

Nabeel Rajab is not alone. Scores of prisoners are incarcerated in Bahrain because they have called for meaningful reforms. Nabeel Rajab's abusive treatment by Bahraini security forces starkly contradicts Bahrain's pronouncements of full-fledged support for human rights.

I ask for the immediate release of Nabeel Rajab and seek the full support of Congress and the Obama administration.

Nabeel Rajab is a focus of the Defending Freedoms Project, a collaborative initiative spearheaded by the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission that invites Members of Congress to stand up for prisoners of conscience around the world through various actions. Today, I invite my colleagues to take part in this important nonpartisan opportunity. Our voices can make a difference in the release of these prisoners.

DAINES SPEAKS IN SUPPORT OF AMASH AMENDMENT

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, after spending 12 years in the technology sector—more specifically, cloud computing—I know firsthand the power that data holds. I also understand the potential for abuse and the threats to Americans' civil liberties that come with mass collections of data.

Recent reports of the NSA blanket collection of Americans' phone records demonstrate the serious need for reforms to protect liberty and prevent abuse. That's why I'm proud to support Congressman AMASH's amendment to prevent the NSA from using the Patriot Act to collect the records of Americans who are not subject to a Patriot Act investigation.

This amendment helps protect law-abiding Americans from government overreach. The status quo is not unacceptable, and I hope this amendment will be a driving force for much-needed reforms and greater transparency and accountability.

We've seen what Big Government looks like. No one would have thought that the IRS would turn against the American people, and yet here we are. We must always be vigilant and guarded against the overreach of power.

I will continue fighting to defend liberty. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and stand for Americans' Fourth Amendment protections.

SAINT ANNE CATHOLIC PARISH 40TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, Saint Anne Catholic Parish in Union City is celebrating its 40th anniversary festival.

Saint Anne was founded in 1860 as a mission in the old Alvarado District before the city of Union City even existed. The current parish was established in 1973 and has been serving the surrounding community ever since.

Today, Saint Anne is one of the largest parishes in my congressional district, with over 5,000 parishioners, led by my friend, Father Geoffrey Baraan. With Father Geoffrey's guidance, Saint Anne helps serve the ethnically and culturally diverse community of Union City, and it helps ensure that the church lives up to its core mission, to "lead with compassion."

Through its parishioners, youth ministry, and hardworking staff, Saint Anne continues to help the homeless and the hungry of its community. This annual festival serves as a celebration and a reminder of the hard work and selfless service that went into building Saint Anne's. The funds raised during the festival will help the church continue to serve with collaboration, fellowship, and stewardship.

I wish Saint Anne all the best and hope they have a great 40th anniversary festival.

LACEY ACT

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, an American can be tried in a U.S. court and sent to an American prison for violating an obscure foreign law. Yes, you heard that right. That has already happened under a little-known provision in the Lacey Act.

The Lacey Act became the law in 1900 as a good protection against poachers, but it's been expanded since. Now, if you unknowingly import a product that violates a regulation from an exporting country, you can end up in a U.S. Federal courtroom and sent to a Federal prison.

One seafood importer spent 6 years in jail for importing lobsters that violated a regulation in Honduras. A few lobster tails were too small, and they were shipped in plastic instead of cardboard. Even the Honduran Government said these rules were obsolete.

Then Gibson Guitar had to pay \$350,000 to settle Federal charges that the company bought wood from Madagascar that was a sixth of an inch too thick.

It's time to end unreasonable and unconstitutional prosecutions of Americans on American soil for obscure foreign laws. The Lacey Act violates the rule of law and it needs to be changed.

DEROGATORY STATEMENTS REGARDING DREAMERS

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, America expects Members of Congress to exemplify what is great about our coun-

try. They expect us to represent virtues of tolerance, respect, and intelligence. Generalizations about children, about entire races of people are intolerant, disrespectful, and not very intelligent. Our country expects better from us. Recent comments made by one colleague across the aisle are far below those expectations.

Forget for a moment that the DREAM Act is the right thing to do and will help grow our economy. Forget that most DREAMers are the best and the brightest of our country, and that passing the DREAM Act will increase DREAMers' earnings by an aggregate of 19 percent, totaling \$148 billion in wages by 2030, triggering more spending on goods and services throughout our economy and generating \$181 billion in increased economic growth by 2030, creating millions of jobs for Americans. Forget that providing a strong incentive for DREAMers to further their education will add 223,000 college diplomas to the workforce and open doors to better paying jobs. Forget all that, and remember that these are children and young adults. These are human beings. They deserve better than the derogatory statements of my Republican colleague. The American people deserve better.

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COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government is not the master puppeteer of higher education, though a litany of burdensome regulations suggest that's what it's angling for.

We all want college to be more affordable and we want to ensure students throughout the country who work hard have the opportunity to attend a high-quality school. But Federal attempts to regulate those goals into existence unilaterally are counterproductive and costly.

Restrictive regulations stifle pioneering institutions at a time when forward-thinking solutions are desperately needed to meet the changing demands of an increasingly diverse American student body.

