

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, 100 years ago, Congress passed the 1914 Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriations Act, which established a separate department within the Library of Congress to serve the legislative and resource needs of the United States Congress.

The legislation authorized the Library of Congress to “employ competent persons to prepare such indexes, digests, and compilations of laws as may be required for Congress and other official use.”

In 1946, the Department was renamed the Legislative Reference Service, which is today known as the Congressional Research Service, or CRS. Over the years, CRS has served the Congress by providing comprehensive and reliable legislative research and analyses that are timely, objective, and authoritative.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the Congressional Research Service, and today I want to thank these research professionals for the work they do and the contributions they make to the United States Congress and our Federal legislative process.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, last week, members of the Safe Climate Caucus challenged the Republicans who are on the Energy and Commerce Committee to come to the floor and debate with us and talk about the problems of climate change. We wrote them a letter, and we haven't even gotten a reply. There seems to be a conspiracy of silence in the House of Representatives about the dangers of climate change, and it's time for real debate on the House floor.

Every day, members of the Safe Climate Caucus have come to this floor to give speeches on topics relating to climate change, including the importance of preparing communities to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events, potential for clean energy technologies, and the threats of rising temperatures across the country.

In contrast, we're not aware of any Republican Member who has spoken on the House floor about the dangers of climate change, and the committee of jurisdiction is not even willing to hold a hearing to hear what the scientists and experts have to say about the issue.

I have a message to House Republicans: You can't make climate change go away by ignoring the problem.

THE BOSTON TRAGEDY

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, today our hearts remain

heavy. Our hearts are heavy for those who lost their lives in Monday's unspeakable act of violence, for those who remain in critical condition, for the parents who lost their 8-year-old son, and for the families whose loved ones never came home from the Boston Marathon.

While our sorrow is great, so, too, is our resolve. We're committed to working with law enforcement officers to ensure that those responsible are held accountable, and we are committed to stopping acts of terror on U.S. soil and abroad.

We will remain vigilant, demand answers, and seek justice, for there is nothing we take more seriously than the protection of American life. And in our sorrow, we will find gratitude for the firefighters, paramedics, police officers, and first responders who put their lives at risk to help save others.

In the words of Ronald Reagan:

I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth to each and every life.

So today let us come together as Americans—as moms and dads, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives—and continue to pray for those whose lives were forever changed.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, earlier today, the Energy and Commerce Committee passed, for the third time in 2 years, a bill to force approval of the Keystone XL pipeline.

I voted against the bill for many reasons, but chief among them is the fact that it doubles down on a dead-end oil-based energy policy that is hurting our economy, hurting our environment and our health.

Burning fossil fuels is a primary cause of climate change, and we simply can't afford to continue down this destructive path. It makes far more sense to focus on developing the clean, renewable energy technologies that we all know we're going to need down the road. Developing these technologies will create quality long-term jobs that can't be shipped overseas. It's good for business; it's good for our planet; and it's good for our national security.

There's no reason we can't put aside our differences and take action to promote a clean energy future. It's what our constituents sent us here to do.

Our window of opportunity is rapidly closing. The time to act is now.

□ 1720

CYBERSECURITY AND THE CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, the House has been considering H.R. 624, the so-called CISPA bill.

Although its sponsors assure us that a person's Internet data would be stripped of personal identification, this bill then allows this data to be used to prosecute certain Federal crimes. Well, how could they do it? It turns out the Federal Government, having stumbled upon this evidence, can then seek a warrant to obtain that personally identifying information.

That makes it the functional equivalent of the “writ of assistance” used by the English Crown in colonial times. It is antithetical to the Fourth Amendment, which requires that, before the government can invade your privacy, it must first present a court with reasonable cause to believe you have committed a crime. This bill effectively allows the government to search through your personal records indiscriminantly and then use that information to form the basis of a prosecution.

Cybersecurity is an important national security issue, but it does not trump the Bill of Rights or the American freedoms that our Constitution protects.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Today, I rise to cite the fact that the American people and Democrats and scientists agree that climate change is a danger to us all, but where are the Republicans? A week ago, I joined my colleagues in the Safe Climate Caucus to challenge the Republican members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to debate the Nation's response to climate change on the House floor. We received no response.

It is time for a real debate on the House floor about the dangers of climate change. We are already seeing the powerful forces and effects of nature. We are witnessing the predictions of our premier scientists come true, and they are alarming. We've seen catastrophic storms, record heat waves, droughts, and wildfires. Top scientists in the U.S. and around the world tell us that impacts like these will get even worse as climate change continues. There is no debate about the science of climate change.

Madam Speaker, it's time for a debate on how to solve climate change.

THE “GOLD STAR” FOR DAWSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR ROTC

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to report that the Dawson County High School Junior ROTC recently earned “gold star” status. This honor places the Dawson County High School Junior ROTC in

the top 10 percent of the Nation. This status is a reflection of each cadet's hard work and the investment of the parents, the instructors, and the community in the Junior ROTC program.

