

Next Monday will be the 10th anniversary of the Tennessee Education Lottery. It has raised over \$2.8 billion for education, yet, with education costs rising, it is still not enough.

We, in Congress, need to work hard to make sure that Pell Grants increase and that Pell Grants go to students at not-for-profit schools and those for-profit schools that graduate students and get them gainful employment.

Ladders of opportunity for the middle class are paved through education. The Tennessee Education Lottery is one of those ways.

I continue my work in Congress working for Pell Grants and other opportunities to see that monies are efficiently channeled to students to give them an opportunity to improve their lives.

WATER RESOURCES IN NEW MEXICO

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, in Western States like New Mexico, where we continue to endure severe drought, it has become clear that water is a resource that can no longer be taken for granted.

Instead, we must recognize just how essential it is for households, for businesses, for the environment, for jobs, for life, and we must rise to the challenge because New Mexico can and should be the next innovation hub for water management technology.

New Mexico is reported to have approximately 15.4 billion acre feet of brackish water. That is enough to sustain 3 million people for 300 years.

Our communities could greatly benefit from investments in desalination technology, which would create a new water supply for our municipalities, businesses and industry, while also leading to more jobs and more economic development.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue investing in water technology initiatives, not only to better manage existing water resources but to unlock alternative water resources.

I eagerly anticipate the input from my constituents and colleagues as we set a dynamic course that will demonstrate to the region, to the country, and the world that New Mexico can respond to adversity and become a leader in water resources management.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING

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

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because thousands of folks in my home State of Michigan are looking for work, and Washington

is making their job search much harder.

The failure of Congress to find common ground to extend unemployment insurance is shameful when so many families are desperately trying to make ends meet while struggling to find work.

Tomorrow Congress will leave for a 10-day recess while another 100,000 Americans lose their lifeline and will be left out in the cold. This is simply unacceptable.

I am circulating a letter calling on Speaker BOEHNER to cancel this recess until unemployment insurance is extended. Over 90 of my colleagues have already signed on, and we are all prepared to stay in Washington to get this done.

Extending unemployment benefits has a proven economic return. It is the right thing to do for Michigan families, for families all across our country, and for our economy.

The clock is ticking. Let's cancel this recess now and get to work.

THE PRO-LIFE CAUCUS

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of our Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), my good friend and colleague.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, CHRIS SMITH, for his leadership on developing this hour, and all of my colleagues who are here to speak on this very important issue.

This week marks the 41st anniversary of a Supreme Court decision which has denied 56 million children the right to life and denied the people of this Nation the ability to govern their country in a manner that aligns with their conscience. I thank my fellow Members for speaking today and marking this somber occasion.

Life is a gift from God and should be cherished. It is my strong belief that life begins at conception, and few things demean the sanctity of human life more than elective abortion. The unborn are the most innocent members of our society, and the fact that their right to exist has not been recognized in 41 years is a stain on our Nation's character.

As members of the Pro-Life Caucus, we have worked to eliminate taxpayer

funding for abortion, fought to preserve pro-life health care providers' rights of conscience. We have followed medical research that indicates infants can feel pain in the womb as early as the 20th week of pregnancy and passed legislation that would eliminate abortion after that time.

These are worthy pieces of legislation, but, Mr. Speaker, more must be done. I hope that the day will soon come when the Supreme Court sees fit to overturn Roe and allow the people the ability to eliminate the practice of elective abortion entirely.

For as long as I have the privilege of serving in Congress, I will work to ensure unborn children, the most vulnerable members of our society, are protected.

I thank my fellow Members here today who share that goal. Let us continue to work for the protection of innocent life.

I thank my colleague again, Mr. SMITH, from New Jersey.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I want to thank the gentlelady from North Carolina for her very eloquent remarks and for her leadership on behalf of the unborn and their mothers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY).

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his leadership in the Pro-Life Caucus and for organizing today's discussion.

Of course, next week will mark 41 years since the landmark Supreme Court decision in *ROE v. WADE*, and since then, approximately 56 million unborn children have been aborted in the United States—56 million unborn children aborted.

Recently, important legislative actions have been taken to defend the unborn and protect women from the brutality of late-term abortions. These include measures to tighten restrictions and raise health and safety standards for abortion providers.

As we fight to increase protection for life under the law, I believe it is equally as important to promote the respect for life, emphasizing adoption as a loving alternative to abortion.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to highlight a very special organization in my State called AGAPE. AGAPE provides adoption services, counseling and outreach programs to mothers-to-be across central Alabama.

Talk to anyone who has gone through either side of the adoption process, and they will tell you how challenging it is, and that is where AGAPE comes in.

□ 1645

AGAPE is there to find permanent nurturing families for children and to make sure all involved in the adoption process have the support they need. It is groups like AGAPE that help a woman with an unplanned pregnancy know about the loving, nonjudgmental way adoption works.

It is groups like AGAPE that give children the hope and opportunity to

grow up healthy and happy. It is groups like AGAPE that make it possible for families who don't think they can ever have children to experience the unique blessing of adoption and be made whole.

Mr. Speaker, adoption is humanity's recognition of the miracle of life, an affirmation that every life matters and that each person has value in this world.

