

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this weekend. I had the honor of serving on their board for a number of years.

This wonderful institution was first founded by Holocaust survivors living in Rhode Island during the 1980s. It formally opened its doors on May 5, 1988, and since that time it has helped to provide Rhode Islanders with educational resources on the Holocaust and commemorate the lives of the millions of victims of this horrific atrocity.

In addition, the Holocaust Education and Resource Center works with schools in Rhode Island, southeastern Massachusetts, and even the suburbs of Boston to teach young people about the importance of treating everyone with respect and dignity and to work to eradicate bigotry and intolerance.

Congratulations to the Holocaust Education and Resource Center on 25 successful years of promoting tolerance and respect to tens of thousands of Rhode Islanders, for helping us all remember those killed by the Nazis in the Holocaust, and for making Rhode Island and our world a better place. I wish this organization continued success in the years to come.

#### CONGRATULATING FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, Fort Bend Christian Academy rules. Yesterday, the Eagles won two State titles.

The day started with the Lady Eagles winning their fourth State championship in softball, the fourth title in 7 years. Behind Coach Ferguson Carroll and Elizabeth Fox's 12 strikeouts, the Lady Eagles crushed Fort Worth Christian 4-0.

Right after that game ended, the Fort Bend Christian men won their first State baseball title with a close 12-11 victory over Midland Christian. Coach Roman and the team never quit, scoring four runs in the top of the sixth inning to take the lead for good.

There's an old saying in naval aviation: don't mess with an eagle unless you know how to fly. The Fort Bend Christian men and women are Eagles who know how to fly. Those Eagles are Texas State champs.

#### PROVIDING FOOD STAMP SAFETY NET

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, our farms and ranches produce food products in amounts that greatly exceed our nutritional needs. There is no reason for

anyone in this country to go hungry. And yet, that is a daily reality faced by many poor families.

The food stamp program provides a small but essential safety net to meet the nutritional needs of children, the elderly, the disabled, and those who fall on hard times when our economy sheds jobs.

The proposed cuts to the food stamp program included in the House farm bill are unacceptable and cruel. Poor nutrition leads to poor health outcomes and long-term developmental problems in children. It does not save money. It simply transfers costs to those who cannot pay those costs and needlessly increases suffering. We can afford to feed all of our citizens. A farm and food policy that cannot deliver nutritious meals to all Americans is indeed failed policy. We can and must do better.

□ 1210

#### AMERICANS NEED TO KNOW

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the President made a pledge to Americans: If you elect me and you like your current health care, you'll be able to keep it.

The reality today is that nearly 7 million people are set to lose their employer-sponsored health insurance when the President's health care law goes into full effect. On January 1, many Americans will be forced into an exchange program that has not even been set up.

NANCY PELOSI promised the American people Congress must pass the bill so you can find out what's in it. The Democratic-controlled House passed the bill almost 4 years ago. They didn't know what was in the bill then, and they don't know what to do now.

We're less than 7 months away from many Americans being forced into exchanges. Yet they don't know what options are available to them.

What we do know is that consumers are already looking at sharp premium increases. The very people who were promised the most, those young people under the age of 29, are expected to get increases somewhere in the range of 200 percent.

This is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker. Most Americans operate under a budget. Americans need to know what the increases in their health care costs will be and what plan options are available. Americans need to know the effects that this legislation will have on their lives, and they need to know now.

The administration has had 4 years to figure this out, and the only thing they've figured out is that they don't know what to do.

#### BLOCK THE BORDER FEE TAX

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Homeland Security Committee adopted my amendment to block a study of new fees for passengers and pedestrians crossing our borders. A similar amendment was successfully included in the Senate legislation last week.

The consensus for blocking this tax is welcome, but not surprising. Cross-border travel is central to the economic viability of border communities, including my own in western New York.

Last year, 3 million Canadians visited our region, spending nearly \$1 billion. Canadians rely on seamless travel at one of my district's five border crossings to travel from the Buffalo Niagara International Airport, area businesses, and to attend sporting and cultural events.

Mr. Speaker, with the bipartisan support, bicameral support for this issue, I suggest that language blocking the border fees should be included in the upcoming immigration reform legislation. This is a senseless tax. It's counterproductive, and we should take every action to prevent it.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MOSES HARRISON

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Moses Harrison. His judicial successes have been well chronicled, but he got elected to the Illinois Supreme Court in 1992 and served for 8 years before becoming the chief justice.

However, there's probably no more credible source than my mom, who says that Moses was a nice, gentle man; everyone who knew him liked him.

I also appreciated his support in a letter for me to go to the military academy at West Point.

Moses was very involved in local activities and also was involved in the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Harrison was preceded in death by his son, Luke. He leaves behind his wife, Sharon; his son, Judge Clarence Harrison and his wife and four grandchildren, who will greatly miss him.

#### SAFE CLIMATE AND RAIL

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are in dangerous and uncharted territory. At 400 parts per million, there is now more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than at any time in the past 3 million years.

Now here in the United States, more than a quarter of our greenhouse gas

emissions come from the transportation sector, so it's urgent that we make our cars and trucks cleaner, but also that we invest in clean modes of transportation, such as rail.