With less punitive Federal intervention, Congress will be able to work carefully with students, families, educators, and higher learning institutions to address the issues of college affordability, accountability, and transparency during the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

The administration should think outside the box with us so that education can be more accessible and affordable. We should start by reducing the size of the costly regulatory footprint in higher education.

CUTS TO EPA FUNDING

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was dismayed to see the Interior, Environment Appropriations Subcommittee approve a 2014 funding bill that cuts EPA funding by 34 percent. Such a drastic, unnecessary cut would prevent EPA from addressing critical air quality, water quality, and climate change issues that have direct impacts on human health.

As everyone knows by now, we are already feeling the impacts of climate change—stronger storms, more severe droughts, hotter heat waves. But it's our children and our grandchildren who will bear the brunt of these impacts in the future.

Children are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change. We've already seen that there are higher rates of asthma and infectious diseases in children. These proposed cuts to EPA will only make things worse.

Mr. Speaker, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to act now to protect our children and our grandchildren from the impacts of climate change.

I urge my colleagues, let's stop these shortsighted political games and start taking action to address climate change and protect the long-term health of future generations.

KILAH DAVENPORT CHILD PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. PITTINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask once more that my colleagues in Congress will help protect children by cosponsoring the Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act.

Until recent changes by the North Carolina legislature, the punishment for someone who caused permanent, severe, mental and physical injury to a child in our State was just 4 to 6 years. Sadly, inadequate, and ambiguous child abuse laws are not unique to North Carolina.

My little friend Kilah was severely abused by her caretaker, who smashed her head against a wall, leaving her with minimal function for the rest of her life. As a father and a grandfather, I was deeply moved by her situation, as I'm sure you are.

Now is the time to find an appropriate response to ensure the safety and the protection of our most precious treasures—America's children. This new legislation focuses on child abusers guilty of the most heinous acts of abuse. Those who destroy a child's future should receive much more than a slap on the wrist.

May God bless Kilah and her family and all whom we seek to protect.

REPRESENTATIVE STEVE KING'S DISGRACEFUL REMARKS

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

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the disgraceful remarks recently made by another Member of this body.

My parents brought me to this country at the age of 11. They brought me here for the freedoms, they brought me here for the opportunities, and they never told me to strap 75 pounds of marijuana on my thighs so we can sell it in America.

It is disgraceful that a Member of this body would demean this House and what this country represents when you make remarks like that. I recognize that not all Members of this body feel the same way.

I represent Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, two monuments that symbolize the history of America as a Nation of immigrants. So when you make remarks like one of the Members made, it's not only ignorant, but quite frankly stupid, not recognizing the history of this country.

CALLING ATTENTION TO PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE ZHU YUFU

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the plight of Zhu Yufu.

Today, Zhu Yufu has been in prison in China for 520 days. He is a prisoner of conscience, unable to enjoy the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

An advocate for democracy, Christian dissident and poet Zhu Yufu helped found the unrecognized Democracy Party of China. For this, he was arrested for "inciting subversion of state power."

Zhu Yufu cannot speak for himself, so others, including myself, must advocate on his behalf. My own efforts in support of Zhu Yufu are part of a project created by the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission through which Members of Congress can bring attention to the plight of prisoners of conscience.

Through this work, we seek to pierce the darkness and shatter the silence that has enveloped Zhu Yufu and others like him.

Silence is not an option. Silence means Zhu Yufu likely will remain in prison and the Government of China will elude accountability for its deplorable human rights violations.

I call on all people of conscience to raise their voices in support of Zhu Yufu.

WE NEED A NEW AGENDA

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, I was shocked to hear the new standard for productivity, leadership, and good governance set here in the House of Representatives. Rather than looking at the success of the American people, the Speaker of the House said we should be judged by the number of laws we repeal.

This isn't a standard; this is an excuse for failure. Good governance is not measured by the 38 times that we voted to repeal health care. It is measured by the ability to compromise and create substantial solutions to the issues facing this country.

While House Republicans continue to obstruct, repeal, and repeat, 11 million undocumented immigrants remain in the shadows; 7 million students bear the burden of high student loan rates; 16.7 million children risk going to bed hungry; and every single woman in this country makes 77 cents to the dollar made by a man.

I say it is time that we need a new agenda and certainly a new standard for success.

RECOGNIZING HELEN SILLIMAN AND FLOSSIE BRAGG

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor to recognize the contributions of two great women from New York's 27th Congressional District.

Tonight, Helen Silliman and the late Flossie Bragg will be honored in South Wales for becoming the first female firefighters in Erie County 50 years ago.

It was back in 1963 when Helen and Flossie decided to join the ranks of what was then an all-male department. In doing so, they made history in not only South Wales, but all of Erie County.

As a result, Helen and Flossie became pioneers for women in the fire service in western New York, leading the way for women to join the ranks of volunteer fire companies, which is now commonplace.

Today, it is estimated there are 35- to 40,000 women involved in volunteer fire services across this great country.

I want to thank and acknowledge Helen and Flossie for helping to lead the way.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERS' "TO DON'T" LIST

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, a new NBC poll says that 83 percent of Americans disapprove of the job Congress is doing. But that shouldn't be surprising when we are not doing any job at all.

House Republican leaders are working off of a "to don't" list: don't pass