As we here amongst my colleagues today reaffirm our commitment to protect life under the law, let us also take this opportunity to promote life by supporting birth mothers, adoptive parents, and organizations like AGAPE that connect them.

I, again, thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his leadership.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mrs. ROBY, thank you very much for, again, underscoring the viable option that is available and that is far too seldom selected, and that is the loving option of adoption.

I now yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. I appreciate the gentleman from New Jersey for his leadership on this all important issue and for the time here today.

Mr. Speaker, next Wednesday, thousands from across the country, including hundreds of my constituents from northwest and west central Ohio who support the lives of the unborn, will gather in Washington, D.C., in recognition of the 41st anniversary of the Supreme Court's *ROE v. WADE* decision.

While the March for Life represents a somber occasion to reflect on the tens of millions of lives lost and the harm to women and families that has needlessly come about as the result of legalized abortion, it also represents an opportunity to strengthen our voices and renew our efforts in support for life across the country.

We must make certain that our fight does not end here with the march. We must continue to be daily engaged and vigilant in protecting and defending the right to life of unborn children and ensure that Federal policies that openly seek to threaten those rights or curb them through limitations or veiled assaults on the exercise of conscience rights are defeated. Let us not forget that the preamble to our Declaration of Independence proclaims that life is our first absolute right.

Thank you to the tens of thousands of Americans who spend their time and continue to dedicate their efforts to this vitally important cause. I am committed to fighting with you in defending the sanctity of life.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. LATTA, thank you very much for your leadership and for your compassion for the weakest and most vulnerable.

I now yield to the gentleman from Illinois, DAN LIPINSKI, the cochair of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by thanking Chairman SMITH

for all the work that he does, not just on this issue of protecting life of the unborn here in the United States but on human rights around the world.

We all know that the first human right is the right to life, without which nothing else is possible. I am very proud to support the legislation the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) talked about that we are trying to move forward here in the House, to protect life. What a large majority of the American people want to do is to stop taxpayer funding of abortion.

Today I want to talk about what is going on outside of the Capitol. Next week we have the March for Life here in Washington. Many people thought 41 years ago, with *ROE v. WADE*, that it was over, that the decision had been made and that there would be abortion and abortion on-demand here in the United States forever. But a year later, there was the first March for Life; now, the 40th March for Life. We will see hundreds of thousands of Americans come out here, so many young people coming out here to show their support for life, and I want to thank them for taking the time, making the effort to come out and speak for those who can't speak for themselves. I will be here next week to address the crowd before the march.

In Chicago this coming Sunday, there will be tens of thousands who can't go to Washington who will be out for a March for Life. I will be there to address the crowd and, again, call for all of our leaders to embrace life and protect life.

The gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) talked about the other things that people are doing in the pro-life movement that is just so vitally important because it is not just about legislation. It is just not about protecting life through law, which we must do, but it is about adoption. Mrs. ROBY talked very eloquently about all those who are involved in adoption out there, the tens of thousands who give their time, give their lives to adopt babies.

We also have the crisis pregnancy centers who not only tell women who are pregnant about the option for them, but they provide for them. They provide food. They offer to provide diapers and other things, the trips to the doctor that are needed for women who are pregnant and who are considering having an abortion. I want to thank them for the work that they do.

So here we are, 41 years after *ROE v. WADE*, and there is a vibrant pro-life movement still going on. I want to thank everyone who is part of that movement. I will keep working for changing the laws in this country. We have to change the hearts and minds of our leaders so we can change the laws and take care of the unborn and all those women out there who face this most difficult choice.

I want to thank all of my colleagues who are standing up here with me today for the work that they are doing to protect the unborn.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my good friend and colleague for his leadership, for standing so strong, and for reminding everyone about the importance of the crisis pregnancy centers, which are a lifeline to so many women who might otherwise abort and make that irreversible decision. So thank you for underscoring that.

I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague from Nebraska, who has also been a tremendous leader in the cause of life and human rights in general.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. First of all, Mr. Speaker, let me thank my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his tireless leadership on this essential civil rights issue, to protect women and to protect children.

Let me also thank my good friend Mr. LIPINSKI from Chicago. Each day, Members of Congress come down here and push and shove rhetorically, poke one another in the eye, and I think America is looking for a way to transcend this political bickering, this acrimony that exists down here. So it is very moving to me that the gentleman from Illinois, DAN LIPINSKI, would come here, join with many of us, and simply say a truth: that women deserve better than abortion. We can do better in this body. So I am very grateful for his leadership as well.

Mr. Speaker, soon a Joint Session of Congress will gather for the State of the Union Address, celebrating our American Republic. We have much to celebrate as a country, but there are also very deep philosophical divides, and sometimes the tone of disagreement makes me wonder what happened to respect for the cherished notion of political opposition and the intellectual diversity that makes America truly great.

Mr. Speaker, abortion is probably the toughest issue you will not hear about in the State of the Union Address. The violence of abortion has wounded our society deeply. For instance, the Gosnell case, which profiled late-term abortion atrocities in urban Philadelphia, shows what can happen when people become desensitized to death. Many wounds of abortion are invisible, but they are no less real.

