 9

By Mr. ROTHFUS:

H.R. 3997. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 3998. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. COMSTOCK:

H.R. 4000. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4001. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4002. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 4003. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4005. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4005. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 62: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 490: Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 355: Mr. ZELDIN and Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 586: Mr. King of Iowa.
H.R. 592: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. CARLETON, Mr. ROITZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 613: Mr. WILLIAMS.
H.R. 620: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 638: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. TAKANO and Ms. ROYAL-HALLARD.
H.R. 669: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 685: Mr. MCLEAN.
H.R. 772: Mr. WALKER.
H.R. 897: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. THORNBERY, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 820: Mr. O’HALLERAN, Mr. RUPTPERGER, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 849: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 868: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 869: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 1017: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. TSONGOAS, Mr. MCLEAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. DELAURO.
H.R. 1038: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 1046: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. COLE, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Ms. MCCOMLL.
The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Reform in S. 585 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI. 

Offered By Mr. Gowdy

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in S. 585 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
The Senate met at 9:52 and 47 seconds a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROY BLUNT, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule 1, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Roy Blunt, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Orrin G. Hatch,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BLUNT thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017, AT 8:30 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until Friday, October 13, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:53 and 25 seconds a.m., adjourned until Friday, October 13, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.
TRIBUTE TO CURT HAENSEL

HON. BILL SHUSTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, according to their website, “The Office of the Legislative Counsel provides legislative drafting services to the Committees and Members of the House of Representatives on a non-partisan, impartial, and confidential basis. Our goal is to work with Committees and Members to understand their policy preferences in order to implement those preferences through clear, concise, and legally effective legislative language.” For the last 30 years, no one has performed all of the above more professionally and more successfully than Curt Haensel.

Curt has specialized in transportation law his entire career. His sharp mind and relentless pursuit of perfection (sometimes in spite of staff and Member interference) ensured that bills considered by the Committee and the House were clear and coherent expressions of legislative intent. I and my predecessors have relied on Curt’s expertise and creativity to draft legislative solutions to many complex issues. Even under immense pressure, Curt’s guidance was always calm, balanced, and fair. I don’t know how many bills or amendments Curt has drafted (it must be in the thousands), but I can tell you that a great many of our Nation’s most profound laws bear his fingerprints.

Curt not only cared about the work product, but more importantly, he cared about the people he was working with. He has infinite patience, is humble, and is kind. He served as a mentor and tremendous professional example to many young legislative counsels and Committee staff over the last 30 years.

On behalf of myself, the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the entire House of Representatives, I want to express my sincere gratitude to Curt for his years of service. His contributions to this institution have been invaluable and the impact of his guidance will be felt for many, many years to come. I wish him, his wife Meg, and his two children well. I wish him good luck with his future endeavors. He will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO CURT HAENSEL

HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Curt Haensel, Senior Counsel of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the U.S. House of Representatives.

For the past 30 years, Curt has served as Legislative Counsel to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In that time, Curt has worked to assist the Committee under eight different Committee Chairmen, half a dozen Ranking Members, and hundreds of our Committee colleagues. He formally began working with the Committee in 1989 and one of the first bills he worked on was H.R. 598, which banned smoking on commercial airlines. At the Committee markup, Curt acted as the thief of amendments as the smokers and their advocates worked to fill the amendment tree, as they tried to kill the bill by endless amendment. The back row of the dais filled with cigarette smoke as the Committee slowly worked its will and ultimately banned smoking on planes.

After this baptism by fire, Curt went on to work on every single surface transportation, aviation, water resources, and environmental law that this Committee has enacted. He took our ideas, and working with our staffs, used his gifted legislative craftmanship to shape our transportation future. ISTEA, TEA 21, SAFETEA-LU, and the FAST Act; Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Acts; WRDA after WRDA; and dozens of other Acts all bear his stamp.

One of Curt’s greatest achievements was his work, in the wake of the September 11 terror attacks, on the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (ATSA), which enhanced aviation and surface transportation security and created the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). After months of negotiation and as the Thanksgiving break approached, House and Senate Committee staffs and House Legislative Counsel spent 20-hour days drafting the agreement. The Committee Chairmen and Ranking Members finally resolved the remaining critical issues on a Thursday afternoon. House and Senate Leaders wanted the agreement passed the following day, Friday, before the House and Senate adjourned for Thanksgiving. As Committee staffs and Legislative Counsels Curt Haensel and Dave Mendelsohn finished drafting the conference agreement around 4:30 a.m., the Office of Legislative Counsel computers failed and the computer files of the agreement were completely lost. The Committees faced the prospect that Congress may not be able to pass the legislation before the Thanksgiving break.

There was a genuine fear that, over the break, the hard-fought agreement could fall apart. Instead, Curt and his colleagues, after a walk around the block to clear their heads, recreated the text from memory and, later that day, both the House and Senate passed the agreement. Two days later, President George W. Bush signed the bill into law and the U.S. Department of Transportation began immediately implementing it to make our country safer. This little-known story is but one example of Curt’s contributions to the House of Representatives and the American people.

Curt will continue to serve in his new role. He is joining the Office of Legislative Counsel of the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), where he will help develop DOD’s request for the National Defense Authorization Act each year. I am hopeful that this new opportunity provides Curt more time to spend with his wife, Meg, and their two kids, Ada and Peter, and hopefully watching his beloved Wisconsin Badgers and spending longer vacations on Lake Michigan’s shores.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will truly miss his expertise, wise counsel, and friendships. I join all of my colleagues on the Committee in wishing Curt all the best in his new endeavor.

106TH NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 106th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). I would like to wish the people of Taiwan and Taiwanese Americans a very Happy Double Ten Day.

Taiwan is an extraordinary friend of the United States and continuing this strong relationship is important. Taiwanese companies employ more than 12,000 workers in the United States with a total worker compensation of almost a billion dollars. Taiwan also serves as a strong example of democracy in Asia, and provides the U.S. with an ally to further promote peace and stability in the region.

