

taking up legislation to fix our broken immigration system. Over 18 months ago, the Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill with bipartisan support. House Republicans allowed that bill to die in the House without allowing it to come to a vote. Republicans should come up with a proposal to reform our broken immigration system. They should not threaten to defund the Department of Homeland Security because of their inaction.

It is especially unfortunate that these anti-immigrant amendments were adopted because the bill that had previously been agreed to contained funding for many critical programs. Specifically, I appreciate the robust funding in the bill provided for the SAFER and AFG fire grant programs which have helped pay for emergency vehicles and increased staffing needs at a time when the numbers of volunteer fire fighters across the country has been declining. Furthermore, in light of this week's cyberattack on the U.S. Central Command's Twitter account, I am encouraged by the bill's funding for cyber security programs. I am also pleased to see the increased funding provided for the Secret Service, which has experienced well reported challenges last year.

Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to play politics with our national security. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL
OF FAME INDUCTEE JOE
WEATHERLY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Joe Weatherly upon his posthumous induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

The Norfolk, Virginia, native established himself as one of boldest personalities in NASCAR history. Affectionately called the "Clown Prince of Stock Car Racing" for pulling such antics as wearing costumes during practice laps, he was all business come race time.

Weatherly won the 1953 NASCAR modified championship and then in 1962 and 1963 he won the NASCAR premier series championships. He also earned five victories on tracks in the 8th district of North Carolina during his career.

His tragic death in 1964 due to injuries sustained during a race that season made him the first reigning champion to die during the season.

Weatherly was previously inducted into the American Motorcycle Association Hall of Fame and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America and it is a great honor to extend these congratulatory remarks for one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers of all-time on his posthumous induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP
PARNELL M. LOVELACE, JR.

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bishop Parnell M. Lovelace, Jr. as he steps aside from his position as Senior Pastor of the Center of Praise Ministries of Sacramento, California. As a spiritual leader, he has served the Sacramento community since he founded the Center of Praise Ministries in 1989. Before this he held various other positions for which our community is grateful. As his congregation, family, colleagues and community leaders gather to celebrate his efforts, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his many years of contributions to the Sacramento region.

Bishop Lovelace has been an enthusiastic and effective spiritual leader. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from Oral Roberts University and Master of Arts in Social Work from the University of Oklahoma. He received early spiritual training at Sacramento's Shiloh Baptist Church, and went on to receive his Certificate of Completion from the Jack W. Hayford School of Pastoral Nurture at King's College and Seminary, a Master of Arts in Practical Theology with High Honors from Oral Roberts University, and his Doctor of Ministry from the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University.

In addition to leading the Center of Praise Ministries, Bishop Lovelace was a public servant in Oklahoma and Sacramento, where he held a number of positions, including being the Sacramento Regional Office Manager and Case Worker for the Koinonia Foster Homes, a Pediatric Medical Social Worker for the University of California, Davis Medical Center, and served as the Vice Chairperson for the Board of Directors of CARES Community Health clinic.

In 1989 Bishop Lovelace led the Center of Praise Ministries' founding meeting and it has grown exponentially since then. As Senior Pastor, he has contributed an unimaginable amount of time and effort to improving our community and has made it a priority to reach out to those in need. Other important positions he has held include a stint as a Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum's Mountain Valley Chapter, Advisory Board Member of East Lawn, Inc., leadership within 100 Black Men of America, Inc., co-pastoral chair of the 2012 Luis Palau Sacramento Festival, and he served as member of the Board of Trustees at William Jessup University.

Not surprisingly, Bishop Lovelace has received numerous honors throughout his career. Some of his most recent awards include being honored by the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers and Collegium Scholars at Morehouse College, receiving the 2012 President's Award from the Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce, and in 2013 he was named Person of the Year by the Observer Media Group.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of his dedication to the betterment of our community, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and recognizing the Bishop Parnell M. Lovelace, Jr. for his many years of service and in wishing him and his family all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL DAVID
LANTZ, PRESIDENT OF THE JEW-
ISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Lantz as he completes his term as President of the Jewish Community Alliance of the Greater Wyoming Valley. Under Paul's dedicated leadership, the Jewish Community Alliance has made great strides in preparing for its future, most notably in the acquisition of land that will allow for establishment of a new Jewish Community Center for the Wyoming Valley. This project will maintain many of the traditional aspects and artifacts of the current structure but will also allow the center to expand into a modern facility designed to meet future needs. The Jewish community in the Wyoming Valley has had a rich history of charitable and educational works dating back many years, and this project will allow this work to continue well into the future.