Mr. Speaker, so many persons are hurt by the act of abortion. They suffer silently when the culture that enticed them into an irreversible choice turns its back and refuses to acknowledge their pain.

Mr. Speaker, with that said, there is also some good news. Those who have been hurt by abortion are speaking out. They are silent no more. Advancements in ultrasound technology are also providing a window on the delicate beauty of human life in the womb. Mr. Speaker, droves of young people are responding to the truth of science. They are increasingly pro-life, and many are coming here next week to celebrate that beautiful gift of life at the March for Life. These young people are recognizing that the womb is a sacred place

where children should be safe. They believe that we should do everything possible to save both the mother and her child. They refuse to choose between mothers and their children. They are also not naive about the difficulties that some vulnerable women face when they find themselves pregnant, alone, or worse—threatened, coerced by an uncaring boyfriend, or worse yet, a medical doctor, into having an abortion.

To those of you who do not stand with us, I would like to say this: I offer a hand of friendship. I am pro-life. I believe that women deserve better than abortion. Maybe there are some areas where we can work together, where possible, to let, first of all, the healing begin.

As my good friend DAN LIPINSKI mentioned, maybe it is important in this area to end the taxpayer moneys that go to abortion providers because so many Americans oppose that use of their money as well. There is one other area that we should work on. Let's don't wrongfully discriminate against people, people of faith or who are of good conscience or who, through reason, lend themselves to a deeply held ethical belief. That does not allow them to be complicit in any way in health care, in their health care policy, in paying for the act of abortion.

These are a few areas where I think we can transcend the political divide and do what is right and fair and just for women, children, and our society as a whole.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for his very, very eloquent remarks.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota, MICHELE BACHMANN.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you so much to my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) who has long been the fearless leader of the issue of standing for the sacred right to life.

One thing that we know in 41 years is that there has been a profound change in the United States. We can't lose 56 million innocent American lives and not be changed. Just to put it in context, 56 million means the entire population of my State of Minnesota more than 10 times over. That is how many of our fellow brothers and sisters have been lost through the carnage of abortion. That is the unborn.

The other cost is the loss to 56 million American women, women who have had ongoing precious innocent human life literally pulled from their bodies.

I am a woman. One thing that God has done, the Creator of all life, He privileged women to be the receptacles and the bearers of the next generation. I have been privileged to bear five beautiful children, to be a foster mother to an additional 23 children. I have been a mother 28 times over. Is there any greater privilege?

I weep and I mourn for women who have been lied to, women who were forced into undergoing this very vio-

lent procedure that, for many people, altered their lives forever. They can't deal with the guilt. They have turned to maybe drugs or alcohol to deal with the guilt.

The good news is, a holy forgiving God makes a way out. He forgives, and He provides a way of opportunity for them.

So 56 million unborn children, 56 million women, also 56 million fathers, 56 million who their child is the one that was unborn. I think we can do better.

Ideas have consequences. When we embrace the idea that human life isn't sacred, that it is expendable, this is the result. I know that we can do better. We will do better, and I thank God that with the March for Life that is coming up next week, that we will stand together saying that there is a future, and there is a hope.

I yield back to Representative SMITH. Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, Michele, for those very sensitive remarks. I really appreciate your leadership.

I now yield to my friend and colleague from Minnesota (Mr. HUIZENGA).

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I appreciate the gentleman from New Jersey and the leadership that he has provided all of us in the Pro-Life Caucus.

I am looking here at my phone. I wish I could share this on TV with everybody and everybody up in the gallery and with my colleagues. It is of someone very special named Sloan, and I am going to tell a story about her a little later.

□ 1700

It is of someone very special named Sloan, and I am going to tell a little story about her a little later.

This is an inspiration as I am coming up here today to talk a little bit about this issue. The numbers, the statistics have been shared, and sometimes they ring hollow—it is just numbers. We have to attach the lives that have been affected by that, not only those children whose lives were lost, but the mothers, the fathers, the grandparents, those that lost that and have that void in their families. So, of course, we must continue to fight for the unborn.

There is another story to be told, as well. That story is about those children that we cannot forget who need permanent, loving homes. Each year there are about 120,000 families—120,000 families—that navigate the adoption process and welcome new children into their lives. I am pleased to report that adoption rates in west Michigan where I represent are among the highest in the country. Bethany Christian Services is located in Grand Rapids. It is the largest adoption agency in America.

I have a personal connection with the Lake Shore Pregnancy Center. My wife serves on the board of that fine organization, and there are so many others out there trying to provide those services. Our own church this past Sunday set up a Pack 'n Play. The challenge to

all of us at the church was let's fill it. In fact, let's fill two of those Pack 'n Plays with all the needs that these mothers and these children have so we can provide the alternative to those young ladies oftentimes who are desperate and are looking for a way out. They are looking for an answer, and they don't know where to turn so often and have crisis pregnancy centers there to offer alternatives to death and destruction. It is something that we need to take very seriously, and I take seriously as a believer.

The right-to-life groups where I served as my church's right-to-life representative for over 10 years, and was proud to do that, was able to be that voice and tirelessly promote the culture of life and strong families. I think that is something that we need to continue to do.