The state of California has deep and growing ties with Taiwan. More than 800 Taiwanese companies have offices or investments in the state. California exports $7.46 billion worth of goods to Taiwan, serving as its 7th largest export market in the world. The majority of the Taiwanese-American community is concentrated in Los Angeles County, and many have gone on to settle in the San Gabriel Valley providing our local communities with new traditions, employment opportunities and economic growth.

With continued commitment to this important relationship, I would like to again wish Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER CAPODANNO’S PASSING

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the passing of Father Vincent Capodanno.

Fr. Capodanno was born on February 13, 1929, in Mariners Harbor on Staten Island. Growing up, he attended P.S. 44 and Curtis High School, after which he attended Fordham University for one year. A proud lifelong Staten Islander, he loved volunteering in the Staten Island community. Perhaps this dedication to serving others led him to find his true calling from God.

Vincent Capodanno made a decision to devote his life to God and joined the Maryknoll
Missionary Seminary in Ossining, New York. He was ordained as a priest in June 1957 and spent the rest of his life serving all of God’s children. After his ordination, Fr. Capodanno traveled to Taiwan as a missionary and then ventured to Hong Kong to teach disadvantaged children. America’s involvement in Vietnam increased, he decided to join the Army as a chaplain. It was in the jungles of Vietnam where Fr. Capodanno sacrificed his life protecting others.

On September 4, 1967, as American troops were taking fire, Fr. Capodanno moved from soldier to soldier registering Last Rites. By then, the enemy had shot him over 20 times. Despite it all, he carried on and with his dying breath, he used his body to protect his fellow Americans from the gunfire. At just 38 years old, Fr. Vincent Capodanno died as a man of peace during a war of destruction. His heroic actions earned him the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Silver Star, and the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, Fr. Vincent Capodanno embodied the virtues of courage, altruism, and piety. While many know him as the namesake of one of Staten Island’s thoroughfares, we must never forget the sacrifices he made. He was a true American hero, and with the recent anniversary of his death, I rise to salute him and everything he did for his community, country, and faith.

Chris Pendleton
Hon. Francis Rooney
Of Florida
In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Pendleton, President & CEO of the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, who has announced her retirement at the end of the year. For the past 16 years, Chris has been a cornerstone of our community and is leaving the Estates well positioned for the future.

More than 250,000 people each year visit the Edison & Ford Winter Estates. In fact, the annual Holiday Nights event was named by USA Today as one of the ‘10 Best Historic Homes for the Holidays.’ While the Estates and our entire community are still recovering from Hurricane Irma and the damage left behind, the Estates are open for visitors. I thank Chris for her years of service to Southwest Florida. Her actions to preserve the history and honor of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford for future generations are invaluable.

Recognizing the 75th anniversary of Keys for Kids Ministries

Hon. Bill Huizenga
Of Michigan
In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kids Ministries on the celebration of its 75th anniversary. Keys for Kids Ministries, formerly known as the Children’s Bible Hour, will be celebrating this momentous occasion on October 12.

Inspired by a group of West Michigan pastors, Children’s Bible Hour first aired as radio programming in 1942. It utilized kid’s choir, solos, and radio drama to help children learn about God and inspire a relationship with Jesus. Wildly successful, the Children’s Bible Hour grew to television and—by the end of the decade—was filling churches and auditoriums across the country.

In 1982, the Keys for Kids devotional was introduced, followed by the Keys for Kids radio broadcast in 1989. Both continue to reach thousands of children each month. Always striving to reach more individuals with the story of Jesus, Keys for Kids recently launched the Creature Feature Storytellers. This marked the beginning of Keys for Kids International and plans to translate the Keys for Kids devotional into 100 different languages.

While its name has changed, its organization expanded, and ministries diversified, Keys for Kids remains true to the mission established by Rev. Gil Cosselman, Dr. David Otis Fuller, Rev. Malcom Cronk and Rev. Donald Hescott.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Keys for Kids Ministries, the millions who have been impacted, and the millions yet to be reached. May we celebrate the 75 years of inspired work and look forward to the years ahead.

Honoring the 100th Birthday of Buddy Rich

Hon. Roger Williams
Of Texas
In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Birthday of Buddy Rich, and to celebrate his status as the world’s greatest drummer, along with his patriotism and love of country. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Buddy Rich was known for his virtuoso technique, power, and speed. His legacy to the genre of jazz will live on forever.

Honoring Dr. Edwin M. Quezada

Hon. Eliot L. Engel
Of New York
In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as a former educator in the public school system, I know just how hard the administrators and faculty work to help our kids achieve academic excellence.

Today I honor one of those fine educators, Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, the Superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools, who is being recognized by the Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers for all he has done for our students in the community.

As Yonkers Superintendent, Dr. Quezada moves the agenda of public education in Yonkers, New York, the fourth largest school district in the state serving almost 28,000 students and employing 3,600 staff. The Trustees of the Yonkers Board of Education appointed Dr. Quezada Superintendent of Schools on March 16, 2016 after serving as Deputy Superintendent for two years. Dr. Quezada supervises all functions of the school district’s 39 schools and central administration—teaching and learning, budgeting, human resources, facilities, communications, technology and works with city, state and federal officials.

Under Dr. Quezada’s tutelage Yonkers boasts the highest on-time graduation rate, 82 percent, of New York State’s Big 5 city school districts. In 2016, My Brother’s Keeper Challenge was launched in the City of Yonkers, initiated by Dr. Quezada and flourishing through a coalition with Mayor Mike Spano and Nepperhan Community Center Executive Director Rev. Dr. Jim Bosic.

An immigrant from the Dominican Republic, Dr. Quezada came to the Bronx, New York in September 1983 at age 16. Completing most of his early education in the Dominican Republic, he graduated from James Monroe High School in 1985 and immediately began his college career at Herbert H. Lehman College, my alma mater. In January of 1998, Dr. Quezada joined the Yonkers Public Schools as a Human Relations Facilitator. Recognized as a mover and shaker, he was encouraged to obtain a degree in school administration.

