

American—a Kansan—who came within inches of giving his life in the service of his country, but who has made an unthinkable yet not unbelievable recovery.

I first met Spring Hill native Army Sergeant Zeke Crozier 2 years ago. He was with the 158th Aviation Regiment out of Gardner, Kansas, and he was set to deploy to Afghanistan. After being in Afghanistan for only 41 days, the Chinook helicopter Sergeant Crozier was flying in crashed violently, and he suffered a severe traumatic brain injury.

Defying all odds, Sergeant Crozier has made a miraculous recovery, and even walked into my district office in Overland Park, Kansas, yesterday. Sergeant Crozier's recovery efforts are inspirational. They are also a reminder that we must always keep our commitment to our Nation's veterans. There are over 530,000 veterans benefit cases on backlog at the VA. This is unacceptable to me and to the men and women willing to serve our country bravely and honorably, especially those that now need our help in return.

To Sergeant Crozier and to all those who have served, a grateful Nation thanks you for your sacrifice.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, in the coming days, we will soon be taking up H.R. 5, the Student Success Act, which is a long overdue reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. I'm rising today to speak about the need to include in this reauthorization the Native Hawaiian Education Act. I've introduced H.R. 2287, which does just this. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure its passage.

Last week, when I was in Hawaii, I had the chance to meet with parents and educators in the Native Hawaiian Education community on the islands of Kauai, Maui, and Molokai. I heard from them about the firsthand successes of this program, which has been in place since 1988.

Education is, by far, the best investment that we can make in our economy and in our future. We are empowering and educating the next generation in communities that have largely been underserved, while at the same time preserving rich and unique culture, language, and values of our native people. The Native Hawaiian Education Act has been serving our kids for the last 25 years. It's critical that these innovative programs continue.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the NHEA and other programs that can enable and empower our underserved communities to thrive.

STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATES

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

Mrs. BEATTY. I rise today to address the recent doubling of interest rates on federally backed, needs-based student loans. Students deserve access, not obstacles, to higher education. These rate hikes will make college less affordable at a time when we should be encouraging, not discouraging, people to seek higher education opportunities to grow our economy and to create jobs. But due to House Republicans' failure to act, the interest rate on college loans has doubled from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent for some 7.4 million students.

In these tough economic times, Democrats understand we should be making every effort possible to increase access to higher education for all Americans. There is no time left. We need to act now to reverse the rate hike and keep student loan interest rates low so more Americans can have a fair shot at a college education.

MAJOR LEAGUE SPORTS TEAMS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, in 1995, former Washington Bullets owner Abe Pollin announced that he would be changing the name of the Washington Bullets to the Washington Wizards. The change did not happen overnight, nor was everyone happy about it. But Mr. Pollin knew it was the right thing to do. And he did it successfully. Given the high homicide and crime rate in the early 1990s in Washington, D.C., Mr. Pollin became increasingly concerned about the Bullets' association with violence. Finally, when Mr. Pollin's close friend, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, was assassinated in November 1995, he made the final decision.

Mr. Dan Snyder, owner of the Washington Redskins, may never come to the realization that is so evident to us all in the 21st century—that the term “redskins” is racist, demeaning, derogatory, and offensive to Native Americans. But I stand today, once again, to make this appeal to Mr. Snyder. I am thankful for Mr. Pollin's brave decision to change the Bullets' name, and I urge Mr. Snyder to have the courage to do the same. Change the name of your football franchise.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, the time has come for this House to address comprehensive immigration reform. If the Senate can fashion a bipartisan bill, we can too.

Follow the money. Bringing 11 million people out of the shadows would increase our gross domestic product by \$832 billion over 10 years. Follow the money. The CBO calculates that the Senate bill will cut the deficit by \$197 billion over 10 years. What is not to like about that?

The plan that passed the Senate would strengthen our borders, crack down on employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers, and let those who want to earn their citizenship do just that.

Mr. Speaker, if the Senate can do it, we can do it too.

□ 1230

STUDENT LOANS

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I am certain that during this past district work week you were asked, as I was: “What about the student loans?” What people were asking was: “What are you doing in Congress about the rates that are going to double on July 1?”

Let's review what we know, Mr. Speaker. We know that there are 7.4 million students that are affected. The rates are doubling from 3.4 to 6.8 percent, and this means \$1,000 more in debt. We know that a college education can mean about \$1 million more in future earnings over a lifetime. We know that we, as a country, need to build up our graduates to continue to be competitive. We also know that 45 percent of Americans hold student loan debt.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to act now for America's future.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to echo the sentiments of many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle regarding the urgency to fix the student loan interest rate hike that took place last Monday.

The inability of Congress to come together and compromise on behalf of America's students is embarrassing. Doubling interest rates makes college less affordable, and the increased debt burden threatens the middle class and harms our economy.

