

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2359

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have the name of Mr. BISHOP of Utah removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2359.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2319

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor to H.R. 2319.

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

There was no objection.

ARMANDO TORRES

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a marine who desperately needs our help. Corporal Armando Torres was kidnapped in Mexico more than 2 months ago. Minimal attention here in the U.S. and in Mexico has allowed Armando's kidnappers to think that we've given up. They are wrong. The United States does not give up and does not leave one of our own behind. The kidnapping of a United States citizen and a marine will not be tolerated. Armando served our country honorably, and now it is our duty to serve him well now.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the bond between marines can never be broken. In the coming days, marines here in the House will come together on this floor for their brother. I invite all Members to join us and show that we will not rest until we bring Armando home.

RECOGNIZING WATERVLiet ARSE- NAL ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

(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, I rise today to recognize the Watervliet Arsenal, which celebrated its 200th anniversary on July 14.

Watervliet is the Nation's oldest, continuously operated arsenal, having begun its manufacturing of military hardware during the War of 1812.

For 200 years, the arsenal has produced critical weapons, parts and material that have been indispensable to our Nation's defense. Earlier this year, the Secretary of the Army recognized the arsenal's high quality and essential work by designating it as a Center of Industrial and Technological Excellence.

The Army's Benet Laboratories, renowned for its research and development and work with advanced materials and composites, is also located at the facility. Let me offer a special congratulations to the arsenal's employees, who, despite senseless sequestration-related furloughs, continue to provide manufacturing, engineering, and quality assurance for our Nation's cannons and mortars. They have developed skills and expertise over the course of decades, many coming from families that have worked at the arsenal for generations, pouring their talents into this powerful success story. They are truly the lifeblood of the Watervliet community and the Greater Capital Region of upstate New York.

AUTHORITY FOR MANDATE DELAY ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, the House will debate H.R. 2667, the Authority for Mandate Delay Act. This bill will delay enforcement of the ObamaCare mandate—employers with 50 full-time employees who do not offer government-approved coverage must pay a \$2,000 fine annually for an employee. On July 2, the administration announced a delay. And while their authority to unilaterally change the law is questionable, the mandate remains a problem.

Earlier today, an employer in Pennsylvania told me that in order to address compliance costs, the employer would opt to close 1 day a week. This is not rhetoric.

In May of 2012, 71 Fortune 100 companies responded to a House Ways and Means survey. They estimated savings up to \$28.6 billion in 2014 by eliminating coverage for their 5.9 million employees, paying the \$2,000 annual fine. This would impact more than 10.2 million employees and dependents.

It appears that the administration has begun to understand that the employer mandate provides a perverse incentive for companies to drop their employees from health plans that are otherwise working.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2667.

ERIC "WITH" HOLDER—FAST AND FURIOUS—AND ANOTHER VICTIM

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at a House Judiciary hearing, Eric "With" Holder, the Attorney General, admitted to me that more people were going to die because of Operation Fast and Furious. That's the Justice Department and ATF gunrunning scheme that sent hundreds of U.S. automatic weapons to criminal drug cartels in Mexico.

Recently, Mexican Police Chief Lucio Rosales Astorga of Hostotipaquillo, Mexico, was ambushed and gunned down by assassins as he was driving his son to school. His wife and two bodyguards were also shot. The automatic weapon used to shoot him was a Fast and Furious gun smuggled to Mexico by the U.S. Government. Reportedly, over 200 Mexican nationals have been killed by Fast and Furious weapons.

American guns are at the side of these puddles of blood. Chief Astorga's son will be fatherless because of this government's recklessness. Meanwhile, Attorney General Eric "With" Holder keeps stonewalling justice and withholding information on this gunrunning scheme.

Mr. Speaker, somebody needs to go to jail. And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING MRS. VIOLET B. HANNA ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and happy birthday wishes to Mrs. Violet B. Hanna, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on July 23.

Born in Los Angeles on July 23, 1913, to Albert Wogatzke and Ella Bussjaeger, Violet is the oldest daughter of nine children. She married William Hanna on August 6, 1936. She lovingly raised a family of two children, has seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. She has enjoyed wonderful health all of her life. She was raised on a farm, was a straight A student, and was so devoted to family that after graduating from high school, she gave up a full scholarship to Occidental College to start working in L.A. to support the rest of her family in Imperial Valley.

Violet has witnessed momentous changes in our Nation's history. Her life reflects a contribution to that history. I hope her century of memories brings much pride and joy to herself and family members.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Violet on this remarkable milestone. I wish her a special day shared in the company of her family and friends, and all the best in the years ahead.

AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENTS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this week in history we celebrate the achievement of Neil Armstrong's Moon landing in 1969, a shining example of American innovation and perseverance.

In conquering space, America sent a message to the world that we can achieve any task that we set our mind to. Today, 40 years later, we as Americans face similar challenges, not on the

surface of the Moon, but around our Nation. Our generation is tasked with recapturing the American spirit that put a man on the Moon by saying “yes” to American ingenuity in the 21st century. In that vein, Mr. Speaker, we as lawmakers must enact legislation that makes that goal a reality—things like enacting commonsense laws like the Made in America Act, which fosters a new era for American manufacturing and protects American jobs, or, once and for all, declaring energy independence for our Nation.

