

as a prisoner of war. In his civilian life, he dedicated his career to serving veterans. Most recently, joining Governor John Kasich's cabinet as director of the Department of Veterans Services, he also served as the Ohio director for Troops to Teachers in the Department of Education, and he served as director of the Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Through his career, Colonel Moe has rightfully earned a number of public service awards and decorations, including two Silver Stars, a Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star Medal for valor, and two Purple Hearts. He was also inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 2009 by Governor Ted Strickland.

I'm truly honored to call Colonel Moe a friend, and I join hopefully with the other Members of Congress in wishing him a happy retirement.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge my colleagues to reverse the doubling of rates on student loans.

Education is and will always be the great equalizer in this country. It was central to my success. And with 7 million students relying on Federal Stafford loans, it is our responsibility to keep college education affordable.

It is also necessary to keep our Nation competitive globally. That is why I cosponsored the Student Loan Relief Act, which extends the 3.4 percent student loan interest rate until 2015.

I call upon my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to take action so that college remains within reach for all Americans who dream about earning a degree, starting a business, or shaping the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF TONY CAMPBELL

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the community service of Mr. Tony Campbell.

Tony moved to Kingman, Arizona, in 2001 to become general manager of Route 66 Motorsports, also known as Mother Road Harley-Davidson.

He also joined the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce and began leading his community, constantly finding ways to lift others up as he strived to better the lives of those around him. He organized what would become one of the chamber's signature fundraisers, the Harley raffle dinner. He is an avid outdoorsman; and, of course, he loves his motorcycles.

In 2009 after 8 years of service with the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce, he was asked to join the board

of directors and serve on the business and government committee. With his larger-than-life personality, he had an amazing ability to bring others together, both business and government, using the strengths of each to complement each other. He showed again his leadership, one the chamber could depend on.

For the last year, Tony has served as chairman of the board for the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce. As his time in this role comes to an end, it is with honor and appreciation that I stand here and recognize Mr. CAMPBELL for his service. I am pleased to recognize him today before this great body as a true American and a leader of businessmen and businesswomen of Kingman, Arizona.

DIWALI STAMP

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in asking the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a staff stamp in honor of Diwali. H.R. 47 has over 41 bipartisan cosponsors.

Diwali marks the beginning of the Hindu new year, one of the oldest and most storied holidays in the world. It symbolizes the triumph of good over evil and of light over darkness. Diwali is celebrated by over a billion Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians, and Jains alike. It has been celebrated and honored in the White House by both parties. But Diwali has yet to join the legion of holidays that we honor with a stamp.

Yesterday, Congressman BERA, along with the Indian American leaders, including Ranju and Ravi Batra, delivered over 1,300 personally signed letters in support of the stamp to the Deputy Postmaster General. They also delivered over 400,000 signatures on a petition in support of the stamp.

The time has come to issue a Diwali stamp. Please join me in asking the Citizen's Advisory Committee to do so.

HONORING AMERICA'S TEACHERS

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will spend a lot of time talking about education and what's best for our students, but I want to make sure we spend a few moments to recognize America's teachers.

Just after the tornadoes in Oklahoma this spring, a constituent of mine pointed out to me that the teachers at the elementary school in Moore and in the terrible tragedy in Newtown were more than educators. They were first responders. They acted not simply out of human decency, but out of the deepest dedication to service to protect our children.

While most of America's schoolchildren are out enjoying summer vacations, their teachers are preparing for the school year ahead. They sacrifice time with their own families and spend their hard-earned money because putting the students first isn't part of any Federal or State mandate. It's a special calling on the teacher, deep within their heart. I ask my colleagues and constituents to join me in honoring that calling, encouraging it, protecting it, and thanking all of America's teachers for their unselfish dedication and service.

□ 1230

SEQUESTRATION THREATENING PUBLIC SAFETY

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, sequester furloughs have recently begun for hundreds of thousands of civilian Department of Defense employees. We know budget sequestration is a bad policy. It's an ax where we need a scalpel. It's hurting families and workers across the country, and it's threatening public safety. For example, at Vandenberg Air Force Base in my congressional district, firefighters are being furloughed and budget cuts may lead to the elimination of its elite Hot Shot crew.

Vandenberg Air Force Base is a high-risk fire area, and this year's fire season started early, is expected to be worse than previous years, and has already produced the deadliest single incident for firefighters since 9/11. We should not be furloughing firefighters in the middle of fire season. We should not be compromising public safety.

I urge my colleagues to put aside our differences and get to work to find an alternative to these furloughs and end sequestration at every level once and for all.

HEALTH CARE AND PPACA

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

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued concerns with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. It seems that every day we learn a new way this law is negatively impacting the American middle class.

Last week, three prominent unions sent a letter to the Senate majority leader and the House minority leader. In the letter, union leaders highlighted how ObamaCare is driving up the cost of small group insurance plans, causing employers to drop employees from their coverage or convert the employees to part-time status.

