

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

and in energy—and even a United States Congressman.

So happy birthday, Ms. Lancaster.

In saluting her, I salute all of those teachers every day who are preparing the next generation of American leaders.

SAVE AMERICAN WORKERS ACT

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. 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 the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the President proposes a 25 percent increase in the minimum wage. ObamaCare, however, is resulting in as much as a 25 percent decrease in the pay of millions of hourly workers. Because of the 30 hours is full time provision, too many Americans are not able to work the hours they need to support their families. By passing my bill, the Save American Workers Act, we can create an America that works simply by restoring the traditional 40-hour workweek.

I am joined this evening in this Special Order by my colleagues, Representatives KELLY of Pennsylvania and BARR of Kentucky, but so many people have helped bring this important issue to the attention of the American people at large, to rank and file Americans, who during this down economy are looking for as many hours as they can get and for as much take-home pay as they might receive.

Let me just kick this evening off by explaining in some level of detail what this 30-hour provision is because, frankly, for the uninitiated, it is a bit foreign for most of us to consider full-time employment to be a 30-hour workweek, but that is the case under the Affordable Care Act. In fact, the Affordable Care Act mandates employers provide ObamaCare-sanctioned health insurance to all of their employees should they employ 50 or more individuals who work 30 or more hours per week.

We have all heard from employers about the adverse consequences—unintended, I expect—created by this 30 hours is full time provision. The unintended consequence is chiefly that so many employers, especially those who are squeezed by tight profit margins or those who just wouldn't be financially viable entities, are moving their employees down below this 30-hour threshold. They are reducing the number of hours that their hourly employ-

ees can work so that they don't have to provide ObamaCare-sanctioned health insurance.

The employer mandate has been delayed by the administration twice, so it is clear that this is ill-considered policy. While the White House says the delays are to help employers, it should be even more apparent to those of us who visit with our constituents on an almost daily basis that it is the low- and middle-income worker who is being most adversely impacted by this employer mandate.

The real result of the 30-hour bill—let me be clear—is fewer jobs, reduced hours, reduced wages, less take-home pay for things like food and shelter and clothing for Americans who need it most. I can cite plenty of examples in my district in which this is having a very serious impact at this early stage of ObamaCare's implementation. I live in Bloomington, Indiana.

Indiana University is feeling the pinch of this and is reducing some hours of some of their hourly employees, from custodians to cafeteria workers and others, because they cannot remain a financially viable entity, as taxpayers expect it to be, should it have to comply with this employer mandate as it is currently constructed.

Ivy Tech Community College is also feeling the pinch. In fact, 4,500 of their adjunct professors are losing hours. This is resulting in reduced course offerings for many students, but more importantly for those adjunct professors, they need the wages, they need the hours. Should Ivy Tech decide to continue on with business as usual, they would be eating all sorts of compliance costs to try and measure the hours of their hourly employees and ensure that they are complying with the law. They have done the math. They have figured out that this 30 hours is full time provision amounts to a \$12 million unfunded mandate, courtesy of Uncle Sam.

I have heard from 39 public school corporations in Indiana about the adverse consequences of this 30 hours is full time provision. In fact, they are suing the Federal Government, along with the State of Indiana, because of this provision, which they say will have catastrophic financial consequences on their operations, on their balance sheets.

From a practical perspective, the majority of employers who voluntarily provide coverage to their employees do so for their full-time employees, and they do so because they want to attract the absolute best talent they can within the labor market. This system has succeeded in providing coverage for nearly 160 million Americans. It is working. In fact, this is the largest source of health coverage in America, but the 30-hour rule radically disrupts this success and this model. Many people will lose their coverage, especially your lower-skilled workers, often your entry-level opportunities where younger workers get valuable work experi-

ence and start to work their way up the economic ladder. We need to protect the wages of Americans who depend on them the most. That is what this bipartisan effort, the Save American Workers Act, is all about.

I am proud to be joined in this effort by Representative BARR, who has shown some leadership on this issue, and by Representative KELLY, who was out front very early with respect to this issue. I look forward to engaging in some dialogue this evening and in turning over the mike to them to get their State level perspectives, but I think it is worth noting, because I do want to recognize them, the fair-minded Members among us who look for opportunities to work across the aisle.

Representative LIPINSKI, a Democrat from Illinois, has shown a lot of leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives with respect to this issue. There are a handful of other Democrat Members who have signed on to the Save American Workers Act. It is my fervent hope, not for my interest but for the interests of my constituents and for those like them around the country, that other Democrats will join the vast majority of Republican Members of Congress in supporting this bill.

With that, I would just invite the dialogue of Mr. BARR, my good colleague in his first term—but he seems far more experienced than that—to speak to the Save American Workers Act.

Mr. BARR. I thank my friend, the gentleman from Indiana, Congressman YOUNG, for his leadership on this very important issue.

Mr. Speaker, it is an important issue because ObamaCare is hurting American families. It is hurting American employers. It is hurting American workers who are struggling to make ends meet, to put food on the table. This is a bad economy. We continue to suffer from a bad economy despite 5 years having passed after the financial crisis.

The project of ObamaCare—the project of the Affordable Care Act—is really the project of the entire Obama Presidency. It is a project to determine whether or not Big Government can solve big problems. It is a project to determine whether or not the Federal Government can micromanage one-sixth of the American economy. It is a project to determine whether or not it is a good idea to allow the government to take away choices from the American people—from American workers and from American small business owners.

Wages in this country have gone down over \$2,300 in the last several years. The labor participation rate in this country—the percentage of working-aged people actually in the workforce—is the lowest it has been in 35 years, and 75 percent of the American people are living paycheck to paycheck. This is not a sign and these statistics are not indicators of a healthy economy. This is a very unhealthy economy.