

H. RES. 531

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET.—Mr. Doggett and Mr. Kildee.

(2) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE.—Mr. Takano.

(3) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Ms. Clark of Massachusetts.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1915

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2988

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor from H.R. 2988.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING ANDY GRIFFIN

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andy Griffin of Glen Carbon, Illinois, for being named the American Association of Nurse Anesthetist's Advocate of the Year.

Andy currently serves as president-elect on the board for the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists, as well as their Federal political director. Andy also serves as the director of the Nurse Anesthesia program at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Andy uses his dual roles as an advocate and a teacher to bring young nurse anesthetist students to Washington, D.C., each year to meet with their congressional offices.

In his spare time Andy volunteers at his church in Maryville and mentors children every summer at the Lake Williamson Christian Camp. He uses his training and passion in music to help children connect with their faith.

In addition to mentoring children within his community, Andy is a loving husband to his wife, Valerie, and a great father to their four children. Andy's coworkers, family, and friends can attest to his selflessness and tireless devotion to helping others and advocating on their behalf.

We should all aspire to be as compassionate and dedicated as Andy Griffin. I am proud to call him my constituent and even more proud to call Andy Griffin my friend.

HEALTH CARE TO ALL AMERICANS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, they said it couldn't be done, but as of

yesterday and early this morning, 7,000,041 individuals here in the United States accessed and enrolled in the Affordable Care Act.

Is it working? Do people want health care? Yes, they do. Do they want access to the Affordable Care Act? Yes, they do. These numbers will probably grow when the State exchanges begin to report their various individuals that enrolled under their system.

In the State of Texas, going all the way from last week until the lines around Reliant Stadium, to individuals staying until 10 o'clock at the Community of Faith Church, which I was at with Bishop James Dixon, to the Harris County Department of Education and 500 or 600 there, yes, we want affordable care and the Affordable Care Act to give health care to all Americans.

Now, we need to tell the States that you have left out millions of those who could benefit from the expanded Medicaid. I ask Governor Perry of the State of Texas to stop denying the millions of Texans who would be eligible under the expanded Medicaid to have health insurance. Stop denying them health insurance. This is a celebration. More will come, and it is good to know that the work that was done is benefiting Americans.

FOREIGN CRIMINALS

(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, a lady in my district wrote about the administration's new immigration enforcement policy—or, rather, the lack thereof. She is worried, and so am I. The government claims that it prioritizes deporting criminal aliens before all others who are illegally in the country.

Really?

According to news reports in 2013, nearly 68,000 foreign criminals were caught, charged, and/or convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor then released back onto the streets of America. Well, why? The administration should follow the law and deport foreign criminals and not let them loose.

There is more. In some instances, a criminal illegal goes to a U.S. prison and then he is ordered deported, and their home country won't take them back. That is why I have introduced legislation to withhold diplomatic visas to nations who won't take back their lawfully deported criminals. The administration should just simply enforce the law.

Foreign criminals who have committed crimes in America belong behind bars, and then they should be sent back where they came from.

And that's just the way it is.

AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am wearing blue today, joining people around the globe in recognition of Autism Awareness Day as we bring light to a disorder that affects 70 million families worldwide, 1 in 68 children in the United States.

Autism Day is a day of hope for the mother and father whose sweet baby doesn't smile or babble, for the child who rocks obsessively, for the teen locked in his own mind who is shunned by classmates, and the aging parents who fear their adult child's care when they are gone.

Awareness is about increasing knowledge, which means early diagnosis and early intervention, and it is about love for all our precious children. On this day of awareness, Mr. Speaker, let's all commit to work together in a bipartisan manner to fund autism research and reduce the financial strains for Americans with disabilities.

PROTECTING SENIORS FROM MEDICARE CUTS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on an issue that affects hundreds of thousands of seniors in Minnesota.

Over half of the medical-eligible seniors in my district have chosen now to enroll in Medicare Advantage plans to meet their health care needs. The Medicare Advantage program has been a resounding success by providing better quality care with more options. However, the proposed cuts to the program, if enacted, will now mean that seniors in Minnesota could see their premiums increase by nearly \$1,000 annually. On top of that, seniors will face a loss of benefits and less choice.

Mr. Speaker, we need to take steps to strengthen our Medicare system and ensure it stays solvent for generations to come, and these proposed cuts are not the answer. By encouraging more health care coordination, creating better incentives for providers, and using new technologies, we can lower costs while providing more improved care. These are areas where we can find bipartisan agreement to make progress and make sure that our seniors are protected from these devastating cuts.

REMEMBERING LANCE CORPORAL ANDREW SILVA

(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, today I rise to honor the life of 23-year-old fallen Marine Lance Corporal Andrew Silva of Union City, California, who was tragically killed last week by a drunk driver just over 1 month after returning home from Afghanistan.