He was appointed assistant principal at Gorton High School in 2000, Principal of Emerson Middle in 2003, and Principal of Lincoln High School in 2004. During his tenure as principal, Lincoln High School received state and local accolades for improving student achievement. After ten years as a principal, Dr. Quezada was appointed to Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Administration and Supervision, before finally rising to Superintendent.

When not shaping young minds, Dr. Quezada enjoys spending time with his family—his wife, Gladys, a Yonkers teacher and their two children, Edwin Joseph and Alyssa Marie. They are his pride and joy.

Dr. Quezada has been an exemplary public servant and is most deserving of this recognition. Congratulations to him on the occasion.
IN RECOGNITION OF EMERICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire Tenth Congressional District of Virginia, I would like to honor Emerick Elementary School in Purcellville, Virginia for being named a 2017 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Now in its 35th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,500 private and public schools across the United States. This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities of Emerick Elementary School, in creating a safe and welcoming environment where students can cultivate and master challenging and engaging curriculum in all subjects. Based on their vision, "Today's Learners...Tomorrow's Leaders," Emerick Elementary School nurtures a strong academic foundation, incorporating library, computer lab visits, as well as a widest number of opportunities from sports to crafting to computer coding, robotics, art nights, math club, Odyssey of the Mind and environmental classes. The 2017 National Blue Ribbon School Honor recognizes Emerick Elementary School as an Exemplary High Performing School because of their graduation rates, as well as their exemplary performance amongst Virginia's schools measured by state assessments and national tests.

In addition to the recognition from the National Blue Ribbon School, for the past three years, Emerick Elementary has placed 90 percent or higher for each core subject tested in the Virginia Standards of Learning, and in 2016, emerged with scores of 97 percent or higher in all subjects tested. These results are remarkable, and based on these recent successes, it is clear that Emerick is committed to developing productive problem solvers in the Virginia Standards of Learning, and in recognition of his leadership in state and national agribusiness. His investiture will occur during the Lincoln Academy's annual convocation next year, when he will join a cohort of 340 distinguished Illinois citizens who have been honored over the past 54 years.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF
HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Chair, I include in the Record the following letter to the Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House.

Hon. Paul Ryan,
Speaker of the House,

Mr. Speaker: We write to request that, as the Congress considers the Fiscal Year 2018 budget resolution and any legislation written to comply with its reconciliation instructions, we continue to follow the long-standing practice of evaluating the fiscal effects of legislation relative to the baseline developed by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Using the CBO baseline will allow us to provide the American people the most accurate forecast of how proposed fiscal policies will affect our ballooning federal deficit.

CBO's baseline conforms to the principles that Congress has defined in law. For decades we have consistently used the CBO baseline to accurately calculate the fiscal and distributional impacts of tax reform policy. The CBO baseline is the best mechanism to measure how we are affecting our nation's balance sheets because it reflects the clearest intent of Congress, accurately accounts for the costs of extending specific program provisions scheduled to expire, and keeps legislation in line with fiscal requirements set forth in reconciliation instructions within the budget resolution.

Our constituents are calling on us to enact sound fiscal policy, and many have answered that call with promises to get our financial house in order. Unfortunately, according to recent news reports, some members of the House of Representatives may break that promise by opting instead to change the baseline we traditionally use to determine how new tax policy proposals will affect the deficit. Instead, some lawmakers are putting you to use a "current-policy" baseline that would, among other things, obscure the true cost of extending deficit-financed tax cuts by ignoring their expiration dates written into the tax code.

HONORING MR. ED McMILLAN, 2018 RECIPIENT OF THE ORDER OF LINCOLN

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for a very special purpose, to recognize Mr. Ed McMillan of Greenville, IL, as a 2018 recipient of the Order of Lincoln.

Established in 1964, the Order of Lincoln is the state's highest award and each honoree receives a warrant signed by the Governor and bearing the Great Seal of the State of Illinois, certifying his or her investiture as a Laurate of the Order of Lincoln.

The purpose of the award is to "honor individuals whose outstanding contributions to the betterment of mankind have been accomplished in or on behalf of the State of Illinois."

Mr. McMillan is a worthy recipient of this award. He grew up in McDonough County on a family farm, graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign, and is currently the President & CEO of Purina Mills. He has served on many industry boards of directors plus extensive civic and philanthropic organizations, including Chairman, Board of Trustees, University of Illinois System.

Mr. McMillan’s selection by the Academy is in recognition of his leadership in state and national agribusiness. His investiture will occur during the Lincoln Academy’s annual convocation next year, when he will join a cohort of 340 distinguished Illinois citizens who have been honored over the past 54 years.
Changing the baseline could cause Congress to inaccurately calculate the detrimental impact of tax cuts and therefore allow lawmakers to disregard important rules such as those that guide the use of reconciliation in order to limit long-term deficit increases. As you know, the Byrd Rule prevents reconciliation procedures from being used in an attempt to pass legislation that increases the deficit beyond the budget window. Adopting a current-policy baseline would effectively hide the $460 billion cost of extending expiring tax cuts, and pretend that they are revenue neutral in order to meet the Senate’s reconciliation requirements.

Such a change will have costly consequences. Every dollar of lost revenue hidden by a misleading or inaccurate current-policy baseline is a dollar added to our deficit that will in turn make it harder to adequately fund important priorities, such as national security, infrastructure, disaster relief, health care and the safety net for our most vulnerable citizens.

Resorting to gimmicks such as the “current-policy baseline” and creating unrealistic assumptions about economic growth rates obscures the true cost of tax cuts and severely undermines our ability to put the federal budget on a sustainable fiscal path. Whether these gimmicks serve a procedural or rhetorical role, the end result is the same: fiscally irresponsible policies, larger deficits, and erosion of the American people’s confidence in our fiscal stewardship.