Now is our moment to honor the accomplishment and legacy of the Moon landing by ensuring continued success and independence of America for generations to come.

TRAYVON MARTIN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. As a mother and an American, I am well aware that this Nation is a nation of laws. And our system of justice speaks, and the reason why we are a democracy is because we adhere to that. But I'm proud of my constituents and others in Houston, Texas, who saw the need to petition and to be able to join the family of Trayvon Martin in praying to petition their Federal Government. That is America, Mr. Speaker—that all Americans have a right to come and petition their government.

Thank you for being peaceful. Thank you for being prayerful. Thank you for being ready to speak in tones seeking justice, but doing it in a way that is respectful of our system, and ready to be able to achieve what your desires are through continuing to pray and be peaceful. In Houston, Texas, that is what occurred. And I want to say thank you for that peace and that respect of the dignity and democracy that America is, and the respect for Trayvon Martin's family.

TRAYVON MARTIN

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Trayvon Martin, a young constituent of mine that lived only blocks away from me, was brutally murdered in Sanford, Florida.

I know within my heart and will always know that things should have been different. But I accept the law. I was one of the loudest voices calling for a fair trial for Trayvon after he was profiled racially. He was followed, he was harassed, and he was shot in the heart.

On Sunday, in Miami-Dade County, all of the churches held prayer services. All of the churches prayed for the Martin and Fulton families. All of us are so saddened because we have lost our son, our son Trayvon, who was only

16 years old. He had only been 17 for 2 weeks.

God bless our justice system, that they will see that it should not end here. We must make sure that justice prevails for Trayvon Martin.

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WE ALL ARE ONE

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

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I am a mother of five biological children and of 23 wonderful foster children. My heart is broken, as my colleague's heart is broken, over any teenager whose life is taken away from them.

But I believe without a shadow of a doubt that it doesn't matter the color of a person's skin in the United States when it comes to justice. Lady Justice has a blindfold over her eyes because justice is colorblind. Justice shouldn't look at the color of our skin or our ethnicity or our financial background.

Facts have to be recognized as facts. Law has to be recognized as law. No matter if we are White or Black or Hispanic or Asian, whatever our background, justice must be served. That's why we need to stand up and stand up for justice in this country, not have justice that is separate for Blacks or separate for Hispanics or separate for Whites. We all need to be one under our law.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we are here to talk about something that is a rather important subject. Immigration has helped make us the greatest Nation in the world, and we want that to continue. We do not ever want our borders closed; we want them secured.

Here to help in this conversation is my friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA), to whom I yield such time as he may consume.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I believe the problem is simple: we need to secure our borders first. You wouldn't replace your carpet at home if you still had a hole in the roof.

When you take that position, the question you are usually asked by people who support open borders is: Well, what do you want to do about the 11 million people who are here illegally?

I usually answer that question with another question: What do you want to do with the 22 million Americans who couldn't find work this morning when they woke up? What do you want to do about the legal immigrants who came to America for an opportunity, with the opportunity that America promises

for those who come here for a better life? What do you want to do about the high school dropout who has to wash dishes and may lose their job? Where do they go? What do you want to do about the single mom who works three jobs just to put food on the table so she could feed her family? What happens to her?

Why when we talk about immigration reform is it always about the 11 million illegal immigrants who came here knowingly breaking America's laws? What about the legal Americans? What about the American workers? Where is their voice in this debate? Who's speaking for them?

When it comes down to immigration reform, I believe the answer is simple: let's secure America's borders first and protect America's workers.

Mr. GOHMERT. I appreciate my friend from Pennsylvania's comments.

It is interesting, and it really is heartbreaking, when you see so many people, like all of the masses that were here in Washington, to protest over the ObamaCare bill. Anyway, it is rather dramatic. The unions are now coming out. Of course union leaders were all for ObamaCare. Many of us said back at the time: Do you know what, when the union members find out what the union leaders have done to them in supporting ObamaCare, they are going to be exceedingly upset.

Now when you look at the results of ObamaCare forcing so many people to part-time work—as my friend from Pennsylvania was alluding to, people now have been relegated to part-time work—they may lose that. When you combine the devastation of ObamaCare and people that are losing their jobs and are being forced to part-time work and now having to do more than one part-time job with less benefits, and then you add on it the Senate bill, especially for African Americans here, it is absolutely devastating. It is a devastating one-two punch to the gut of America when you look at the Senate bill and how many Americans will be really troubled to find employment.

We have other people that are here that also wish to be heard. I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from Louisiana, Dr. FLEMING.

Mr. FLEMING. I want to thank my friend, LOUIE GOHMERT—Judge Gohmert—for having this hour together speaking on this important subject. My friend also is my neighbor. Our districts neighbor one another.

We have constituents who see this issue, I think, very consistently, that is, that when we poll them, when we talk to our constituents, they are very clear on the issue of immigration. They say first and foremost, Congressman FLEMING, whatever you do, do what Congress and the Presidents have not been willing to do, and that is secure the border and put internal security in that will prevent the visa overstays that are 40 percent of those.

We have two lingering questions on the whole issue of immigration: