

President Abbas without the influence of outside organizations.

Today, President Abbas should abandon Palestine's push for a vote on statehood and reengage with Israel to forge a lasting peace accord.

REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today under the dome of our Nation's Capitol to applaud the final repeal of the discriminatory policy known as Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

The men and women who fight for our country as members of our Armed Forces fight for what's right, what's fair, and what's just. They fight without asking at what cost, without asking why and how long they must endure.

This September 11 marked 10 years since that fateful day when our country was attacked. As I returned home from Chicago, boarded my plane and landed safely in Washington, I marveled at the dome that still sat, untouched by those who would do us harm, because of those who had no fear, those who gave their last full measure of devotion.

And today, I'm emboldened further by the fact that these same soldiers who have continued to fight and die for our safety can now do so without having to hide who they are or who they love. Our soldiers fight for what's right, what's fair, and what's just. Finally, we have managed to provide the same to them.

□ 1210

NO NEW TAXES

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, the President's plans to raise taxes on small business across America will hurt the economy and kill jobs. Small business creates 70 percent of the jobs in America. Unemployment is 9 percent in the country and even higher in my State of Florida.

The threat of a double-dip recession is greater than ever. The last thing we should be doing is raising taxes on job creators.

The White House claims the \$1.6 trillion tax increase won't affect small businesses and jobs. But as someone that's been in business 30 years and created thousands of jobs, they're wrong.

Millions of small businesses file their individual taxes through an individual tax code, and that means that their taxes will go up. In fact, 48 percent of small business income will face higher tax rates under the President's plan.

We need to enact pro-growth policies that create jobs, not kill them. I urge

my colleagues to reject the administration's tax hikes on job creators.

DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL REPEAL

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to note that the sun indeed came up in America today even after we've allowed people who are gay and lesbian to serve in our military.

We had a discussion for about 18 years, and now we have finally taken a step forward to liberty and freedom and equality again as we have so many times in American history.

Now we need to make sure that those new families that are serving in the military get their benefits like everyone else, and that's the next thing we need to work on.

Then we have to realize that the day will come when we recognize full marriage equality in this great country as another step forward just like we had yesterday. And when that great day comes, the sun will come up in the morning in America because we were continuing our quest to be a more just, more equal society.

NEW TAXES WILL NOT CREATE NEW JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, raising taxes on hardworking American families in this economy will not create new jobs. The President already explained that raising taxes in a down economy does not make sense.

Washington's financial problems are not caused by a shortage of revenue. Washington's financial problems are a direct result of skyrocketing wasteful spending such as \$16 muffins for the DOJ. Promises like the failed stimulus bill have been revealed as empty slogans, failing the promise of holding unemployment below 8 percent. Twenty-five million Americans are still seeking full-time jobs.

The best way to promote jobs is to offer solutions focused on getting Americans back to work. Providing certainty with regard to tax reform while easing the burden of unnecessary regulations will enable job creators to hire once again.

House Republicans have sought to achieve this goal by passing legislation aimed at cutting redtape involved with running small businesses. Reforms are being blocked by liberals with the threat of a Presidential veto.

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

REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the end of a shameful and discriminatory policy, the policy of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and to honor our brave military men and women who have served under it for almost two decades.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote in our Declaration of Independence, "Our country was conceived on the promise that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Through nearly two-and-a-half centuries, these words have guided our Nation and made our society even more free. Repealing Don't Ask, Don't Tell is one more step towards full equality, but there is still so much work to be done.

Regrettably, because of the Defense of Marriage Act, servicemembers will continue to face disparities for family programs and benefits even though they've made the same sacrifices as their fellow members of the armed services. This is not right. Let us be guided by the words of Thomas Jefferson and provide these men and women with the benefits they've earned in service to our country.

I commend President Obama for bringing an end to this divisive policy and the senior members of our Nation's military who have begun to implement the change, and congratulate my colleagues here in Congress.

I'm proud to honor the service of all of our men and women in uniform who serve in harm's way and to mark the end of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 DAVID R. CARTER

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice and laid down his life for our freedom, United States Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 David R. Carter.

Chief Warrant Officer Carter dedicated himself to over 24 years of military service. As a member of the Colorado Army National Guard, he deployed to Afghanistan last summer. On August 6, 2011, he was piloting a CH-47 helicopter on a mission to reinforce a unit under attack in Wardak Province. On that tragic day, he was one of 30 Americans lost when their helicopter was brought down by enemy fire.

Dave Carter was regarded as one of the most highly trained aviators in Colorado, with multiple combat deployments and over 4,000 flight hours.

He is also remembered for the tremendous impact he had on his family, friends, and community. Friends recall that he was never too busy to help out with a problem.