As you know, our annual deficits are projected to swell to over $1 trillion by the end of the decade. Equally troublesome, the national debt is on an unsustainable trajectory. If we willfully choose to inaccurately account for taxing and spending legislation, then we will place our economic wellbeing in jeopardy and saddle future generations with the burden of shouldering today’s fiscal wrongs. Instead, we must be open and honest with the American people. The traditional CBO baseline will continue to account for taxing and spending legislation, and as the first Chairman of the Buncombe County Fire Chiefs Association. In addition to this work in Buncombe County, ChiefPresley actively serves in the Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters, the Buncombe County Firefighters Association, and as a Statistician with the North Carolina State Firefighters Association. While he has gone above and beyond the call of duty for his fellow firefighters, ChiefPresley has also found time to lead his family, serve his church, and invest in many friendships.

ChiefPresley has earned the respect and friendship of the people of Buncombe County through his hard work and wide-ranging involvement in his community. For his service to Western North Carolina, I am honored to express to ChiefPresley the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

HONORING GERTIE SOLE ARCHER

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. DENNIS PRESLEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis Presley of Buncombe County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Mr. Presley for over 35 years of service to our communities and congratulate him on his recent retirement.

Dennis Presley began his career with Skyland Fire and Rescue in 1978. From here, ChiefPresley worked his way up from Firefighter to Chief of Skyland Fire and Rescue. While working in Skyland, ChiefPresley also served Asheville Fire and Rescue as both a Captain and District Commander. During his time in Asheville, ChiefPresley’s team was the first to save a life using an automatic defibrillator, and he received an award from the Asheville City Manager for his heroism during a swift water rescue. All told, ChiefPresley has earned over 10 awards for his leadership, heroism, and devotion to his community.

Outside of the fire station, ChiefPresley continues his dedication to the firefighters of Western North Carolina by serving as an insurance agent for over thirty fire departments and as the first Chairman of the Buncombe County Fire Chiefs Association. In addition to this work in Buncombe County, ChiefPresley actively serves in the Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters, the Buncombe County Firefighters Association, and as a Statistician with the North Carolina State Firefighters Association. While he has gone above and beyond the call of duty for his fellow firefighters, ChiefPresley has also found time to lead his family, serve his church, and invest in many friendships.

ChiefPresley has earned the respect and friendship of the people of Buncombe County through his hard work and wide-ranging involvement in his community. For his service to Western North Carolina, I am honored to express to ChiefPresley the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TOM CAMP’S 55 YEARS OF SAFE DRIVING FOR UPS

HON. DAVID A. TROT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. TROT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Livonia, Michigan resident Tom Camp on achieving 55 years of safe driving for the United Parcel Service (UPS).

Tom Camp is the first driver ever in UPS history to achieve 55 years of safe driving with no Department of Transportation reportable accidents during this period. Having driven over a million miles and transported over 5 million packages, 77-year-old Marine Corps veteran Tom Camp is always on the lookout. He attributes his safe driving record to his keen sense of caution and awareness of the other drivers on the road.

We should all take note from Mr. Camp’s advice, “You just have to pay attention out there. You can’t get distracted. Safety is No. 1.”

His dedication to safety is perhaps only rivaled by his passion for customer service. “Anyone can deliver a package,” he says. “It’s the person delivering the package that makes a difference.”

Mr. Camp has taken this to heart, brightening the days of so many of his neighbors. I congratulate Mr. Camp on this record-breaking achievement and applaud him for serving as a role model of conscientious driving and safety. Here’s to many more years of safe driving.

IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, on October 8 to 14, 2017, across the United States and throughout the world, patients, plasma donors and plasma collection centers will join together to observe International Plasma Awareness Week. There will be events to raise global awareness of the crucial need for plasma to create lifesaving therapies, recognize that plasma donors contribute greatly in saving and improving lives, and increase understanding of the many rare diseases and plasma protein therapies that help to treat them.

Plasma-derived therapies and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic medicines that are either infused or injected to treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic diseases including bleeding disorders, hereditary angioedema, immune deficiencies, pulmonary disorders, neurological disorders, shock and trauma, liver cirrhosis, and infectious diseases such as tetanus, hepatitis, and rabies. Plasma-derived therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world, including in emergency and surgical medicine. Plasma protein therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved
patient outcomes, and extended the life expectancy of individuals with rare, chronic diseases and conditions.

Healthy, committed donors provide the plasma essential to manufacture these lifesaving therapies; and there are more than 575 plasma collection centers in the U.S. that have demonstrated their commitment to plasma donor and patient safety and quality by earning International Quality Plasma Program (IQPP) certification.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of International Plasma Awareness Week, honoring those committed donors and collection centers who make and collect needed and lifesaving contributions.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JONATHAN SCHAFLER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing United States Coast Guard Community Affairs Officer Jonathan Schafler for his years of service as liaison to the District of Columbia.

Prior to his service as a Community Affairs Officer, Lieutenant Commander Schafler served as a drilling reservist. He was deployed overseas several times, including for one year in Iraq with Patrol Forces Southwest Asia as the Liaison to the Iraqi Coastal Boarder Guard, and in Spain with Port Security Unit 305.

Since Lt. Cmdr. Schafler began his position as a Community Affairs Officer for the District of Columbia, he and his coworkers have contributed more than 55,000 volunteer hours to the District; delivered over 200,000 pounds of food to pantries in the Ward 8 community as part of the “Feeds Feed Families” outreach program; loaned over 2,300 tents to various community outreach events; and implemented a successful “Partnerships in Education and Services” program at six D.C.-area schools.

In addition to his work as a Community Affairs Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Schafler served as the Coast Guard liaison to the Anacostia Coordinating Council (ACC), a group that has been dedicated to the Ward 8 community since 1983. Lt. Cmdr. Schafler was designated as the liaison when he approached Vice Admiral Mansen Brown at an ACC meeting.