In fact, that's exactly what happened in my district in Mesa, Arizona. The Maricopa Community College District

announced that it will be cutting hours for adjunct faculty and student-service workers in order to convert them to part-time status and avoid onerous ObamaCare requirements and mandates. This is not only a financial hardship for these professors and their families, but the students suffer as well.

Higher costs under ObamaCare are forcing employers to choose between keeping their doors open or cutting hours and staffing levels. These are the unintended consequences of a very, very bad law.

It's time to repeal this law before it inflicts more harm on middle class America. We must take all necessary steps to repeal and replace this tragic legislation with true health care reform that relies on commonsense free-market policies and returns the power to patients and their doctors, not Washington bureaucrats.

CONGRATULATING DELTA SIGMA THETA

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

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, under the leadership of Ms. Sohndra Stone-Snead, president, it is my deepest honor to extend a hearty congratulations to our outgoing national president, Ms. Cynthia Butler-McIntyre, and our new and incoming national president, Dr. Paulette Walker, on the historic centennial and 51st national convention here in Washington, D.C., over the past 7 days, the largest gathering of college-educated Black women ever.

Blanketing our National Capital in a sea of red, close to 40,000 attended the convention, which is part of a year-long celebration to mark the sorority's 100th anniversary. This great sorority and glorious sisterhood started on January 13, 1913, when 22 young college women at Howard University in Washington, D.C., founded the organization.

Many prominent community leaders and members have been members of this sorority, including the Honorable MARCIA FUDGE, past national president; and Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY; as well as former Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones and former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan. My predecessor in Congress, the great Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, was also a member, a pioneer for women and African Americans in elected office. So I not only followed her footsteps in my journey into Congress, but also my journey into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, on its 100th anniversary and recognizing the members for the work they do to progress the mission of sisterhood, scholarship, and public service. For 100

years, its leaders and members have continued the legacy and goals of its founders. They are committed to public service, education, and social action locally, nationally, and worldwide.

BRINGING FAIRNESS TO THE PLAYING FIELD

(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. Mr. Speaker, it's getting hot in north Georgia, and when it gets hot in north Georgia, I think of cut grass and I think of football, and I think of the lessons that I learned as I was growing up on that football field at Riverbend Elementary School. And one of the things that I learned from football was not only teamwork, but one of the lessons was fair play. It was being fair. It was being and playing with everybody having the same opportunities.

Well, that's exactly why House Republicans this week brought to the floor two important bills: one to delay the implementation of the employer mandate, and the other to delay the implementation of the individual mandate.

Why do we do that? That's a question that I've asked on this floor before. And it's because it is fair. Because we don't want to pick one or the other.

Many times in this House, we come and pit one against the other. I say to this administration and to both sides of the aisle, let's play fair. That's why we brought it to the floor. That's what matters.

Washington needs to be honest with the American people. This is a broken health care law. We just simply brought fairness to the playing field yesterday.

DON'T PLAY POLITICS WITH FOOD SUPPORT

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am still hurting from the farm bill debate last week. I was looking forward to a bipartisan compromise on farm programs as well as nutrition programs. But as we all know, the Republicans removed the food title from the farm bill and narrowly passed it on a vote of 216-208. I am proud that not a single Democrat voted for this ill-conceived bill denying food support for food banks and millions of Americans.

The House farm bill was passed. I now urge House conferees to meet with Senate conferees and reauthorize the farm bill with nutrition before the August recess.

I am beginning to hear rumors that the Republican leadership may be considering a stand-alone rewrite of the food stamp program to cut nutrition by \$135 billion. I hope that's a rumor and

not fact. If it's a fact, many of us will speak as loudly as we have ever spoken before on this floor.

Please let the conference committee meet and resolve the difference between the House and Senate. Don't play politics with food support for low-income American citizens.

PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE LAW IS UNWORKABLE

(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, the President's health care law is unworkable. Hardworking Americans know it, and, unfortunately, they're going to see their premiums skyrocket.

Small business owners know it. They're going to have to scale back hiring and maybe even let some people go.

People in the President's own party know it. Senator BAUCUS from Montana, a key author of the legislation, called it a "train wreck" not long ago.

And now, the administration has admitted it themselves. They decided to delay the employer mandate for a year. Why? Because, despite the President saying that it's working the way it's supposed to, we know it's not working at all.

That's why yesterday, on this floor, we voted to not just delay the employer mandate, but the individual mandate as well. Everyone, not just businesses, deserve protection from this unworkable law.

MOVING FORWARD ON AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act began delivering important benefits and protections to millions of American families and small businesses almost immediately after it was signed into law 3 years ago.

Just yesterday, we learned that the cost of health plans in New York are set to drop 50 percent. And starting in 2014, California's small businesses will be able to access competitive, affordable, quality health plans on the Covered California Small Business Exchange, finally putting them on more equal footing with the rates that have been enjoyed by the big guys.

And last week, I invited the Small Business Administration to come to my district and meet with my local small businesses. They walked them through key pieces of the law so they could understand the facts and be able to make good decisions about health insurance for their employees. Many were pleasantly surprised.

We need to move forward on affordable health care for Americans, not backwards.