Chief Warrant Officer David Carter personifies the honor and selflessness of service as a citizen soldier. His bravery and dedication to duty will not be forgotten.

As a Marine Corps combat veteran, my deepest sympathies go out to his family, his fellow soldiers, and all who knew him.

REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to come before this body today to celebrate the end of the discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

For too long, American service men and women selflessly fought to protect our freedoms without receiving the same freedoms and protections in return. Under this flawed policy, we dismissed 14,000 patriots from our forces, and we turned away countless more Americans who simply wanted to volunteer to defend the country that we share.

Today our Nation shows the world that we can rise above prejudice and fear and take a long overdue step towards protecting our servicemembers and reducing discrimination in America.

But I am sad to say that this weekend, we received a terrible reminder that our work is not done. A 14-year-old boy from my community who was teased by his classmates about his sexual orientation took his own life. This heartbreaking tragedy was needless and should be a reminder to all of us that there are many more like Jamey Rodemeyer who are made by some to believe that it's not okay to be who they are.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of how far we've come, but I know that there remains a long road ahead of us. I am committed to continuing this fight for full equality for all Americans and explore my colleagues to do the same.

“NO” VOTE NEEDED BY U.N.

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

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, Palestinian Authority President Abbas plans to seek recognition of a Palestinian state before the United Nations. A vote in the U.N. will bypass bilateral peace negotiations between Israel and the P.A. and will threaten the success of a mutual solution.

Leaders in the United States, Israel, and the P.A. have long worked toward a mutual solution, and the P.A., seeking unilateral recognition from the U.N. is not only harmful to these ef-

forts, but also to the security of the State of Israel.

It's also important to note that the action coincides with a period of extreme volatility between Israel and their Middle Eastern neighbors. Israel's alliance with Turkey has continued to unravel over the past year, and its peace agreement with Egypt is in jeopardy.

The Palestinian Authority's move to circumvent direct talks with Israel will undermine Israel's right to exist. I call for President Abbas to withdraw his request for a U.N. vote and instead finally agree to sit down at the negotiating table with the U.S. and Israel to develop a mutual, legitimate solution.

REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. PETERS. As a former lieutenant commander in the United States Navy Reserve, I rise to applaud the repeal of the discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

This backward policy has turned away over 14,000 able-bodied men and women from our military while our Nation is fighting two wars. It wasted over \$1.3 billion taxpayer dollars through investigations, legal proceedings, and wasted training for fighter pilots, mechanics, medics, and even Arabic translators.

I am proud to have fought for this necessary change and feel privileged to have been able to cast my vote to make this misguided policy a relic of the past. Our military can now recruit and train qualified patriotic and courageous Americans who want to serve our country regardless of their sexual orientation.

During my service in the United States Navy Reserve, I served with many dedicated men and women who were always ready to serve their country. I was never concerned about their sexual orientation. Implementation of repeal marks not just an increase in military readiness but a significant step forward for civil rights and equality.

□ 1220

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE KANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the history and accomplishments of the Kansas School for the Deaf as we prepare to celebrate the school's sesquicentennial this week. It was 150 years ago that Philip A. Emery began teaching deaf students in a small two-room schoolhouse in Baldwin City, Kansas, using the techniques of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet.

Throughout the years, the Kansas School for the Deaf has been noted for its academic excellence in pre-college preparation and its career and transition program, leading to job placement upon graduation.

Along the way, the school has had many exciting moments, including almost being destroyed in Quantrill's infamous sacking of Lawrence, Kansas, and even boasts of beating the University of Kansas baseball team twice, in 1897 and 1900.

As the oldest educational institution in the State of Kansas, the Kansas School for the Deaf continues to provide a world-class education to young students, and I am proud in the United States Congress to represent the school and its many families and students.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, September is the month in which we celebrate the many contributions Latinos have made and continue to make to our great country.

Hispanic Americans are our teachers, religious leaders, doctors, lawyers, health care providers, astronauts, scientists, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. They are local and national officials providing leadership in the face of unprecedented challenges both at home and abroad.

But perhaps our greatest pride comes from our impressive record of service to this country. When grave threats imperil America's freedom, Latinos answer the call. This is highlighted by the fact that Latino servicemen and -women have earned more medals and commendations per combatant than any other ethnic group.

As we celebrate the contributions Latinos have made to our country, let us not forget our future. The stories of our Nation's Latino trailblazers serve as an inspiration to young Latinos; but like all American children, they must have the opportunity to develop their talents and reach their full potential to keep our country great.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure all of America's children are prepared to lead. Only then can America realize its promise in the 21st century.

THE OFFICIAL REPEAL OF “DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL”

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the historic, official repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. Today, nearly two decades after its enactment, our lesbian, gay, and bisexual servicemembers can finally serve and defend the country they love without the fear of being discharged. Never