Lt. Cmdr. Schafler also worked at the United States Department of the Interior for 25 years as a National Park Service Ranger, Federal Game Warden and Wildlife Refuge Manager at nine locations, from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lt. Cmdr. Jonathan Schafler for his years of service to the U.S. government and the District of Columbia.

HONORING NEPPERHAN COMMUNITY CENTER 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in my district there are several community focused organizations that do amazing work on behalf of my constituents. The Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers is one of those standout organizations, and this year it celebrates its incredible 75th anniversary.

Nepperhan Community Center (NCC) was founded by a group of concerned neighbors in the Nepperhan section of Yonkers (now Runyon Heights) in the late 1930s. This group wanted a meeting place that could also accommodate recreational activities and classes for the youth. In 1942, NCC became officially incorporated, and with the help of United Way, purchased a building at 117 Palisades Avenue. The activities offered at this location expanded to include cooking, basketball, sewing and occasional social dances. Scholarships were also offered to deserving students for upstate campsites. Through the years, the programs and services offered by NCC increased by more than twenty-fold. Even though the demand for services was increasing, NCC was still functioning on a part-time basis. In the late 1960s, NCC relocated to 302 Warburton Avenue, where it undertook new programming, along with Yonkers YCAP, in the field of education, tutoring, remedial reading and math. NCC also started its first parent involvement program.

NCC initiated a Black Studies and Cultural Enrichment program, which for the first time, afforded many young individuals in the community the experience of going to black theaters, plays, and seeing ballets. Today, NCC still carries on that tradition, in addition to presenting our own theatrical productions. During this time, NCC became aware of the many social ills that were affecting our community in the areas of employment, housing, education, high youth crime, etc. NCC addressed these issues by setting up an Ex-Offender Program and a few years later a Youthful Offender Program, with built-in help that offered assistance with employment, housing, life coping skills and education. Other programs included: welfare rights, veterans services, pre-trial intervention, drug programs, social and recreational programs.

NCC has grown from a part-time social agency, serving a few people yearly, to now providing direct services, referral and supportive services on a full-time basis. The addition of these capabilities has enabled NCC to assist thousands of children and their families. Today under strong leadership from Dr. Jim Bostic and his team, it continues to offer invaluable service to the Yonkers community and beyond. I want to congratulate them on 75 terrifying years and say here’s to 75 more.

WELCOMING NEW CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. VISCOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on Friday, October 13, 2017. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On October 13, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in the Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana: Christopher Richard Sweet, Hikmat Mahmood Jbara, Ambibola Harinat Elenitoba-Johnson, Inessa Sergeyevna Bodrova, Radoslaw Jan Nabrzyski, Bhavik Kapihlhri Pathak, Zivijon Gino Djeric, Petrica Murariu Botez, Corina Gabriela Murariu-Botez, Obiefuna Foster Eze, Ai-Anh Thi Truong, Pavel Veljansoki, Caterina Susana Bosio Ruiz, Kan-Wei Coduti,Alejandra Diaz, Bijan Farajzadeh, Angela Izchel Fonseca, Adrian Fuentes, Gabriela Herrera, Jean Yves Jean Mardy, Petra Pacheco Dorado, Maria Guadalupe Perretta, Patricia Reid-Sinclair, Liliana Romo, Samantha Wenz, Jade Yu Rui Yang, Radorim Cvetkovski, Lan Phuoc Mai, Gilles Jean Claude Charriere and Heidy Lobo Gibson.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country " . . . of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on October 13, 2017. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.
TRIBUTE TO JOHN GABRIEL SMITH

HON. STENY H. HOYER
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. John Gabriel Smith, a constituent in St. Mary’s County, Maryland, whose courage broke barriers and advanced the cause of integration and equality in our country. This Saturday, he will be honored at the homecoming game at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, DC, where he made history in 1954 as its first African-American graduate.

Along with his two sisters, Gabe—as he is known to his family, friends, and neighbors in St. Mary’s County—learned hard work and diligence from his parents amid the turbulent times of Jim Crow as he grew up in the 1940’s. He found comfort and calm in the teachings of his Catholic faith and in fellowship at St. Peter Claver Church in Ridge, Maryland. There he served as an altar boy and met the Jesuit priest who would become his mentor, Father Horace McKenna. Under the guidance of Father McKenna, Gabe developed a deep desire to find God and pursue the priesthood. Asking his spiritual guides what he would need to do, he learned that he would first have to study Latin. However, none of the segregated schools in Southern Maryland offered Latin courses.

From Father McKenna, though, Gabe also learned that Gonzaga College High offered Latin and all the other subjects prerequisite to preparation for the priesthood—and then-Archbishop Patrick O’Boyle had ordered the desegregation of the schools within the Archdiocese of Washington in 1948. Thus, in 1951, Gabe walked into Gonzaga College High as its first African-American student, bravely breaking the color barrier and preparing the way for the more than 1,100 African-American Gonzaga College High students who have followed him.

At Gonzaga College High, Gabe witnessed less of the abusive conditions of segregation that he had encountered in Southern Maryland, and many of his classmates stood with him in solidarity against bigotry outside the school walls. But as a member of the school’s Purple Eagle football team, he had to face opposing teams from still-segregated schools whose players and fans directed their ignorance and hatred in his direction. His coach, Joe Kozik, stood by him throughout and presided over a team that rallied around Gabe. He would never forget the support he found among his peers and from Coach Kozik, who became as much a mentor to him as Father McKenna had been.

When Gabe became the first African-American student to graduate Gonzaga College High in 1954, the Supreme Court reached its historic decision in Brown v. Board of Education and required the complete integration of America’s schools. Gabe and others who had already been trailblazers inspired other young African-American students around the country to be the first in their communities to desegregate their local schools as our nation struggled to achieve full enforcement of the Brown decision in the years that followed.