I am struck by families in my own church, the Holwiendas and the Meyards, who have done not just one international adoption, but multiple international adoptions. Friends from school—my roommate in college and best friend from high school was adopted through Bethany Christian Services very early on. I think we cannot forget those faces and those lives that have become so productive and have changed our culture.

I was especially touched this year—and this is where Sloan comes in—I was especially touched this year as I watched the life of a member of my own staff change when she and her husband adopted a little baby girl. She sent me this photo just a couple of minutes ago. The caption was, "need some inspiration?" And the photo of Sloan came up—yes, I think she has Spaghettios smeared on her face and all kinds of great stuff—as she is sitting in her highchair. But those are the things that we need to keep in mind when we are talking about life and the culture of life that we have.

Let's change those statistics. More stories like this one can be told. More stories about Sloan and Steve and others that have been in our lives. These are stories that change lives, not just of those children, but it changes the lives of those adoptive parents, the grandparents, the aunts and the uncles and the friends. We are thrilled and celebrate those families that have made that choice, and we pray that the work that we do here can continue to help them make that choice.

I thank my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, for allowing me to be a part of this.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much. That story about Sloan was great.

I would like to yield to the distinguished gentlelady from Missouri, a former U.S. Ambassador, ANN WAGNER.

Mrs. WAGNER. Thank you very much. I thank the gentleman for yielding and for organizing this Special Order. There is no greater defender of the unborn than Representative CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey, and I thank you

for all that you do every single day for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of life. One week from today, sadly, is the 41st anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal in this country in *ROE v. WADE*. Even though the House will not be in session next week, I will be here to join many of my constituents as we march on the Mall. The first time that I marched on the Mall in support of the unborn, I was a 28-year-old pregnant mother pregnant with my second son, Stephen. I will be honored to march again in the Mall in memory this time, sadly, of the 56 million abortions that have taken place since that dreadful day 41 years ago.

That is roughly one-fifth of the United States population whom we will never know. We will never derive the contributions to society that these nameless angels could have brought to the world. Even worse is the emotional and the physical pain that millions of women have endured in the days, months, and years after their abortion.

Forty-one years after *ROE v. WADE*, I am heartbroken for the pain this decision has caused over the years; but I am also hopeful and I am inspired, inspired by the many young people who energized this movement who will join us next week on the Mall in Washington, D.C., whom I will be very pleased to host and to lift up. I am energized that this movement will have these young people standing beside me, and I stand beside them next week when we march, and together we will continue to work towards the day when abortion is not only illegal but it is unthinkable.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, Ambassador, for your very eloquent comments.

I would like to yield to my good friend and colleague from Michigan, TIM WALBERG.

Mr. WALBERG. I thank my friend from New Jersey, again, for this opportunity to stand for life. It will be exciting to have the demonstration, and I say that in a positive sense, a demonstration that is going on this next week, again, of people demonstrating that there is a love for life, for children, for women and for men, who have been caught in the lie of abortion, who have been sold a message that goes against, in most of their cases, goes against their normal, commonsense thought, a thought that says life is something that should be sustained, it should be seen as a blessing, and we should praise that opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, my wife and I have always seen it as a high privilege to stand on a platform and look out across a crowd of hundreds of thousands of individuals who have love on their faces for life, for fellow humans, and for people caught in very difficult situations with a great desire to tell the truth that there is a difference, there is an opportunity that they can share with others that could experience hope.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we sit in a Chamber that has above your rostrum the motto of the United States of America that says "In God We Trust." And so rather than going on with further comments that I would make from my own thoughts, I would turn to the thoughts of God Himself, more specifically words that were uttered by a man, a king, a very wise king who was very human, as well, a king who was classified by God Himself as being a man after My own heart. And so what this man would say or would think if he were honored by God with that statement would be something we should hear.

These words that King David uttered in Psalm 139 are words I believe that can be uttered by not only the 56 million aborted babies but every baby in the past and the future who experiences being a gift of God. David said:

I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret . . . And skillfully wrought in the depths of the Earth . . . Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. (Psalms 139:14-16 NASB).

That talks of life as planned and as gifted by God in the womb, made for a purpose intended. And I thank God that I can stand here today, as a Member of Congress, as a father, as a husband, as a grandfather, and as one who loves life in all its forms humanly made by God as a gift. I thank the gentleman for allowing me this opportunity. God bless you.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you, Mr. WALBERG.

I would now like to yield to RANDY HULTGREN, the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. HULTGREN. Thank you, Chairman SMITH. Thank you for your incredible work on this issue. I rise today to remember with sadness the 41 years since the Supreme Court's sweeping *ROE v. WADE* decision. More than 55 million have lost their lives to abortion; but after that fateful January, the pro-life movement was born. As Americans United for Life put it, the pro-life movement desires a Nation in which everyone is welcome in life and protected in law.

Many warriors have taken up that cause. Next week, many thousands will make the pilgrimage to the March for Life here in Washington to mark and protest the havoc *ROE v. WADE* has left in its wake. Pro-life warrior, Nellie Gray, started the march, and this annual event has rallied Americans and exposed the brutality of this procedure.