Saturday was National Train Day, which celebrates the rail networks that efficiently move freight and passengers across our country and reduce the number of cars on our roads.

In California, we're building high-speed rail with renewable energy. When complete, it will move millions of people far more quickly, cleanly, and efficiently than we do today. And in the North Bay, we're connecting Sonoma and Marin Counties with 70 miles of rail, meaning 1.4 million fewer car trips along Highway 101.

Investments in rail at the national scale can increase efficiency, reduce traffic, and fight climate change. It's time for Congress to get "all aboard" with this climate solution.

#### ADMINISTRATION FAILURES

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, this administration's repeated disregard for transparency and the rule of law should trouble every American.

Mr. Speaker, the administration has accused congressional Republicans of playing politics as we conduct oversight into the administration's failures before, during, and after the terrorist attack in Benghazi. But this is hypocritical, coming from an administration that already altered talking points to cover their own political agenda.

And more recently, Mr. Speaker, we learned that the IRS deliberately targeted conservative groups. The IRS has the serious responsibility of collecting taxes and holding accountable those who cheat the system; and now it seems that they, themselves, are choosing when to follow the law.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve more from their elected officials. I hope as details of these events emerge the American people will find out the truth, not just the administration's spin.

#### THE FOSTER CHILDREN OPPORTUNITY ACT

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

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be introducing the Foster Children Opportunity Act today. This legislation will ensure that abused and neglected immigrant children have an opportunity to succeed in our country. It is supported by over 175 child welfare organizations.

As we debate immigration reform, it is critical that we consider the needs of immigrant children involved in the child welfare system. This is a popu-

lation that is especially vulnerable and frequently overlooked.

Despite being eligible for special forms of immigration relief, foster children are slipping through the cracks and leaving care without a resolution of their immigration issues. As a result, they cannot work legally in the U.S. and face the threat of deportation back to a country they don't know, one where their abuser may still live.

We owe these children better. My bill will make sure immigrant foster youth are assisted with resolving their immigration issues prior to leaving care and guarantees that they have access to programs, such as Medicaid that foster youth depend on to make a healthy transition into adulthood.

May is National Foster Care Month. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Foster Children Opportunity Act.

#### OBAMACARE IS FAILING

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

Mr. DESANTIS. Mr. Speaker, no single piece of legislation rests so squarely on a foundation of broken promises as the 2010 health care law known as ObamaCare. We were told that it would lower insurance rates to the tune of \$2,500 per family, but we know not only is it not lowering rates; it's causing rates to spike 10 percent, 20 percent, even 30, 40 percent in some States.

We were told it was going to be cost effective, but now we know that the costs were purposely understated to mask the true cost of this nearly \$2 trillion bill.

We were told if you like your plan, you can keep your plan. We now know the question is not whether millions of Americans will lose their current plans, but how many millions of Americans will lose their current plans. This is what you get when you pass a 2,000-page bill before reading it.

Oh, and do you want the IRS to be involved with your health care?

ObamaCare is failing, and the American people are paying the price for this failure. Let's turn the page on ObamaCare and enact true patient-centered reform that benefits people, not bureaucrats.

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT IN OUR NATION'S MILITARY

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, according to the Pentagon, about 26,000 servicemen and -women were subjected to sexual assault while serving in this Nation's military this past year. In fact, last year, Congress saw the Lackland Air Force scandal unravel as instructors were accused of engaging in sexual relationships with 32 recruits.

Earlier this month, an Air Force lieutenant colonel overseeing the sexual assault prevention programs was arrested for sexually assaulting a woman while he was under the influence of alcohol.

Two days ago, the Pentagon revealed yet another sexual assault allegation against an Army sergeant at Fort Hood who is currently under investigation for multiple charges, including prostitution solicitation charges.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about instructors, about lieutenant colonels, about sergeants, about people who have moved up in the ranks. I believe this highlights the underlying issue of leadership, or the lack of, in military leaders; and we must hold them accountable.

□ 1220

#### "TRUST" THE GOVERNMENT

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

Ms. JENKINS. The President tells Americans to "trust" the government, but this week is loaded with reasons not to.

Take the new health care law. We were told it would lower costs and increase access. Now we find premiums could increase by 400 percent and 7 million who had insurance through their employers will lose it.

This law will turn the IRS, caught in a scandal of its own, into chief health care enforcers. And it's proven so unpopular, HHS Secretary Sebelius has resorted to soliciting contributions to promote ObamaCare from the same people this law authorizes her to regulate. If I got a call, I'd feel pressure to ante up; and in America, this shouldn't happen.

Today, I'm proud to support repealing this costly law to keep the IRS out of your health care and to work on replacing it with a patient-focused alternative that will actually help families.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the deep cuts once again being proposed by Republicans to the SNAP program in the House farm bill. In July 2012, the House Agriculture Committee reported a bipartisan farm bill that included \$16 billion in food stamp cuts. Guess what? The Speaker and the Republican majority refused to schedule that bill for a vote. And so the Agriculture Committee has now marked up another farm bill, this time with \$20 billion in cuts to the SNAP program.

Why are you so determined to attempt deficit reduction on the backs of the poor and less fortunate in our society? The SNAP program helps families