While Gabe never ended up becoming a priest, he nonetheless rooted his life strongly in faith and built a career as a pharmacist upon the foundation in Latin and the sciences that he studied first at Gonzaga College High and then later at Howard University. He worked in the field for more than four decades, retiring this past spring. For many years now, Gabe has been an active member of the Mt. Emmon Baptist Church’s Men’s Ministry, helping to inspire others to achieve and pursue their own dreams as he did his. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Gabe on his retirement after a long and productive career serving the community in St. Mary’s County and on being honored this weekend at his alma mater. I wish him and his wife of fifty years—Mrs. Jeanette Graves Smith—and their entire family well on this happy occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE QUINCY AIR EVAC LIFETEAM’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DARIN LaHOOD
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam for their commitment to our community as they celebrate their 20th anniversary. For twenty years, the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam provided lifesaving access to crucial medical services for those who need it most. By providing air ambulance support, the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam provided safe and rapid emergency transportation to the most vulnerable in the Quincy community. The Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam is essential to the safety of citizens in the rural communities of Illinois’ 18th Congressional District.

The Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam sets the gold standard for care among Air Evac Lifeteams around the country. In 2017, the National Paramedic of the year for Air Evac Lifeteam was awarded to a member of Quincy’s team. I am grateful to the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam for their service to our community and the lives they have saved.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Quincy Air Evac Lifeteam on twenty years of service and I wish for their continued safety as they continue to protect the Quincy community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, owing to a leave of absence for personal reasons, I was unable to cast votes on October 4th and 5th. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call No. 553, the Rep. Grijalva Progressive Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY’ 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted “Nay.”

On Roll Call No. 554, the Rep. Scott Congress Progressive Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY’ 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted “Nay.”

On Roll Call No. 555, the Rep. McClintock Republican Study Committee Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY’ 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted “Nay.”

On Roll Call No. 556, Reg. Yarmuth Democratic Caucus Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY’ 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted “Nay.”

On Roll Call No. 557, Adoption of H. Con. Res. 71 (the FY’ 2018 Budget Resolution), I would have voted “Aye.”

On Roll Call No. 558, Approval of the Journal, I would have voted “Aye.”

HONORING THE LIFE OF PATRICIA YATES

HON. JARED HUFFMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Patricia Yates, who passed away on October 2, 2017, after a lifetime of public service to her community. Born in San Francisco on February 18, 1921, Mrs. Yates was raised in a family with a well-regarded history of public service at both the state and local level. This environment helped mold her in a passion for service. She graduated from U.C. Berkeley in 1941 before immediately going to work for the federal government.

During World War II, Mrs. Yates worked as an economist for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and traveled across the country to inspect stores and track the prices of vital goods. This exposure to people from all walks of life and their diverse lifestyles, contextualized her dedication to public service. By 1952, Mrs. Yates moved with her husband to Marin County, where she would reside for the rest of her life. She earned a Masters of Arts in teaching from Dominican University in 1967, and became a teacher at San Domenico High School in San Anselmo. There, she endeavored to instill her passion for civic engagement into her students, eventually becoming the chair of the school’s social studies department. After 8 years of teaching, Mrs. Yates retired in order to pursue her growing passion for land and resource conservation in Marin County.

Following years of volunteer work with Marin Conservation League, Mrs. Yates became one of the first women to be elected to the Board of the Marin Municipal Water District in 1982. She occupied this role for two of those years. Even after retiring from the Board in 1991, she continued to volunteer her time teaching students and the public about ecology and the importance of the natural environment.

Mr. Speaker, the depth of Mrs. Yates’ service to her community has left a lasting legacy in Marin County, and she will be dearly missed. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and honor her many contributions.
HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DIANE GLASSER
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous sadness that I rise today to honor the life and contributions of Diane Glasser. Diane was a former Vice Mayor of the City of Tamarac, a dear personal friend, a constituent, and an activist who contributed greatly to the growth of Democratic politics in Broward County and Florida. She passed away on October 10, 2017 at the age of 89, and is survived by her son Craig Glasser of Sunrise, Florida.

Originally from Mill Basin in Brooklyn, New York, Diane and her husband moved to the City of Tamarac in 1973. She worked in the construction industry for twelve years. In 2004, Diane was appointed First Vice Chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party.

She was then elected to the Tamarac City Commission in 2008, where she served until her retirement in 2016. She also served on various Boards in Broward County, including the Broward School Board Senior Advisory Task Force and the Broward Human Rights Board.

Diane was an Elected Florida Delegate in the last six Democratic National Conventions, and cast her vote in the Electoral College for the State of Florida in 1996 for Former President Bill Clinton and in 2000 for Former President Al Gore.

Mr. Speaker, Diane was a very special woman who profoundly impacted our community. Her spirit and loving memory will always live on. She will be dearly missed.

HONORING THOMAS MACAULAY’S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE MASSENA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor registered nurses across our nation who have urgently worked on the front lines after the deadly hurricanes that devastated the state of Texas. Dotty Nygard and Rhonda Risner, who are a part of a large network of volunteers that are deployed after natural disasters to help take care of patients.

Three weeks after Hurricane Harvey hit south Texas, registered nurses were deployed for weeks at a time. These nurses gave dedicated care to their patients to ensure that the viruses had not spread to anyone and that they received the specific attention they needed. Their work was integral to the safety of victims after natural disasters. Viruses and diseases can spread quickly after natural disasters due to the number of different people in confined places. It is the nurses who spot the signs of these viruses as soon as they can, and it is the nurses who become the first defense against the spreading of flus and other life-threatening viruses.

While serving the victims of the hurricane, nurses encountered a multitude of chronic issues, including heart attacks, strokes, and hypertensive crises from patients who have either never had access to health care or lost their medications in the floods. It is because of nurses’ insight, diligent observation, and quick response that these people are still alive today.