A country complicit in taking thousands of lives each day tarnishes a legacy of liberty and justice for all. Defending human life at all stages shouldn't be a political issue. Defending human life is a moral issue. It is a

moral outrage and a violation of religious liberty for any American to be forced to participate in the funding of abortion.

No one believed this more than the late Honorable Henry Hyde. Another warrior for life, and my hero and mentor, Henry Hyde represented the Illinois Sixth Congressional District for 33 years. His crowning achievement, the Hyde amendment, barred the use of taxpayer funds for abortion. Congress has reaffirmed this amendment over and over again.

We must protect this principle by passing bills like the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, a bill which would make the Hyde amendment permanent and government-wide. No one should be coerced into paying for a procedure that violates their conscience.

Another warrior for life, Irene Napier, is a woman who lives in the district I represent, the 14th District of Illinois. This Crystal Lake resident has dedicated her life to defending the unborn. Now president emeritus of Right to Life of McHenry County, through the years Irene has stood up to the truth that every child should be given a chance to be loved and wanted.

Every human life has inherent dignity that is worth protecting. When we allow abortion, we are really saying that human lives are disposable, that we can throw away anything or anyone that inconveniences us. But people like Irene, Henry, and Nellie and all of us who claim to be pro-life know that notion is repugnant, and we reject it. Each child and each mother is a unique gift. No one—no one—should throw that gift away.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, I say to my friend from Illinois.

I would like to now yield to Mr. HUELSKAMP.

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly appreciate your leadership. Long before I came here to this body, I have always considered you my personal hero. So I thank you for that continued leadership.

Next week, we will see the 41st March for Life. I have been attending marches nearly for all of the last 20 years either here or in Kansas because protecting life is something I strongly believe in. I have believed in it enough to take part in the Summer of Mercy in Wichita, Kansas, despite the heat, the ridicule and threat of arrest. And I believed in it enough that my wife and I met doing pro-life work helping and encouraging women in crisis pregnancies.

We believe in protecting life enough to have four adopted children. I still remember meeting our two daughters for the first time, at airports of all places. In Miami in 1999, I waited with my wife, nervously looking forward to that first glimpse, the first time we were going to hold our oldest daughter. In Kansas City 2 years later, this time my oldest daughter in one hand and a dozen roses in the other waiting for my wife to step off the plane with our second daughter. I still remember that

ride home. My wife had a bright idea—a 3- and a 5-year-old—she said, maybe if we put their car seats together, they can learn to get along. That lasted about 15 minutes. But 400 miles later, we finally arrived home just in time for Christmas Eve Mass. And what a Christmas gift from a mother who chose life.

Each day, more and more eyes are being opened to the horrors of abortion and the blessings of adoption. Each day, more and more young people are making the choice to stand up and defend life. And each day brings us closer to the time when it will no longer be legal for a mother and father to kill their baby just because a throwaway society tells them that little girl or that little boy doesn't fit in their plans.

□ 1715

We are getting closer to that goal to protect all innocent life from conception to natural death, but it will not happen without action. Action in Congress yes, but more importantly, action at home, action in our hearts, action in our families. We need to be talking and praying with our friends, our neighbors, our coworkers about the importance of protecting life and helping families in crisis pregnancies.

If we want to see an end to abortion, it will happen because the hearts and minds of individual Americans were changed by our actions.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. HUELSKAMP, thank you very much. And thank you for your work on the Pro-life Caucus. You have really stepped up, and it is deeply appreciated by all of us. Thank you so very much.

I would like to now yield to, we have a number of pro-life doctors in the U.S. House of Representatives, and we have two with us today. First, beginning with the gentleman from Tennessee, Dr. ROE.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I must spend a moment or two talking about Congressman CHRIS SMITH, who has been down here for three decades of his life advocating for life tirelessly.

This Nation and the unborn owe this man right here a gift of thanks and gratitude. And I do, Mr. SMITH, thank you very much for your work and leadership in this. It is truly amazing.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I once again, in my 5 years in Congress, return to the House floor on this date, both as a father of three, a grandfather of two, and professionally an obstetrician and gynecologist. I have delivered close to 5,000 babies, and I strongly support the sanctity of life. Using technology like 3-D ultrasound has given us a window to the unborn as a living, breathing, feeling human being.

I have looked through that window with my own eyes thousands of times. I have seen human development occur at its earliest stages of a baby's life all the way through birth, which strength-

ens my conviction in the right to life. I have lived in a small rural community in east Tennessee and watched these children I have delivered grow up to be doctors and nurses and professionals and teachers and to have their own children and families.

Life is a precious miracle from God that does begin at conception. It is our responsibility and a privilege as legislators to protect those who don't have a voice. I will always fight for the right to life, because it is my conviction and belief that we are all unique creations of a God who knows us and loves us before we are even conceived. What a loving and caring God that is.

Tonight we mark one of the most tragic, misguided Supreme Court cases in our Nation's history, *ROE v. WADE*. Since 1973, more than 55 million babies have been denied the right to life. We must make our laws consistent with our science and restore full legal protections to all who are waiting to be born. If government has any legitimate function at all, it is to protect those most innocent among us.

