

And it is established clearly in law that citizens have a right to bear arms. Beyond that, the Constitution is silent. So it leaves it up to us to address issues concerning the reasonable regulation of that right. Should we not have any regulations, or should we have regulations that are reasonable?

Now, I just heard some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talking about the numerous bills that we will be considering this week having to do with stopping regulation in its tracks in all areas, whether or not it be child safety, food, drugs, car safety, whether or not it be air, water, food, drugs. I have heard talk that regulations stop jobs from being created. That is one that I disagree with; but nevertheless, we will be considering it today.

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But there are some regulations governing the affairs of people that are reasonable, and that includes restrictions on who can bear arms and what kind of arms they can bear. To say that we should have no regulations on weapons, particularly weapons of mass destruction, to me is unwise. I don't understand why someone who has a gun in their home for protection needs to have a magazine that is capable of rapid fire, a hundred rounds in a couple of minutes or in a minute. I don't understand why someone needs that kind of firepower to protect their home.

I know people love to go hunting. I, myself, will one day have the opportunity to do that. I have never done it before, but I respect those who wait until hunting season begins on their particular prey of choice. They exercise that right and get a lot of joy and satisfaction out of it, and also bring home some food. I can't disagree with that, and we do need to cull our deer population and other populations. We have reasonable regulations on that. But you don't need an AK-47 to go deer hunting.

My 5 minutes went by very quickly, but I think you all understand what I'm saying.

#### HONORING PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANTHONY MELIO

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Pennsylvania State Representative Anthony Melio, who passed away on Thursday afternoon. To his family, friends, and neighbors, he was known simply as "Tony," "Pop Pop," and "Uncle Tony." In the Pennsylvania State capitol, he was known as a hardworking and honorable State representative.

Having served his country in the Naval Reserves and working as one of the first employees in the United

States Steel Fairless Works in Bucks County, Tony's story is the story of my hometown of Levittown, Pennsylvania, a town of dignified and hardworking people.

Tony Melio was a man who built his political career on bringing the community together with his contagious smile and his warm personality. He embodied the spirit of public service during his time in Harrisburg. As the people's representative from Lower Bucks County, Tony carried out his duties with dignity and perseverance. His commitment to his family and his community were the hallmarks of his service.

A man of great faith, Bucks County has lost one of its most well-respected and beloved public servants in Tony Melio. I, like so many, had the privilege of calling Tony a friend and a neighbor, and my thoughts and prayers are with the Melio family in this difficult time.

I thank the United States House of Representatives for stopping to remember this dignified public servant this morning.

#### DEVELOP AMERICA'S ENERGY RESOURCES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, President Obama continues to pursue an energy agenda that is contrary to his all-of-the-above rhetoric. There is no better example than his administration's recently released 5-year offshore leasing plan.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, the plan proposes a mere 15 lease sales over the next 5 years, which is the lowest number since 1980, when CRS began tracking that data. Instead of allowing the development of America's vast offshore oil and gas resources, the plan effectively imposes a moratorium on most development, a moratorium which Congress lifted nearly 4 years ago. The plan blocks drilling on 85 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf. Effectively, States which sought Federal approval will have to wait another 12 years before any production is possible.

Under current law, Congress has a 60-day review period to replace the President's plan. Last week, the House Natural Resources Committee passed H.R. 6082, a plan that will allow more development of our energy resources. Instead of a moratorium of a none-of-the-above energy policy, we should responsibly develop all of our resources for the long-term benefits of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve affordable and reliable energy.

#### PASS RUSSIA PNTR

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss an issue which I hope we will be addressing in the coming days.

There is a great deal of confusion about the possibility of our passing PNTR for Russia. Some are laboring under the impression that this is a reward to Vladimir Putin and Russia; and, in fact, the opposite is the case. We know that Vladimir Putin—in fact, many people say they look at him and what they are reminded of is the KGB. We know that Vladimir Putin, according to many reports, is attempting to reassemble the former Soviet Union. We know that he has grossly violated human rights. We know that they have a massive bureaucracy, crony capitalism, and a very corrupt court system. That's why, Mr. Speaker, it is very important for us to make sure that we pass Russia PNTR.

According to The Wall Street Journal in an editorial last week, they made it clear, Vladimir Putin does not want to us to pass the Magnitsky Act, which is part of PNTR, and they go on to say that he probably would be just as happy if we did not have PNTR. Why? Because based on overwhelming votes that took place in the last 2 weeks in the Russian Parliament, in the Duma, the lower house, and the Federated Council, the upper house, overwhelming votes, Russia is going to become a member of the World Trade Organization. I personally believe that's a good thing. It will take a great step in the direction of forcing Russia to live with a rules-based trading system, to address those issues of crony capitalism, a corrupt court system, and a massive bureaucracy.

But, Mr. Speaker, having said that, I think it is important to note that we've seen action taken here in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and we have seen a great deal of enthusiasm focused on the Magnitsky Act.