Nurses across the nation have created a network of 20,000 volunteers who have traveled the world, helping victims of natural disasters. The nurses have gone to the Philippines after a tsunami, Haiti following the earthquake, and worked with the U.S. Navy in Central and South America. Many of the patients they face have no access to their medications after a disaster or their access to medical care is severely limited or non-existent. These nurses are at the front lines saving lives in disasters all over the world, and their work cannot be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, across the nation registered nurses’ dedication and benevolence in their care for victims of natural disasters all over the world are integral to patients’ safety and well-being and the eventual recovery of any area. We must always remember to honor and thank those first responders in their work around the world, especially those nurses who give up their time in hospitals and health centers to care for victims after a natural disaster.

HONORING THE WORK OF REGISTERED NURSES IN AFTERMATH OF NATURAL DISASTERS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Deirdre J. Loughlin. Deirdre’s work as a teacher has touched the lives of so many students and families. As Manager of Staff Development, she poured her time and talent into creating an atmosphere of excellence throughout Worcester Public Schools, leaving a legacy of progress that will benefit our students for years to come.

But Mr. Speaker, her lessons extended far beyond the classroom. If you spent the day with her, you would think she taught the entire city of Worcester. Seldom does a day pass by that she doesn’t run into a former student. Deirdre is the kind of teacher that becomes a friend for life; staying in touch as students grow and continue on to higher education. She is always remembering a name, a memory—and yes, even that homework assignment you missed in Chemistry class.

In the years I have known her, I have been personally inspired by her drive to make things better for every single young person in Worcester, no matter who they are or where they’re from. She’s worked with the School Committee to set strategic goals and measure success by the best benchmarks available. She’s gotten creative, partnering with organizations to implement an innovative curriculum and expand students’ horizons. She’s created a solid foundation which our schools will build upon for generations. And she’s never lost sight of what it’s all about at the end of the day: ensuring that each student has the support and opportunities he or she needs to thrive.

It is with warm wishes and a deep appreciation for her lifetime of public service that I send my congratulations on behalf of the people of Worcester and the United States Congress as together we celebrate “Dr. Deirdre J. Loughlin Day” on October fifteenth, two thousand seventeen.

IN HONOR OF SHERANDO HIGH SCHOOL’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate our excellent high school in the 10th Congressional District of Virginia, Frederick County’s Sherando High School, while the school community is celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

The school’s slogan, “where one person can make a difference,” summarizes the caring, respectful culture that has been created at Sherando High School during those 25 years. Central to this special culture are the guiding words of the Mission for the staff, wherein they accept responsibility for providing “a safe and supportive environment that encourages intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth” and “a positive educational atmosphere which will encourage students to maximize their learning opportunities.” The Sherando community is proud of the fact that the entire community supports students with learning differences and that these students are encouraged to be an important part of the school and to benefit from the daily educational and social activities of the school.

This caring attitude also extends to other students, including those struggling with severe depression. Hundreds of members of the Sherando community have participated in Out of the Darkness walks, raising funds for suicide prevention programs.
Another important aspect of Sherando High School's culture is summed up in the third sentence of the staff mission statement: "We will promote the active participation of parents and the community in the educational process." This welcoming attitude of the school has provided the community the opportunity to cheer on Sherando students in a variety of pursuits, including dramatic productions, D.E.C.A and FFA activities, choir concerts, The Widget Cup, a design/build interscholastic competition that shows off the talents of Career and Technical Education students, and the marching band, which recently took first place in General Effect, Drum Major, and Color Guard disciplines at the Hylton High School Marching Band Competition.

The motto of the school, "Once a warrior, always a warrior" certainly rings true in the area of athletics, where community residents and alumni get caught up with Sherando football and other athletics, and even travel long distances to see their athletes compete at regionals and at state championships. And at the very event that took place on October 7, 2017, several athletes from the past are going to be recognized as the first inductees into the Sherando Athletic Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Tyler Gaines, Kelley Washington, Emily Budnyk-Putt, Robyn Ritter-Browne, Zach Franz, Pepper Martin, and Jason Barbe for this special recognition.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in congratulating Principal John Nelson, his dedicated staff and the entire Sherando High School community, on 25 years of extraordinary success and in wishing them a continuation of this success in the years to come.

YONKERS GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION

HON. E LIOT L. ENGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Yonkers Guardians Association, an organization in the Yonkers community dedicated to promoting equal opportunities within the Yonkers Police Department.

The Yonkers Guardians Association, incorporated in 1988 under the leadership of first president, Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, is a fraternal organization comprised of African American Police and Detention Officers. Dedicated to promoting equal opportunities of appointment, assignment and promotion for members of the Yonkers Police Department, and to devising and executing plans to assist its members morally, financially, educationally and culturally. The association's mission is to encourage community members to be conscience of the criminal justice system and to enhance the quality of life in the African American community. Moreover, the Organization’s goal is to foster an indispensable alliance with the community by creating partnerships, programs and building relationships with community based organizations that share the ideals and common principles of the Guardians Association.

In addition to working to increase the number of African American Police Officers the Guardians have honored outstanding women in our community through its "Mother's Day Award Dinner". Using the motto "Protecting our Future today" the Guardians have also made a commitment to programs that help our local youth partnering with the My Brother's Keeper initiative to mentor our local youth. The Guardians had also formed alliances with the National Association of Black Law Enforcement (NABLEO), the Westchester/Rockland Guardians Association, the Nepperhan Community Center, Compact for Learning in the 21st Century, the Cluster Westchester Mediation Center, the Yonkers Department of Parks and Recreation, the Yonkers Drug Court, the Westchester Coalition Against Bigotry, the Yonkers NAACP, the Yonkers Public Schools, the Municipal Housing Authority and the Salvation Army. Under the leadership of past presidents Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, Detective Donald Wilson, Detective Stuart Barksdale, Police Officer Joseph Lecoq, Detective Vincent Tilson and current President Sergeant Charles Walker the Guardians seek to bridge relationships between Law Enforcement and the Minority Community, to be a voice against injustice and work to create opportunities for the members of the community which we are a part of. They have done a tremendous job with that, and I congratulate them on all they've accomplished.
Senate

Chamber Action
The Senate met at 9:52:47 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 9:53:25 a.m. until 8:30 a.m., on Friday, October 13, 2017.