Educated at Connecticut College, Paul graduated with a bachelor of arts in zoology. After receiving his master's in business administration from the University of Connecticut, Paul went to work for Price Waterhouse in New York as a CPA. In 1981, he moved to Wilkes-Barre with his wife, where they still reside. Paul is actively involved in the Wilkes-Barre community in many ways. In addition to serving as the President of the Jewish Community Alliance, Paul has also served on the board of several non-profit organizations, such as the SPCA, the Domestic Violence Service Center, The Wyoming Valley Children's Association, and the Boys & Girls Clubs. Currently, Paul is the owner and President of the A. Rifkin Co. in Wilkes-Barre and Hope Uniform & Security Products in Columbia, New Jersey.

I congratulate Paul on his work as President of the Jewish Community Alliance of the Wyoming Valley, and I commend him for his dedication, his quiet confidence, and his selflessness in offering his time and talents on behalf of others.

LIST OF INCIDENTS TARGETING THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN INDIA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the following list of incidents of religious persecution targeting the Christian community in India was compiled by the Evangelical Fellowship of India, a charter member of the World Evangelical Alliance and an accredited NGO with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

The Evangelical Fellowship of India expresses concern at the alarming rate at which the Christian community is being targeted in India. The EFT's Religious Liberty Commission recorded more than 38 incidents targeting the Christian community in November-December 2014, with 31 incidents taking place in December alone. The incidents range from physical violence, false accusations, disruption of church services/

Christmas functions, to the hate campaigns and the pressure to convert to Hinduism that the Christian community is facing almost on a daily basis in India.

LIST OF INCIDENTS STATE WISE

Uttar Pradesh—13 incidents
Madhya Pradesh—8 incidents
Chhattisgarh—4 incidents
Delhi—4 incidents
Punjab—2 incidents
Bihar—2 incidents
Tamil Nadu—1 incident
Karnataka—1 incident
Assam—1 incident
Andhra Pradesh—1 incident
Gujarat—1 incident

BHOPAL, MADHYA PRADESH (4TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Members of Bajrang Dal attacked 7 Christians including one Pastor from Mumbai, beat them up and got them arrested in Bhopal. The Christians were stripped and beaten mercilessly by fists and belts, causing internal injuries.

INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH (7TH NOVEMBER 2014)

A Christian was falsely accused, detained and later arrested on allegations of forced conversions in Indore. According to reports from local sources, Hindu extremists threw cross necklaces in the house where the Christians had gathered and then stormed inside alleging forced conversions. A police complaint alleging that the Christian was forcing them to wear cross necklaces and hence converting them was filed at the local police complaint. The Christian was detained for over four hours at the Chandan Nagar Police Station post the incident and was released later.

UDUMALPET, TAMIL NADU (16TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Over 100 Hindu extremists attacked a Christian community in Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu. The community was attacked when they were participating in a prayer service. The attackers not only beat the Christians present but also burnt more than 20 vehicles belonging to the Christians. They desecrated Bibles, burnt the altar of the Church and destroyed Church property including musical instruments. The Christians were threatened even when they were being treated for injuries at the local hospital.

RAJNANDGAON, CHHATTISGARH (16TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Members of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal stormed the Sunday worship service of the Masihi Aradhna Church in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh and beat the Church members up. The attackers were looking for the Pastor who was hidden by the Church members as there was a threat to his life.

KOLAR, KARNATAKA (23RD NOVEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremists attacked the Calvary Apostolic Church in Bangarapet, Karnataka. They beat up Church members resulting in eight church members seriously injured. Two members among the eight injured suffered broken legs.

JAGDALPUR, CHHATTISGARH (26TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Media reports carried the news that under pressure from the VHF, the Catholic missionaries in Bastar area of Chhattisgarh state have agreed that the principals in their schools, normally referred to as "Father", would now be addressed as "Pracharya", or "Up-pracharya", or "Sir". The reports also mentioned that the missionaries have also agreed to put up photographs of "Maa Saraswati" and "great personalities who have worked for national interest" in their educational institutions. Local Catholic sources have denied such an agreement and complained of pressure from the VHP.