As a member of the Air Force Reserve, I have great admiration for the young people involved in Junior ROTC in Georgia and throughout the United States. This important program instills the values of citizenship, service, and personal responsibility in the next generation of leaders.

I anticipate great things from these young men and women in the future, and I wish the Dawson County High School Junior ROTC program continued success.

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDEX

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

Mr. COHEN. I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the founding of FedEx, one of the world's great companies.

According to business lore, CEO Fred Smith originally introduced his idea for FedEx in a Yale economics paper that got him a C grade. Today, 40 years later, we can all appreciate the merit of that C paper after the company originally set up shop in 1973 near the Memphis airport with 14 aircraft and 186 packages set for delivery. That first day, FedEx flew to 25 U.S. cities from its home base in Memphis, which remains its world headquarters. Today, FedEx has grown to ship more than 9 million parcels daily across the globe.

FedEx and Fred Smith have also shown great generosity to the country, and Memphis is lucky and proud that it's our home company. Fred Smith, a combat marine, who served two tours of duty in Vietnam, served as the co-chair of the World War II Memorial Committee to build a memorial here in Washington.

It used to be said that what's good for General Motors is good for the Nation, but now I think what's good for FedEx is good for the Nation—absolutely, positively.

I congratulate Fred Smith and FedEx on 40 years of great service, and I look forward to another 40 years of innovation and service.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. TONKO. It is time for a real debate on climate change—right here on the House floor. The members of the Safe Climate Caucus come to the floor to talk about this critical issue every day that the House is in session, but where are our Republican colleagues?

Last week, we challenged the Republican members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to a debate, a debate

about the appropriate policy response to the threat of climate change, but we've heard nothing from the Republicans. The House Republican leadership should schedule that debate right away. This problem is not going away. The longer we delay, the greater the risks.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has refused to act or to even hear the latest science. Congressman WAXMAN and Congressman RUSH have sent over 20 letters requesting hearings with scientists and other experts about important developments in climate science, but the Republicans have refused to hold any hearings on climate change. The American public is entitled to an explanation for this disappointing record of inaction.

Madam Speaker, we need to get serious about tackling climate change. That means having a debate about what actions should be taken. That debate is long overdue, and my friends, time is running out.

JOHN GRANVILLE

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about a remarkable man from Buffalo, New York—John Granville.

John was a diplomat with the United States Agency for International Development, who was facilitating free elections in the Sudan when, 5 years ago, he was assassinated in Khartoum. Four of his killers were captured and convicted, but they escaped from prison. Two remain at large, and the State Department has issued a \$5 million reward for information leading to their capture. Meanwhile, in February, the Sudanese Government pardoned the man who helped John Granville's killers escape.

Madam Speaker, John deserves better. He was a selfless and courageous man who dedicated his life to representing the United States and in helping those who needed it most. Tomorrow, I will introduce a resolution calling for the Sudan to remain on the State Sponsors of Terrorism list until the pardon is repealed and the escapees are captured. I will also send a letter demanding that President al-Bashir rescind the pardon immediately.

John Granville made western New York and our Nation proud. I will keep fighting to see that justice is served and that his memory is honored.

CLIMATE CHANGE NEEDS A GLOBAL SOLUTION

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

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Ladies and gentlemen, I join you today to share an amusing note that one of my constituents posted on Facebook recently. He said:

I carved my pumpkin, and it was snowing outside. Today, I dyed Easter eggs, and it's snowing outside. Congratulations, Mr. President. You've solved global warming.

Now, that's amusing. Climate change is a serious issue, but we must recognize that we do not have this planet all to ourselves and that, when the Chinese are increasing elevenfold their profits on the production of coal, when they, in fact, have become the number one coal producer, when their equipment is about 30 to 50 percent less efficient than ours, we cannot solve this problem without a global solution, and we must have the Chinese act.

We've done our part in going down this road to solve problems. We need the Chinese to act as well.

COMMONSENSE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON GUN OWNERS

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. I rise to commend JOE MANCHIN and PAT TOOMEY for coming up with a rational approach that 92 percent of Americans all agree with in the need for universal background checks as they relate to our gun laws.

The bill was taken up today in the Senate, and the vote was 54–46. Every fifth grader in America is astounded that that bill was defeated. Only in the United States Senate, the other body, could that take place—that a vote of 54–46 would not pass.

So, disheartening as it is and in reeling from the events that have taken place in Boston on Patriots' Day, children all across America cannot be reassured by their parents tonight that they are safe, but the NRA will sleep well this evening. Mission accomplished.

But there is another Chamber and an opportunity for the House of Representatives to speak its will on the violence that has been perpetrated across this country: in the commonsense background checks that are needed here in this country.

□ 1730

WAR ON COAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.