Lance Corporal Silva was a 2009 graduate of James Logan High School, where he played football. After high school, he joined the Marine Corps Reserves, where he most recently served in a combat logistics battalion based in San Jose. In February, Lance Corporal Silva returned from a deployment to the Helmand province in Afghanistan, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Although his life was cut far too short by a heartbreaking tragedy, Corporal Silva and his service to the country was long, and he will be remembered by many. His work as a marine illustrates the heroism of the service members across our country who are serving in the military to support freedom everywhere.

Lance Corporal Silva is survived by his wife and his 2-year-old son. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. May Lance Corporal Silva rest in peace.

ONGOING CRISIS IN VENEZUELA

(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, the United States must stand in solidarity with human rights in Venezuela and against the repressive actions of Maduro. Since protest began almost 2 months ago, there have been nearly 40 killed at the hands of this brutal regime.

At the Organization of American States here in Washington, DC, opposition leader Maria Corina Machado was prevented from speaking the truth about the democracy crisis in Venezuela. And as a result of her appearance at the OAS, Maduro's top henchman, Diosdado Cabello, stripped her of her position in the Venezuelan legislature. The highest kangaroo court backed this attempt to silence dissent, proving that it, too, is nothing more than a political tool used by Maduro to attack the opposition.

Today, Maria Corina, joined by thousands of supporters of democracy, marched to protest this politically motivated act, but were met with tear gas from Maduro's security thugs.

These actions must not go unpunished. It is shameful that the Obama administration continues to neglect the suffering of the Venezuelan people. The time to sanction human rights violators in Venezuela is now.

SCOTIA-GLENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

(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 this evening to recognize the Scotia-Glenville High School boys' basketball team for winning the New York State class A high school State championship

on its way to becoming New York State federation cup champions. These young men completed one of the best seasons in section 2 and New York State basketball history.

Led by Coach Jim Giammettei, the Scotia-Glenville Tartans not only became State champions but amassed a perfect 27-0 record on its way to becoming the best of the public, private, and independent institutions in New York State.

These students will take this exemplary leadership and teamwork with them to face future challenges as they continue to make our communities and capital region of New York proud.

Again, I congratulate the Scotia-Glenville Tartans on a perfect season and this remarkable achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS A.C. STEERE ELEMENTARY

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, it is a great accomplishment when a school is honored for having a principal of the year or a teacher of the year or even a student of the year. A.C. Steere Elementary School in Shreveport has all three.

Congratulations to Principal Kim Derrick, who was named Caddo Parish Principal of the Year. Her passion for education has been instrumental in making A.C. Steere a great neighborhood school.

The third grade language arts teacher, Glynis Johnston, is the Caddo Parish Teacher of the Year. Each day she brings a positive, motivational, and innovative approach to her classroom.

The fruit of the labor of a great principal and excellent teacher is often seen in the accomplishments of their students, and fifth-grader Tindol Hamm is a fine example. She is a gifted young lady who was named Caddo Parish Student of the Year. Tindol works hard at academics, and she is active in her church and in sports.

Congratulations, A.C. Steere Elementary. I am proud to see you rewarded for your excellence.

THANK YOU, AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my fellow Americans, the results are in with the closing of the Affordable Care Act's first-time open enrollment period: over 7 million Americans have now secured quality, affordable health care coverage for themselves and their families.

I want to congratulate everyone who signed up. I personally called over 30,000 people to encourage them to sign up, and worked at one of the sign-up sites over the weekend.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, no American could ever again be denied coverage for a preexisting condition; no woman can ever again be charged a higher premium just because she is a woman; 3 million young Americans age 26 and under can stay on their family plan; no American ever again will have to worry that one major illness will bankrupt their family; no senior will ever have to pay a copayment for key preventative services such as cancer screening.

I want to thank everyone for signing up and not going for the okeydoke.

□ 1930

OBAMACARE FAILS EXPECTATIONS AND AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, as the flawed enrollment period for ObamaCare ended, a CBS poll revealed that a majority of Americans disapprove of the President's health care takeover law, which destroys jobs. Constituents living in South Carolina's Second Congressional District agree—ObamaCare will not work.

Cindy from Lexington writes:

I am so distressed about the extremely high cost of insurance now that the so-called Affordable Care Act is in place . . . Our insurance has increased \$600. This is ridiculous. It is really hurting our family and is causing a huge strain on our budget. I am so disappointed in this law and the fact it was able to pass. Is there anything you are doing or can do to help families like ours? Everyone else I know is suffering because of it.

These real-life experiences convey why Americans are fed up with ObamaCare. We must repeal and replace this train wreck of a law so that these burdens no longer hammer down on middle class families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

IRENE LANCASTER

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

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ms. Irene Lancaster of Columbus, Mississippi, and to wish her a happy birthday tomorrow.

In fact, I stand in this body today because of the encouragement of teachers like Ms. Lancaster. Her passion and enthusiasm for American history was contagious. As an eighth-grade student at Joe Cook Middle School in Columbus, Mississippi, she instilled in me a love of American history that I carry today. I can still hear in my mind her voice as she talked about the forcefulness of President Andrew Jackson.

She thought she was teaching names and dates and places, but what Ms. Lancaster was really doing was preparing leaders—business leaders, community leaders, leaders in medicine