Committee Meetings
No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action
Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 3995–4005; and H. Res. 563–566 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 378, to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–341);
H.R. 2196, to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients (H. Rept. 115–342);
H.R. 3031, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–343);
H.R. 3243, to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information technology, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–344); and
H. Res. 562, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 585) to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from October 16, 2017, through October 20, 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 115–345).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fitzpatrick to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Murphy, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Eighteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, effective October 21, 2017.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:
Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”: H.R. 1858, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 558;
Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”: H.R. 2254, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 558;
Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”;

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”; H.R. 2464, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 395 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 559;

Pages H7898–99

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ekpanya Post Office Building”: H.R. 294, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ekpanya Post Office Building”; and

Pages H7899–900

Javier Vega, Jr. Memorial Act of 2017: S. 1617, to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the “Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint”.

Pages H7900–01

Recess: The House recessed at 5:44 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H7901

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”: H.R. 452, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”.

Pages H7899–900

Senate Referrals: S. 692 was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce. S. 1103 was held at the desk. S. 1595 was held at the desk.

Page H7916

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H7896.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7901–02 and H7902–03. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DR. CHRIS KIRKPATRICK WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 585, the “Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a closed rule for S. 585. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. In section 2, the rule provides that on any legislative day during the period from October 16, 2017, through October 20, 2017: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declating the adjournment. In section 3, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 2. In section 4, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of October 12, 2017, or October 13, 2017, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. Testimony was heard from Representatives Mitchell, Cummings, and Kuster of New Hampshire.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the 2017 Agenda for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reauthorize appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission, to provide for certain procedural changes to the rules of the Commission to maximize opportunities for public participation and efficient decision making, and for other purposes, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Confronting the Full Range of Iranian Threats”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.


Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Transforming GPO for the 21st Century and Beyond: Part 4”, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 219, the “Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project Boundary Correction Act”; H.R. 2630, the “La Paz County Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 3573, to amend the District of Columbia Stadium Act of 1957 to extend for an additional 50 years the lease under which the government of the District of Columbia uses the ground under and the parking facilities associated with the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium; and H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on legislation to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to distribute revenues from oil and gas leasing on the outer Continental Shelf to certain coastal States, and for other purposes, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3990, the “National Monument Creation and Protection Act”; H. Res. 555, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit, respectively, certain documents and other information to the House of Representatives relating to the executive order on the review of designations under the Antiquities Act, 4 p.m., 1334 Longworth.


Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled “NIST’s Physical Security Vulnerabilities: A GAO Undercover Review”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Evaluating the Paperwork Reduction Act Part II: Are Burdens Being Reduced?”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Highways and Transit Stakeholders’ Perspectives”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on “H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust certain limits on the guaranteed amount of a home loan under the home loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 3018, the "Veterans’ Entry to Apprenticeship Act"; H.R. 3634, the "SERVE Act of 2017"; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the applicability of certain provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act to housing and business loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the use of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for flight training programs; legislation to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces recently separated from active duty service; and legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-
State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 2 p.m., 534 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled "Opportunities to Expand U.S. Trade Relationships in the Asia-Pacific Region", 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD
Week of October 11 through October 13, 2017

Senate Chamber

Senate will meet in a pro forma session on Friday, October 13, 2017.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)
No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House Committees

Committee on Energy and Commerce, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Department of Energy Missions and Management Priorities", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.


Committee on Financial Services, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Future of Housing in America: Oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development", 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, October 12, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 535, the "Taiwan Travel Act"; and H.R. 1698, the "Iran Ballistic Missiles and International Sanctions Enforcement Act", 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.


October 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled "Empty Threat or Serious Danger: Assessing North Korea's Risk to the Homeland", 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Committee on the Judiciary, October 12, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Congressional Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement Act of 2017; H.R. 2228, the "Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act of 2017"; and legislation on the Protecting Access to the Courts for Taxpayers Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, October 12, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 3144, to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia
River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes; and H.R. 3916, the “FISH Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

October 13, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, legislation to achieve domestic energy independence by empowering States to manage the development and production of oil and gas on available Federal land, and for other purposes, 9 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, October 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hearing on the 2020 Census”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, October 12, Subcommittee on Health and Technology, hearing entitled “Fostering Women’s Entrepreneurial Success”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.


Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, October 12, Full Committee, markup, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

October 12, Full Committee, hearing on legislation on the Asset and Infrastructure Review Act of 2017; and H.R. 2773, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to sell Pershing Hall, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
8:30 a.m., Friday, October 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Wednesday, October 11

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of S. 585—Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Comstock, Barbara, Va., E1349, E1353
DeFazio, Peter A., Ore., E1347
DeSaulnier, Mark, Calif., E1349
Donovan, Daniel M., Jr, N.Y., E1347
Eliseon, Keith, Minn., E1348
Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E1348, E1351, E1354
Frelinghuysen, Rodney P., N.J., E1349
Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E1353
Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E1352
Huffman, Jared, Calif., E1352
Huizenga, Bill, Mich., E1352
Jeffries, Hakeem S., N.Y., E1349
Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E1353
LaHood, Darin, Ill., E1352
Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E1350
McGovern, James P., Mass., E1353
McKinley, David B., W.Va., E1350
Meadows, Mark, N.C., E1350
Murphy, Tim, Pa., E1352
Napolitano, Grace F., Calif., E1347
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1351
Rooney, Francis, Fla., E1348
Shimkus, John, Ill., E1349
Shuster, Bill, Pa., E1347
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E1353
Trott, David A., Mich., E1350
Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E1352
Williams, Roger, Tex., E1348

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