

In addition to the tangible healthcare benefits for millions of families, the ACA has had powerful effects on the financial state of our nation.

Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, we have extended the solvency of the Medicare Trust fund by more than a decade, and helped save taxpayers \$116 billion through new Medicare efficiencies.

H.R. 160 will not make our country better, it will not help uninsured Americans obtain coverage; it will cost the medical device industry jobs and will increase the deficit.

It is an irresponsible proposal and should, like the previous 58 attempts to undermine Obamacare, be rejected.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against H.R. 160.

PROTECT MEDICAL INNOVATION
ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I will vote in favor of H.R. 160, legislation to repeal the onerous medical device tax, when it comes before the House today. I have always said that I strongly support the repeal of this tax on Massachusetts' growing medical device industry, especially because the tax disproportionately affects small- and medium-sized medical device manufacturers that don't have the compliance resources of larger companies. I also believe we must responsibly pay for the repeal of the tax. In light of our nation's growing national debt, I am hopeful that voting in favor of H.R. 160 sends a message to the Senate and the President that we must repeal this tax and pay for it in a responsible way.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the third anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program established by President Barack Obama and which has transformed the lives of over half a million young people in our country.

The DACA program has given aspiring Americans of immigrant heritage across our country the chance to more fully contribute their talents to our society and aid in our nation's economic recovery.

I think of DREAMers like Jose Garcia, a young student from Los Angeles who was just accepted to Harvard University and is a DACA recipient. Because he was able to apply for DACA, his hard work in school paid off and now he can pursue a college education in the only country he has ever known.

Since the DACA program began in 2012, there are more than 261,000 young women and men in California, who like Jose, have been approved for DACA.

Today, on the third anniversary of DACA, we are here to say that we are ready and waiting for that opportunity to help all of these families who want to come out of the shadows. We're ready for the President's executive actions on expanded DACA and the Deferred Action Program for Parents (DAPA) to move forward.

We're ready—estamos listos. Y le digo a nuestras familias inmigrantes que se preparen, porque ya llega el día. [We're ready. And I want to tell our immigrant families to be prepared, because the day is coming].

Ojalá, en estos próximos meses, podemos darles a todos las buenas noticias que estos programas vitales del Presidente van a seguir adelante. [Hopefully, in the coming months, we will be able to convey the good news that the President's vital programs will be able to move forward].

Mr. Speaker, our families and our communities look forward to progress on the President's executive actions as well as the day when we finally enact comprehensive immigration reform.

FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
BASEBALL

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Bend Christian baseball team for a remarkable season.

The Eagles finished the season with a remarkable 11–3 record and proudly represented the entire Fort Bend community. They were led on and off the field by captain and all-state senior, Trent Bohny. Additionally, the Eagles had multiple players selected for the all-district teams with honorable state mentions, including senior Spencer Paschal, senior Derek Smith, and senior Garrett West. These prestigious awards are achieved through both athletic and academic vigor and are highly competitive throughout the state of Texas. We are extremely proud of all the men of the Fort Bend Christian Academy baseball team and look forward to their future accomplishments.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Fort Bend Christian Academy baseball team on a successful season.

HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOGS CLASS 3A BASEBALL
STATE CHAMPS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the victory of the Highland High School Bulldogs as the Class 3A baseball state champions. This is their second title since 2008.

On June 13, 2015, the Bulldogs won the Class 3A State Championship in a 7–6 victory over Nazareth Academy. I would like to congratulate senior Grant Geppert for scoring the bases-loaded single during the seventh inning to give the Bulldogs the win.

I would like to congratulate the Bulldogs on their numerous, outstanding defensive plays, which kept the Nazareth Academy scoring to a minimum. My congratulations go out to the entire coaching staff and team comprised of: Grant Geppert, Pete Baumgartner, Andrew Winning, Tyler Kimmle, Cody Bentlage, Will Greenwald, Jordan Smith, Matt Augustin, Griffin Welz, Seth Luitjohan, Mike McGill, Austin Brown, Jim Smith, Jarrett Dubach, Tyler Pollard, Sam Greene, Chris Dickman, Nick Schmollinger, Kyle Schmitt, Matt Beyer, Trent Carriger, assistant coaches Sam Weber, Caleb Houchin, Dave Miscik, and head coach Joel Hawkins.

I look forward to the continued success of the Highland High School Bulldogs. I extend my best wishes for another outstanding season next year.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNETEENTH AND THE 22ND CELEBRATION OF THE JUNETEENTH URBAN MUSIC FESTIVAL IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the observance of Juneteenth in the United States. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln in September 1862, it was not until June 19, 1865 that Union Soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger announced to the last slaves in Galveston, Texas, that they were free. This year also marks the 22nd annual Juneteenth Urban Music Festival in Memphis, Tennessee. To commemorate this day in our history and the contributions of African-Americans to our nation, the 2015 Juneteenth Urban Music Festival theme is: "Celebrating 150 Years with Music."

American music has long embodied influences of African culture, since the dark years of slavery when African instruments such as the banjo were introduced to America. Over time, African Americans developed their own musical style on southern plantations that is now heard in nearly every genre of music, including gospel, blues, bluegrass, jazz, country and rock and roll. This is the true history of American music.

The year's theme is an especially fitting one as Memphis has a rich musical history filled with contributions by African Americans. Memphis is home to Royal Studios, which was founded in 1957 and is one of the oldest recording studios in the world. Such talents as former owner and Memphian Willie Mitchell, Bobby Blue Bland, Ann Peebles, and Al Green have recorded hits at the studio. Most recently, the studio became the recording home of the 2015 Billboard Hot 100 chart topper, Uptown Funk, which held the number one spot for fourteen weeks. Memphis is also home to Stax Records, which is renowned for producing the sounds of Isaac Hayes, Booker T. & the M.G.'s, Otis Redding, Rufus and Carla Thomas, Mavis Staples, the Staple Singers, Lalah Hathaway, Albert King, the Bar-Kays and many more. Other well-known musicians to come out of Memphis include B.B. King,

W.C. Handy, Ruby Wilson, Aretha Franklin, Kirk and Kenneth Whalum and the Oscar-winning rap group, Three 6 Mafia.

The 2015 Juneteenth Urban Music Festival will honor Memphis' own, the Bar-Kays, with a Legendary Award. With their beginnings at Stax producing backup music for other Stax artists, the Bar-Kays found their own voice and have been credited for creating "Black Rock," which is now known as "Funk," and

have recorded 29 albums, of which five went gold and one went platinum, as well as 20 top ten singles. Some include: "Shake Your Rump To The Funk," "Hit and Run," "Freakshow On The Dance Floor," "Move Your Boogie Body," and "Soul Finger," which was used in the 1985 movie, *Spies Like Us*, the 2007 comedy, *Superbad*, and the 2012 remake of *Sparkle*. Last year, the Bar-Kays celebrated 50 years in

the music industry and their music continues to be an inspiration to artists worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, this is a time to reflect upon the end of slavery in America and to recognize the many influences of African American citizens. It is in this spirit that I ask my colleagues to join me in observing our nation's 150th anniversary of Juneteenth and the 22nd celebrations in Memphis.