Recent graduates who should be putting away money for their first home or saving up to start their own business are instead spending upwards of \$500 per month paying back loans for their college education. Recent Florida graduates left college with student loan debt equal to 54 percent of their annual income.

Just this Monday, I heard the concerns of students in my district on how this debt will impact their future. Some students are even considering dropping out of college.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. I once again urge the House of Representatives to set politics aside and immediately take up legislation to right this wrong.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, it's time that the Congress get to work and stop this doubling of the interest rates on our student loans.

I'd like to take this moment to remind my colleagues here in the House that our generation was able to graduate from universities and enjoy great success for the most part debt free because college costs were less and we were able to get a combination of grants and scholarships.

What we're doing to today's generation is unforgivable; it's unconscionable. They're expected to graduate with \$30,000 in debt, on average. We were able to start building families and homes and businesses and buy cars. Our generation that we're handing over to is expected to pay loans. We just simply cannot allow this to happen. It's not right.

We all have an obligation to pay forward. This country has been so good to our generation; it's time for us to pay back. Let's step up, get to work, and stop this increase from taking place.

And last, but not least, let's put it in perspective. For what we spent on the war in Iraq, \$1 trillion, we could have sent an entire generation of young men and women through college and let them graduate debt free.

Let's get our priorities in order, Mr. Speaker.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on further consideration of H.R. 2609, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 288 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2609.

Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) kindly take the chair.

□ 1235

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole

House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, with Mr. HOLDING (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, July 9, 2013, a request for a recorded vote on an amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) had been postponed and the bill had been read through page 60, line 12.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to implement or enforce section 430.32(x) of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations; or

(2) to implement or enforce the standards established by the tables contained in section 325(i)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(i)(1)(B)) with respect to BPAR incandescent reflector lamps, BR incandescent reflector lamps, and ER incandescent reflector lamps.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Chairman, in this House, in 2007, a bill was passed called the Energy Independence and Security Act. One of the features of this bill was to take away consumer choice when deciding which light bulbs our constituents could use in their own homes. Since that time, I have heard from literally tens of thousands of people on the inequities of this provision. Mr. Chairman, they're right.

While the government has passed energy-efficiency standards in other realms over the years, they have never moved so far and lowered standards so drastically to a point where at this date, over 5 years, the technology is still years off in making light bulbs that are compliant with the 2007 law and at a price point that the average American can afford.

Last year, light bulb companies talked about their new 2007 law-compliant bulbs that are available now, but they're available at price points of \$20, \$30, \$40, and \$50 each bulb.

Opponents to my amendment will claim that the 2007 language does not ban the incandescent bulb. This is true. It bans the sale of the 100-watt, the 60-watt, and the 45-watt bulbs. The replacement bulbs are far from economically efficient, even if they are energy efficient. A family living paycheck to paycheck can't afford to replace every bulb in their house at \$25 a bulb, even if those bulbs will last 20 years.

This Congress should be on the side of the consumer and on the side of consumer choice. If the new energy-effi-

cient light bulbs save money and if they're better for the environment, we should trust our constituents to make the choice on their own toward these bulbs. Let the market decide. We should not be forcing these light bulbs on the American people. The bottom line is the Federal Government has no business taking away the freedom of choice from Americans as to what type of light bulbs to use in their homes.

The columnist, George Will, speaking on a television program back in December of 2007, describing the efforts of the then-110th Congress, was fairly disparaging. He pointed out that Congress had not done much work in the calendar year 2007. He went on to say that the sole functions of the Federal Government are to defend the borders and deliver the mail, but all the Congress had managed to do was ban the incandescent bulb.

This exact amendment was passed the past 2 years by voice vote and both times was included in the legislation signed into law by President Obama. It allows consumers to continue to have a choice and a say as to what they put in their homes. It's common sense. Let's give some relief to American families at least until replacement light bulbs can be marketed at prices that don't break the bank.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the very distinguished Member's amendment—Dr. BURGESS—and simply say that his amendment would prohibit the Department of Energy from promulgating light bulb efficiency standards.

It is a common misunderstanding that there is some type of ban on the incandescent light bulb that effectively requires people to have the limited choice of only a compact fluorescent bulb. This is simply not true. Regulations require only that bulbs be more efficient.

So this debate really isn't about choice—or energy efficiency for that matter. It's about endangering American jobs, specifically American manufacturing jobs. Given that American manufacturers have committed to following the law regardless of whether or not it is enforced, the only benefit of this ill-informed rider is to allow foreign manufacturers who may not feel a similar obligation to import non-compliant light bulbs that will not only harm the investments made by U.S. companies, but place at risk the U.S. manufacturing jobs associated with making compliant bulbs.

Further, it is the equivalent of a \$100 tax on every American family—that's \$16 billion across our Nation—through increased energy costs.

The performance standards for light bulbs were established in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. At that time, the bill enjoyed strong