ASSAM (26TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Pastor of the Believers Church in Moran Amguri, Sivasagar District of Assam re-

ceived threats from local Hindu leaders to vacate the building that the congregation uses for Church services in one month's time or face the consequences.

DELHI (1ST DECEMBER 2014)

A Catholic church in East Delhi's Dilshad Garden area, St Sebastian's Church, was completely gutted in a fire, in the early hours of 1st December 2014. Later, Christians took to the streets to protest the burning, and demanded a judicial enquiry as foul play is suspected. The Governor of Delhi has instituted a Special Investigation Team to probe into the matter.

DELHI (2ND DECEMBER 2014)

Four unidentified men broke into the Catholic convent in Rohini area of Delhi. The CCTV captured the images when the break in happened.

DELHI (6TH DECEMBER 2014)

Unidentified people pelted Our Lady of Fatema Church with stones during mass at about 6 p.m. in the Jasola area of New Delhi damaging windows and causing the Syro-Malabar Catholic congregation to rush out in alarm.

ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH (9TH DECEMBER 2014)

The RSS and the Dharma Jagran Manch announced that they planned to convert 4000 Christian and 1000 Muslim families in Aligarh on Christmas Day. BJP MP Yogi Adityanath supported the event visibly among others. The organizers said that Christmas was chosen as the day for conversion because the event is a "shakti pariksha" (test of strength) for both religions.

LUDHIANA, PUNJAB (11TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of the Shiv Sena attacked the Kalvari Church, Ludhiana prompting the police to deploy heavy security to protect the Church building. Shiv Sena members later surrounded the local police station alleging forced conversion.

ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH (12TH DECEMBER 2014)

Newspapers reported that the Dharam Jagran Samiti (DJS), an RSS offshoot, distributed pamphlets in Aligarh seeking donations for converting Christians and Muslims to Hinduism. The pamphlet said that it costs Rs 2 lakh to convert a Christian and Rs 5 lakh to convert a Muslim. The DJS had set December 25 as the date for a major conversion ceremony and put down an annual target of 2 lakh conversions—1 lakh Muslims and 1 lakh Christians in the area.

RATLAM, MADHYA PRADESH (12TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of the Bajrang Dal stormed a Christian meeting in Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh along with the media and the police forcing the organizers to cancel the meeting. The organizers and the speakers of the meeting were taken to the police station but were later released. CSP P S Ranawat told the media that no evidence about the alleged conversions, forced or otherwise, was found in the initial probe by the police.

BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH (13TH DECEMBER 2014)

NDTV and other national media organizations reported that the BJP Lok Sabha MP from Bastar, Dinesh Kashyap presided over a ceremony that saw 33 Christian families being converted to Hinduism. The local Christians had complained of pressure from VHP and BJP earlier asking them to convert to Hinduism.

HYDERABAD, ANDHRA PRADESH (13TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians were attacked and beaten by Hindu extremists for singing Christmas carols in Hyderabad, seriously injuring a pastor and four others. The violence occurred while

Pastor Bhim Nayak of Banjara Baptist Church and fifteen church members sang Christmas carols and visited Christian families in the city's Singareny Colony. Local reports say that some thirty "Hindu extremists" attacked the Christians and a vehicle they had hired for the evening festivities.

PIPRAICH, UTTAR PRADESH (16TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians including 4 women were arrested from a Christmas function at Navipur village, Pipraich, Uttar Pradesh and were kept in custody for more than 20 hours before being released. They were accused by Hindu groups of indulging in forced conversion but the police let them go after a detailed investigation.

BEHRAICH, UTTAR PRADESH (16TH DECEMBER 2014)

Pastor Mahendra Kumar from Behraich, Uttar Pradesh was arrested and kept in custody for two days before being released without any charges. He was arrested following complaints of local Hindu groups. The Hindu groups are also targeting a Christian social service organization working in the area, according to local reports.

BHAGALPUR, BIHAR (18TH DECEMBER 2014)

Three Christians who had recently converted to Christianity were forced to re-convert to Hinduism. According to media reports the three converts returned to the Hindu fold after they were threatened with a social boycott.

UTTAR PRADESH (18TH DECEMBER 2014)

Dharm Jagran Manch leader Rajeshwar Singh told media that his organization plans to root out Christianity and Islam from India by December 31, 2021, adding that Christians and Muslims essentially have no right to live in the country.