What is the Magnitsky Act? It is legislation that is named for Sergei Magnitsky, who was a whistleblower who focused on basically corruption that existed within the tax reporting system, basically, tax fraud. He reported on that, and he was imprisoned. He died in 2009. Mr. Speaker, what happened, very sadly, according to most reports, is that he was beaten to death.

Well, what does this legislation do? Something, again, Vladimir Putin would be virulently opposed to. It actually penalizes anyone who was involved in those human rights violations against Sergei Magnitsky. So, Mr. Speaker, this is a good thing. And at the same time in passing PNTR, we will say that the 140 million consumers in Russia will have access to goods and services from the United States of America.

Under the measure that has passed both houses of the Russian Parliament, as I said, overwhelming majorities, it will go into effect within the next couple or 3 weeks. What we need to do, Mr. Speaker, we need to recognize that the

world will have access to that consumer market. We need to create jobs here in the United States of America. We need to open up that market for U.S. goods and services.

And so, Mr. Speaker, when this vote comes forward, don't believe that this is somehow a reward to Vladimir Putin and the people who are leading Russia. This, in fact, is a great benefit for workers in the United States of America, businesses in the United States of America, and a benefit to the consumers of Russia who will have access to our goods and services.

I want to congratulate, in closing, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues BILLY LONG and TOM REED, who, along with 71 other of the newly elected Members, sent a letter that indicates strong support of this effort.

□ 1040

#### RECOGNIZING BELL FLAVORS & FRAGRANCES

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to echo the comments of the esteemed chairman from the Rules Committee about the effects the Russian PNTR is going to have for American businesses. It really is going to allow us to compete more on a level playing field.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today also to recognize Bell Flavors & Fragrances of Northbrook, Illinois, who tomorrow will celebrate their 100-year anniversary on July 25. This is, indeed, a remarkable achievement and something that we should celebrate. Mr. James Heintz and his team at Bell Flavors & Fragrances are innovating and selling products that satisfy the needs of their customers. And their customers, Mr. Speaker, are literally all over the world. Headquartered in Northbrook, Illinois, Bell Flavors & Fragrances has sales offices in 40 countries around the world and tailors its products to meet the regional demands of its consumers.

Bell is one of the many small businesses in my district that has utilized the Export-Import Bank. They've utilized it this year to support their export operations. As a member of the Financial Services Committee and a strong supporter of the Export-Import Bank, I'm proud that here in Congress we were able to work together on a broad, bipartisan basis to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank. So many of our small and medium-sized businesses rely on support of the Export-Import Bank in order to more efficiently and effectively compete in the global marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, we don't always spend enough time, effort, or energy here in Washington, D.C., celebrating business growth and success. So today on behalf of the residents of the 10th District of Illinois, I want to congratulate the wonderful people who make up Bell

Flavors & Fragrances on their centennial anniversary.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Bud Roland, St. John Neumann Catholic Church, Austin, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Good and loving God, we thank You for this day. We thank You for the gift of public service.

We ask for Your blessings on these women and men who serve on our behalf. Grant them the wisdom to be humble in collaboration, the vision to consider the needs of all American citizens, and the desire to protect our freedom as they provide for the common good.

Direct their deliberations to be good leaders and guide them in fruitful dialogue.

May Your grace shine forth in all their proceedings. May they enact just laws for our government, and may they seek to preserve peace, promote national happiness, and continue to bring us the blessings of liberty and equality. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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 I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CRAWFORD 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.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will remind the House that on July 24, 1998, at

3:40 p.m., Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson of the United States Capitol Police were killed in the line of duty defending the Capitol against an intruder armed with a gun.

At 3:40 p.m. today, the Chair will recognize the anniversary of this tragedy by observing a moment of silence in their memory.

#### WELCOMING REVEREND BUD ROLAND

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

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good and decent man, a man of God and a man of faith, a man who has devoted his entire life to the service of his fellow man. Father Bud Roland, whom we affectionately call Father Bud, is our guest chaplain today and is the pastor of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Austin, Texas.

A native of Amarillo, Father Bud was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in January 1999. He was inspired to convert to Catholicism by a loving and generous man in Amarillo named Jordan Grooms who also inspired scores of others to go into the priesthood.

I am thankful that this man impacted Father Bud, who has gone on to shepherd so many with great love and great leadership. Father Bud is revered, admired, and loved by all whose lives he has touched. It has been a great privilege to call him my pastor, and everyone who knows him experiences the true message of Christ. In his words, in his deeds and, above all, in his heart, his example is a beacon of light which draws us all closer to the Creator.

I am reminded of Romans 8:28, which says:

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

We are blessed, and the world is a better place because Father Bud was called according to His purpose.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YODER). The Chair will entertain 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### RECOGNITION OF RETA HAMILTON

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership and dedication Reta Hamilton has shown to the Republican Party of Arkansas and the Republican National Committee. Ms. Hamilton has made a lifelong commitment to advancing conservative causes.

Her career began as a volunteer in political activism in 1995; and she has