For over 30 years, Congress has prevented taxpayer-funded abortions. Unfortunately, this door has been reopened with the passage of ObamaCare, the largest expansion since the pivotal *ROE v. WADE* decision. The Members who stand before you today have pledged themselves to protect those without a voice, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure this promise is kept. It is only by making good on this oath that we can expect to restore the trust that the American people have in their own government, and in doing so, ensure that the door to taxpayer-funded abortions remains closed.

I am glad to be here tonight on the House floor with other legislators fighting for the rights of the unborn. Mr. Speaker, I prayerfully ask that hearts and minds are changed.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you, Dr. ROE, for your very kind remarks, but more importantly, for your witness for life, particularly as an OB/GYN and for delivering those 5,000 babies.

I would like to now yield to another doctor, Dr. ANDY HARRIS, the gentleman from Maryland, who works often at Johns Hopkins, and a great defender of life and an eloquent spokesman.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight on the 41st anniversary of *ROE v. WADE*. And put simply, my colleague from Tennessee said, the science is just wrong. *ROE v. WADE*, the decision, they just got it wrong.

I entered premedical study in 1973, the year that *ROE v. WADE* was issued by the Court. I remember taking genetics courses as a premed. I remember learning about genetics, learning about human genetics.

Then in 1975, when I went to medical school, I actually did a research project with one of the scientists who was mapping the human genome. I always

remember one of the things we did which was kind of neat is we actually took one of our cells and stained the DNA. I still have the picture at home of my DNA.

I remember the scientist telling me, you know, you look at that DNA and that is human DNA. It is not any other DNA. It cannot be mistaken for any other DNA. In fact, Mr. Speaker, as you know, we can now map a person's entire DNA. Any scientist looking at that map of any human being's DNA will tell you that is a human being. It is not a cat. It is not a dog. It is not a monkey. It is not another primate. It is a human being. It is the only thing that that DNA could belong to.

Well, that is very interesting, because of course if you go back to the *ROE v. WADE* case and you read about Norma McCorvey, who was Jane Roe—of course, that was a pseudonym. Her name was Norma McCorvey. She was pregnant at the time with her third child. Two of them had been adopted previously. It was a difficult pregnancy as any. It was a problem pregnancy. It was an unplanned pregnancy.

Well, Norma ran into two lawyers who wanted to overturn it, two ambitious lawyers who, later, she would go on to say she was "the pawn" of two young and ambitious lawyers who just wanted to test the case, the Texas law. They wanted to bring it to the Supreme Court. They told her that her fetus was just "a blob of tissue."

Mr. Speaker, we know much better than that. Science knows much better than that. It was not a blob of tissue. It was a human being. It had the same chromosomes, the same DNA, the same genetics as you and I. Any scientist in the world could tell that that was a human being. In fact, from the moment of inception, the scientific truth is we are dealing with human beings, in the case of *ROE v. WADE*, 56 million human beings whose lives were ended as a result of that decision.

Now, we are going to celebrate, and I mean celebrate, with a pro-life rally next week. And in the end, we are going to win this struggle, because in the end, what the Justices determined were legal beings are going to be really determined to be human beings worthy of protection.

I will tell you why there are going to be so many of the Nation's youth at that rally. Because our Nation's youth grew up knowing that *ROE v. WADE* is in fact the law of the land, and in fact the law says legally their existence may have been threatened.

Mr. Speaker, I have told this story before. If anybody doesn't believe it, I want them to meet Jennifer. My wife volunteers at a pregnancy center. One of those places where women with troubles, troubled pregnancies, they are in a bad situation. They know that in this country it is legal to have an abortion, but what they really want is help. And my wife is fluent in Spanish. She was raised in Puerto Rico. She is the only person at that pregnancy center in

Maryland who speaks Spanish. She wasn't supposed to be there that day when Maria, on political asylum from Guatemala, called.

It was Maria's third baby, just like Norma McCorvey's third baby. She was having a hard time because her husband had left her. It was going to be a hard time to raise that child. She called the clinic, because honestly she was looking for an abortion referral. And Maria doesn't speak English. She speaks a few words, not fluently enough to be understood. It just happened my wife was there. My wife talks to her and she helps her, and the pregnancy center helps her. Maria, who really didn't want an abortion but knew it was legal and an option, gave birth to Jennifer. Jennifer is now in middle school. She is a great kid. I would challenge anyone to look into Jennifer's eyes and say that *ROE v. WADE* got it right.

Mr. Speaker, next week thousands, tens of thousands of young people are going to be on The Mall to join with us to say, simply put, *ROE v. WADE* got it wrong.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much.

I would like to now yield to my good friend and colleague from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, 41 years ago, the Supreme Court issued its tragic *ROE v. WADE* decision that legalized abortion on demand in the United States. Since that ruling there have been about 56 million abortions performed. This abhorrent practice remains one of the most common medical procedures in the U.S. It is perpetrated by a perverse logic that a life of an "unplanned" child does not possess the same value as that of any other child.

As the parents of five children and grandparents of two, my wife, Jeanie, and I understand just how precious each and every child's life is. I believe every life is a gift from God, and I remain wholly committed to protecting the sanctity of human life.