VARANASI, UTTAR PRADESH (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremists disrupted a Christian prayer meeting and beat up Christians in Varanasi on December 19, 2014. Pastor Shobhnath and local Christians were participating in prayer and fasting in a village in Chirgaon Block, Varanasi, when 10-12 people came in a Bolero (SUV), entered the house forcefully, and started beating the Christians. They took away Bible and other literature and also destroyed household furniture. According to local sources the attackers are office bearers of RSS and BJP. The matter was reported to the local police.

VALSAD, GUJARAT (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

According to media reports, Vishwa Hindu Parishad "officially brought back to the Hindu fold" some 100 Christian tribals who had "embraced Hinduism earlier" in south Gujarat. VHP activists later claimed as many as 900 had been "reconverted". The 'zhar wapsi' ceremony was conducted this afternoon at Arnai, a village in Kaprada taluka of Valsad district. A news website called scroll.in later investigated the issue and did not find a single convert in the area, a far cry from what was claimed by the VHP.

RATLAM, MADHYA PRADESH (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

A week after insisting that there was no evidence of conversion, forced or otherwise, the Ratlam Police booked Pastor Jose Mathews, the organiser of a Christian convention under the state's anti-conversion law. The convention organised by the Indian Pentecostal Church of God and the United Christian Council (UCC) on December 12, at Ratlam was attended by Christians and was stormed by Bajrang Dal people alleging conversions.

CHHATTISGARH (20TH DECEMBER 2014)

Media reports said that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is getting ready to clear

the controversial anti-conversion Bill passed by the Chhattisgarh Assembly in 2006. The Dharma Swatantraya Adhiniyam Act, 2006, brought by BJP's Raman Singh government in the state says the return of a person to his ancestor's religion or own original religion shall not be construed as "conversion." The Bill also says that a district magistrate will have to be intimated 30 days prior to the conversion and he will be the final authority on the subject.

PUNJAB (21ST DECEMBER 2014)

In media reports, the RSS and its affiliates claimed that they are engaged in a massive reconversion or "ghar wapsi" programme to get Christians back—not just to Hinduism, but also to Sikhism, in Punjab. The organizations claim to have helped some 8,000 people 'return home' in the last three years, some 3,500 of them over the last one year.

DELHIM (21ST DECEMBER 2014)

RSS announced that it will organize a re-conversion rally at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Christmas day with at least 25,000 people in attendance.

KHARGONE, MADHYA PRADESH (24TH DECEMBER 2014)

A Christian couple, Wilson and Rashmita, was taken into custody under the state's anti-conversion law from a village near district headquarters Khargone, Madhya Pradesh. The couple were a part of a Christmas program held on 24th December at Nayanagar, about 28 kilometres from Khargone, where they live. Members of a Hindu group who alleged conversions disrupted the Christmas program and called the police who then arrested the couple. According to local sources, the Hindu groups produced false witnesses against the couple alleging that they had offered 5,000 Rupees every month to a woman if she converts to Christianity.

UJJAIN, MADHYA PRADESH (24TH DECEMBER 2014)

Akash Sisodia from Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh was attacked by members of the Bajrang Dal while he was leading a Christmas prayer service in Ujjain Madhya Pradesh. According to reports, the Bajrang Dal people who were accompanied by the police and media people produced false witnesses and got Sisodia arrested. He was kept in custody for three days before being released, as charges against him could not be substantiated.

UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Seven people including two pastors were arrested on Christmas day from Urai. Raibareilly and Kushinagar areas of Uttar Pradesh. The Christians were arrested on after BJP members complained of forcible conversions. However according to media reports no such conversions could be verified.

BARLOI, MAU, UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police stopped a Christmas function in Barloi village of Uttar Pradesh following objections by Hindu groups. Local BJP leader Dr. Alka Roy was also accompanying the police as they forced the Christians to stop the Christmas function.

MAINPURI, UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh, stopped a Christmas celebration following complaints by Hindu groups alleging conversions. However according to media reports, no evidence of any conversion was found after investigation. The Christmas celebrations were organized at the home of one Shankar Lal Verma in Kharagjeet Nagar, Mainpuri. After Hindu groups complained the police reached the spot, stopped the celebrations, dispersed the gathered people and

arrested Shankar Lal. He was later released as the charges against him were not proved true.

