

□ 1015

CONGRESSMAN TIBERI'S
FAREWELL ADDRESS

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

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it has truly been the most remarkable honor to serve the people of Ohio's 12th Congressional District in central Ohio.

It all started in 1999, on my parents' front porch, the house that I grew up in, in a middle class neighborhood in Columbus called Forest Park. There, as the son of Italian immigrants, I learned how blessed I truly was to be an American; first in my family to graduate from high school, to go to high school, work my way through college at The Ohio State University.

See, my mom and dad believed that America was an incredible opportunity. With hard work and a good education, you could do anything. With their sacrifices and their hard work, I am here before you today, and for their sacrifices, I am forever grateful.

Leaving this Congress was not an easy decision. The speech that I made in 1999, on their front porch, still holds true today, the reason why I ran, to help those constituents, not only help them here in Washington, but help them cut through the red tape, to help that veteran, to help that widow on Social Security.

But leaving was important for my family. It was important to support them, to be with them more. My colleagues understand that. The sacrifices that we make, they make more. We put our names on the ballot, our spouses don't, our children don't.

To my colleagues, thank you for your friendship, your mentorship, and, certainly, your wisdom over the years. I will miss you.

To my supporters, who spent countless hours knocking on doors, putting up signs, going on bus tours, I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you.

To my team, both back in Ohio and here in D.C., both past and present, thank you for helping me serve and succeed for the people of Ohio's 12th District.

The late, great Woody Hayes said: "You win with people." You are my people, and we have won together so many battles. I could not have done this without you. Forever Team Tiberi you all will be.

Most importantly, for my wife, Denice; our four daughters, Angelina, Cristina, Daniela, and Gabriela, thank you for all your support over the years. I will look forward to seeing you much more.

Finally, to the constituents of the 12th Congressional District, what an honor, a humbling honor, to serve you for the last 17 years. For a kid who grew up in Columbus, Ohio, in a middle class family, it has truly been an amazing journey. This speech is not goodbye; this speech is see you soon around the corner.

And to that, I wish you all the best here in the United States Congress. God bless you, and God bless America.

SHIELD OUR DREAMERS FROM
DEPORTATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, we will all certainly miss the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI). He is a wonderful Member, and we have enjoyed his service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, last night, a U.S. District Court Judge ordered the administration to continue accepting renewal applications for DACA recipients. Although this is welcome news, this should not undercut the urgency for us here in Congress to pass a permanent legislative solution to shield our DREAMers from deportation.

This week, I, again, had the great honor of meeting another great group of bright and hardworking young immigrants from my district whose DACA permits will expire in the coming weeks and the coming months. Despite their circumstances, despite living in fear and uncertainty about what their future holds, each one of these individuals has demonstrated great resolve and perseverance to continue the fight.

They visit Members of Congress, they share their unique stories, they provide the facts about their contributions in our communities, and they implore us to give them the opportunity to stay in what they consider to be their home, the United States.

Our DREAMers have suffered long enough, Mr. Speaker, and it is time that we act and take this issue to the finish line. Human lives are, indeed, at stake. Our DREAMers can't live from court decision to court decision.

As Congress has returned this week to begin our second session, I am here, once again, to urge us all to bring to the floor a legislative solution to give our DREAMers the opportunity to work here, to study here in this great country that they know as home. I am confident that we have the votes, Republicans and Democrats, for the House and the Senate to pass this permanent legislative fix. We can, and we must, make this happen now. Let us not wait any longer.

CELEBRATING THE GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE
ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY GUS MACHADO
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Thomas University as it breaks ground on January 24 on the new home for the Gus Machado School of Business. This new facility will empower St. Thomas University to continue its decades-long commitment to providing an excellent, yet affordable, business education to students in south Florida.

The new business school complex will include a state-of-the-art trading room,

cybersecurity center, an entrepreneurship and innovation hub, and many other more exciting spaces. It will also empower the business school to offer 48 undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Most importantly, with its expanded classrooms and robust technology infrastructure, this new facility will keep St. Thomas at the forefront of business education and will enable the university to continue preparing new generations of south Florida business leaders.

I thank Gus Machado for his generous gift and every member of the St. Thomas family who has worked so hard to make this dream a reality.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF PARKER THOMSON

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Parker Thomson, a renowned attorney and civic leader from Miami who recently passed at the age of 85. Mr. Thomson was known for his work defending the First Amendment during his time with his law firm, Paul & Thomson.

Parker was a leader in advocating for our south Florida environment, involved in cases to protect the Everglades and our pristine beaches.

As the founding chair of the Miami-Dade Performing Arts Center Trust, Mr. Thomson helped lead the charge for the creation of the state-of-the-art Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts. Parker's commitment to his community was also visible through his advocacy for The Underline project to renovate public spaces in Miami, which is led by his daughter, another pillar of our community, new generation, Meg Daly.

Mr. Thomson represented the spirit of hard work and served as a mentor to coworkers and friends. Parker Thomson has left a legacy of service to his community, one that future generations should seek to emulate.

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
APPRECIATION DAY

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Law enforcement officers answer the call to public service. They enter into situations that put their lives on the line. When the natural human response to danger is to run away, these brave men and women run toward it, and they do this to protect their communities.

Our law enforcement officers occupy that thin blue line between good and evil. They stand between us and those who wish to do us harm and harm to our families.

To the 780,000 police officers across this country who put on the badge every day, thank you, and God bless.

CONGRATULATING HELEN HAWKINS

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today to congratulate Helen Hawkins of Edwardsville, Illinois, for being inducted into the Senior Illinoisans Hall