Today, I want to recognize the more than 2,300 pregnancy care centers in the United States working to defend the lives of the unborn and providing critical services and support for women who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies.

Sadly, many women facing an unplanned pregnancy in the U.S. are told, and believe, abortion is the only way. Pregnancy care centers respect these women and the lives they are carrying throughout their pregnancies.

In my Congressional district, we are fortunate to have one of these champions working to defend the sanctity of human life. Life Network has been serving Colorado Springs for over 25 years. Through the support of selfless men and women devoted to a culture of life, Life Network, through the Colorado Springs Pregnancy Center, provides pregnancy tests, counseling, ultrasounds, and material assistance

such as diapers, formula, and baby clothing. All of these services are free of charge.

Life Network and pregnancy care centers like it across the world have and will continue to reduce abortion rates, save unborn lives, and provide assistance and resources to encourage women faced with unplanned pregnancies so they can choose life.

I mourn the lives cut short by abortion. I pray that God continues to give favor to those compassionate individuals who give of their time in pregnancy care centers, and he gives grace and comfort to those touched by this awful practice. I will continue to be among those fighting to stop it.

Thank you, Representative SMITH, for your leadership on this issue.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, Mr. LAMBORN.

I'd like to now yield to my friend from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER).

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, next Wednesday is a very solemn day in America. It is the 41st anniversary of *ROE v. WADE*; and I think that that was the day that a blemish was put on America, a blemish put on a country that was founded on the principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But, unfortunately, we denied almost 56 million individuals that opportunity. A lot of people use the word "choice" when they are talking about abortion, but unfortunately we didn't give 56 million people a choice.

One of the great pleasures of my life is I just spent Christmas with my family and, more importantly, with my children and my grandchildren. I have two sons and four grandchildren.

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One of the pleasures that Dana and I have on our mantle at home in our bedroom are the sonograms of each of our grandchildren, our first glimpse at what our loving grandchildren were going to look like, and a clear indication that life begins at conception.

So my hope while I am here in Congress, and I will continue the fight, is that we remove this blemish from this great Nation; that we make this a Nation recommitted to those principles it was founded on of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. If we cannot be a Nation of life, truly can we uphold any principles?

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for his very, very wise comments and very eloquent comments.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Thank you, my colleague from New Jersey, for leading this discussion here tonight.

Indeed, it is a very somber tone that we would be here on a very, indeed, sad subject matter as the 41st anniversary of *ROE v. WADE* is brought forward here in our history.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the sanctity of human life. I know we have, as a society, an obligation to protect life in all its forms, es-

pecially the unborn. We are confronted today by a culture that takes human life for granted and the sanctity of it.

Indeed, we heard a little bit earlier that since the 41-year history of *ROE v. WADE*—a decision made by a court, legislated by a court—that 56 million unborn have had their lives taken, which I think is really an unconscionable injustice for our Nation. I am a pro-life advocate. Regardless of the political or status quo, I am proud to join my colleagues in protecting the rights of the unborn and preserving the right, the sanctity of human life.

I am a Christian, father of four, I have daughters, I have sisters, I have nieces; a lot of women in my life, our family's life. Of course, nothing replaces the great joy you would have in holding one of your own newborn or those of relatives or friends, and what that means; the miracle that God has given us watching them grow, watching them go on to become successful. How would you want to take that away? I don't understand it.

I know, obviously, it is a controversial subject, but where we fall short as a country sometimes—a lot of times, many times—is that women are in a position to have to make a difficult decision sometimes that they may believe the only position they have is the termination of a pregnancy. At the very least, we ought to be able to stand here and make sure they have all the information on all the implications, all the options, instead of sometimes a rush to make what can be a very tragic and long-lasting decision.

The fight goes on. It won't end any time soon. But in the long-term picture, standing up for the rights of the unborn, as well as the sanctity of all human life, I think is something that is essential if we are to have a belief system in something bigger than ourselves.

I hope we as a Nation can do better. I appreciate that there are folks willing to stand up for it. I appreciate the doctors that spoke here tonight that are there providing for women's health and the health of the unborn and those already born, that they have that perspective they brought to us as well.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PITTENGER).

Mr. PITTENGER. Thank you, Congressman SMITH. I am so grateful for your leadership, having known you now for the last 30 years and watched the true commitment that you have for the calls of life. I just appreciate the spirit of which you come and your dedication.

Mr. Speaker, before I got in Congress, I spent a lot of time committed to the pro-life mission. My interest really was elevated about 25 years ago when I was in London with my family, and we visited the British Museum. After a long day, we were tired and we went into a little booth and sat down. There were a

number of chairs. There was a little TV screen, and I just pushed the button to see what was there. What came on was a little film about life and about birth and about this little baby. They referred to the baby time and again: the baby is a week old, the baby is 2 weeks old, the baby is 3 weeks old.

Here is a chart, Mr. Speaker, that says that baby at 4 weeks has the eyes and the heart, 5 weeks greater development with the limbs, 6 weeks having the teeth and the palate and the ears. You will see there, Mr. Speaker, about the 16th week the brain is fully formed; and, at that point, at fully formed, the nervous system is in. That baby can feel pain.