KHANDWA, MADHYA PRADESH (26TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians were attacked during a Christmas celebration in village Coloni near Khandwa. The mob cornered the Christians just about they were going to have lunch and threw stones at them. Later the police came and arrested 13 Christians including three very young children, 8 months, 4 years and 7 years and took them to Borgaon police station where they were charged under IP 295 A. The Christians including the children were in police custody till 31st December 2014 till their bail was secured. Earlier Hindu groups in the district court also roughed up a lawyer who appeared for the Christians. The groups told the lawyer to get off the case and not represent the Christians anymore.

VARANASI, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police arrested Pastor Ashok Prajapati from Varanasi following allegations of forcible conversions. According to reports, Hindu groups as well as the police threatened him and asked him to stop holding prayer meetings in the area. He was released in the evening the same day.

AMETHI, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

BJP leaders and Bajrang Dal people threatened Pastor Ramchand from Amethi, Uttar Pradesh of dire consequences if he carries on with worship services in the area. The pastor left the village keeping in mind his own security and has approached the local police for protection.

ALLAHABAD, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

More than 25 members of the Youth wing of the BJP and other Hindu groups stormed into the Sam Higginbottom university alleging conversions. The attackers tore banners with Bible verses written on them, shouted anti-Christian slogans, burnt the effigy of the vice chancellor of the University, Dr. R B Lall, and entered into a fight with the security personnel. Two of them were caught and handed over to the police.

GAYA, BIHAR (28TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians in Gaya, Bihar sought police protection after several outfits of the Hindu right-wing threatened them of dire consequences if they do not convert to Hinduism. In a petition containing two pages of signatures, given to the police, the Christians accused the VHP, the RSS and the Bajrang Dal of indulging in intimidation and force.

INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH (28TH DECEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremist groups forcibly took two Catholic missionaries to police station after disrupting an interfaith meeting organized at the Geeta Bhavan. Indore. Madhya Pradesh. The activists of Bajrang Dal and Dharma Jagran Manch accused Father Prasad and Brother Sleeva of trying to convert Hindus to Christianity. They demanded that the police arrest the missionaries, after registering a First Information Report against them. The missionaries were however, let off as charges against them proved to be frivolous. The next day the Hindu groups proceeded to purify Geeta Bhavan by pouring milk and cow urine on the place where the missionaries had been participating in the interfaith meeting.

DEORIA, UTTAR PRADESH (28TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of Hindu Yuva Vahini and the police disrupted a Christian worship service at Salempur, Deoria district, Uttar Pradesh. Jaswant Masih and his wife Suman, who have been conducting prayer services for

many years in their own home, were arrested and taken to the police station following complaints by the Hindu groups that the couple were involved in forcible conversions. Later, Police, denied any incident of conversion. "A Christian family has been organising prayers for past many years and people go there. It is just a matter of faith and nothing else," said inspector Ram Yadav.

HONORING FRED T. NOLAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Fred T. Nolan, a native of Dyer, Tennessee, but raised in Paducah, Kentucky, and has lived in Jackson, Mississippi since his graduation from Tougaloo College in the early 1960s. One of his early career choices was teaching in the Jackson Public School District (JPS).

Mr. Nolan taught two years at the then Brinkley High School located on Livingston Road and was a ninth grade teacher of Social Studies and Mathematics. He left JPS to pursue other career options and worked briefly for the Urban League of Jackson as director. The majority of his career spanned 25 years as the executive director of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, a division of Housing Urban Development (HUD).

After fully retiring from HUD in 1996, Mr. Nolan rejoined the JPS family as a substitute and limited service teacher. He worked three years in a limited service capacity at Siwell Middle, Lanier High, and Forest Hill High schools.

Mr. Fred Nolan is married to Mrs. Kisiah Nolan, a former JPS Board member and president. His son, Fredrick Nolan, is coordinator of the JPS WATCH D.O.G.S. program. The Nolans also have two daughters: Renee Nolan Johnson of Huntsville, Alabama, and Adrienne Nolan Colar of Smyrna, Georgia. All three of their children are graduates of the Jackson Public School District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred T. Nolan for his dedication to serving others.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 185, THE REGULATORY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 185, the so-called "Regulatory Accountability Act."

Today's bill is yet another attempt by House Republicans to limit the ability of federal agencies to enforce commonsense rules and regulations. While supporters of this reshaped bill claim it is needed to curb overregulation, in reality, it would simply prevent federal agencies from doing their jobs and working to ensure there are safeguards in place to protect consumer health and safety. In fact, H.R. 185