So I want those who can see us today and feel the heart and commitment, that this is a baby, and this is the life of that baby as it is processed. The Lord said: "I knew you even when you were in your mother's womb." This is something that we cannot remove ourselves from.

As you think of this baby and the loss of these babies, some 56 million, your mind's eye looks through all of recorded history and what has happened in the period of history that those babies were born and what would happen with their lives. Did we eliminate the life of one who would have helped to cure cancer or diabetes or any other disease? Was that life taken that God had put in that little baby's mind and heart the knowledge to do what was needed to be done to cure a major disease today? We will never know that until eternity.

For that, I think it is a very sober thought to know that the Lord watches over us day and night, and his thoughts toward us are good and not of evil, to give us a future and a hope. He has hope to all. We need to respect the fact and know the fact that that loving God provided this life to be a blessing on this Earth. It is something that we should consider very seriously, the impact of what has happened in God's plan for this Earth by what we have taken away from the life that he has given.

So I share this time with you and I am grateful for your leadership. As I join with you next week, this will be a moment to continue to ask God to help preserve these lives.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you, Mr. PITTEMBER.

May I inquire of the Chair how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has about 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK).

Mr. BENISHEK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the rights of the unborn and to urge my colleagues to do everything within their legal power to help protect the most innocent and defenseless citizens of our great Nation.

I served as a doctor for nearly 30 years in northern Michigan, and I know that life begins at conception and that protection for that life must start at conception. As a father and grandfather, I have been blessed to experience this miracle on my own family.

I think everyone believes the government should protect children—we ensure their health, their safety, their well-being. I, along with many in northern Michigan, believe that life inside the womb is just as precious as life outside the womb and that it must be protected.

Because of this belief that the lives of the unborn deserve protection, I have worked hard to prevent taxpayer funding of abortion. I joined with a majority of my Republican colleagues in the House of Representatives supporting H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. Your hard-earned tax dollars should not pay for abortions, especially when such highly controversial practices are opposed by most taxpayers.

January 22, next Wednesday, marks the 41st anniversary of the *ROE v. WADE* Supreme Court decision. After 41 years of passionate engagement, I would like to commend the grassroots efforts of our local communities. Thank you for the hard work that you do to educate our communities about this important debate.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Thank you very much, Dr. BENISHEK.

Just to close, Mr. Speaker, 41 years ago next week—January 22—marks the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous, reckless, and inhumane abandonment of women and babies to abortionists. Forty-one years of victims—dead babies, wounded women, shattered families. Forty-one years of government-sanctioned violence against women and children.

Since 1973, more than 56 million children have been killed by abortion—a staggering loss of children's precious lives—a death toll that equates to the entire population of England.

The passage of time hasn't changed the fact that abortion is a serious, lethal violation of fundamental human rights, and that women and children deserve better, and that the demands of justice, generosity, and compassion require that the right to life be guaranteed to everyone.

Rather than dull our consciences to the unmitigated violence of abortion, the passage of time has only enabled us to see and, frankly, better understand the innate cruelty of abortion and its horrific legacy—victims—while making us more determined than ever to protect the weakest and the most vulnerable.

All life is sacred, Mr. Speaker. No one, regardless of sex, race, religion, disability, or condition of dependency, is a "throwaway." All of us, especially lawmakers and policymakers everywhere in this town and throughout the country, have a profound moral duty to protect the innocent and the inconvenient.

I yield back the balance of my time.

PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS: OPPOSITION TO THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

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

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here on behalf of the Progressive Caucus and lead this Special Order hour.

Last week, we were here as a Progressive Caucus with a number of our members talking about the need to extend unemployment benefits for the 1.3 million Americans that lost them at the end of December. We filled the entire hour with people talking about the need to extend the benefits and real personal stories of people who have been affected by us in this House not extending those benefits.

It looked for a while last week like the Senate might do the right thing in a bipartisan way and extend those benefits. Unfortunately, this week, we saw the Republicans in the Senate refuse to go along and extend benefits to needy Americans, people who are without work, simply trying to pay their rent, pay for their groceries, and pay for things like gas so they can go and get a job. It has been a very unfortunate week.

Yet in this House, we have tried time after time this week to get a vote so that we could get unemployment benefits extended for those 1.3 million Americans and the 72,000 Americans each and every week who are going to lose those benefits. Unfortunately, we have had no success. The leadership in this House has not allowed us to have that vote.

So we are here again today to talk about not only the need to extend unemployment benefits but also to talk about a fast track deal that is going through this House, a fast track deal on trade that many of us see as a fast track to losing even more jobs and having an even more detrimental effect on the very same people we are talking about right now who are becoming more and more long-term unemployed.

I am joined by a number of my colleagues today. I would like to right off the bat yield to a colleague of mine who has served in the California Legislature and now proudly serves the Long Beach area here in Congress, my good friend and colleague from California, Representative ALAN LOWENTHAL.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise too in support of the 1.3 million Americans who have lost or will be losing their benefits by the callous efforts of this Congress not to extend unemployment benefits, especially for the long-term unemployed.

As you pointed out, Congressman POCAN, as of December 28, over 1.3 million Americans have been kicked off