

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2042) to allow for judicial review of any final rule addressing carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units before requiring compliance with such rule, and to allow States to protect households and businesses from significant adverse effects on electricity ratepayers or reliability:

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation which would significantly exacerbate climate change by gutting the President's plan to cut carbon emissions from power plants.

My home state of California is currently experiencing the worst drought in its history, and scientists say it is made more severe because of the warming climate in California. High temperatures have caused record low levels of mountain snowpack and water evaporation in reservoirs, rivers, and soil. This means mandatory water cuts, fallowed fields, and higher risk of wildfires as we move into the heart of the dry season. With continued increases in global temperatures due to carbon emissions, droughts like California's will become even more common across the country.

These extreme drought and wildfire conditions are not unique to California. States across the west including Oklahoma, Nevada, Utah, and Oregon are experiencing "extreme" or "exceptional" drought conditions, according to the USDA. This is a crisis across the West and scientists tell us that it will be more common as man-made carbon emissions continue to warm the planet.

The costs of failing to address climate change grow with every year that we fail to take action. In 2012 alone, climate-related disasters including drought, wildfires, and severe weather including Hurricane Sandy, cost the economy over \$100 billion. That works out to a \$300 tax on every American, and it will continue to increase as severe weather becomes more common and sea levels continue to rise. On top of those disasters, the White House Council on Economic Advisers calculated that failing to meet our climate goals will cost the U.S. \$150 billion per year in reduced economic output, and each decade of ignoring climate change increases the costs of mitigation by 40 percent.

In the absence of Congressional action to address climate change, the Administration is taking strong action which I support. But the bill before us today would allow the Clean Power Plan to be blocked indefinitely and would set a dangerous precedent of allowing states to opt out of national air quality standards. The Supreme Court has upheld the authority of the EPA to regulate carbon emis-

sions on three separate occasions since 2007, yet this bill would allow lawsuits to permanently delay the Clean Power Plan. The bill also removes the federal backstop that has made the Clean Air Act one of the most successful environmental laws in our nation's history, cutting harmful air pollution by 90 percent since its passage in 1970.

Under the premise of protecting ratepayers, who will actually see their bills go down under the Clean Power Plan, this legislation is a major step backward for our country's efforts to fight climate change.

I urge the rejection of this legislation.

HONORING MR. EDWARD LEYDEN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Edward Leyden for his 33 years of outstanding service to Bishop Lynch High School and his community.

Mr. Leyden was hired in 1982 as the school's first lay president during a time of transition and uncertainty with a struggling school enrollment. Mr. Leyden immediately began working to make the school a better place, and he hasn't stopped since.

Thanks to Mr. Leyden's years of hard work and dedication, the school's student population has more than doubled in size and the campus has undergone numerous expansion and improvement projects. Shortly after Mr. Leyden's arrival, the school received the first of two National Blue Ribbon Awards—an honor given by the U.S. Department of Education to recognize schools of exemplary academic achievement. While he points to the prestigious award for the school's success, many believe the credit goes to Mr. Leyden's leadership and open door policy.

Under Mr. Leyden's leadership, the school—once primarily attended by East Dallas pupils—now has students from all parts of the city—from Frisco to Plano and Oak Cliff to Northwest Dallas. A performing arts center was built, science wing, arts and athletics complex, and other renovation projects all have come to completion thanks to Mr. Leyden's vision and dedication to making Bishop Lynch an exemplary place for students to learn.

Mr. Leyden has achieved much in his life. A graduate of St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas and Barry University in Miami, Florida, he was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Dallas in 2006; was the Catholic Foundation Award honoree in 2015; received the Bishop Lynch JFK award for service; is a member of St. Edward's University Board of Trustees and the advisory committee for Ferguson Road Initiative. He has been in Catholic education for more than 50 years and has presided over 33 graduation ceremonies, but if you ask Mr. Leyden what he considers his greatest accom-

plishment, he will say that he is leaving the school a better place than he found it.

This month, Mr. Leyden will retire from his career in education. While his time as an educator has come to an end, the results of his hard work will no doubt continue to be seen for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Mr. Edward Leyden for his devotion to education and for helping to shape a brighter future for our community and our country.

RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2042) to allow for judicial review of any final rule addressing carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units before requiring compliance with such rule, and to allow States to protect households and businesses from significant adverse effects on electricity ratepayers or reliability:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this attempt to weaken our first real shot at reducing the harmful carbon pollution that is contributing to global climate change and endangering our communities.

Last month was the hottest May on record. Last year was the hottest year. We've already seen extreme weather events across the globe—from unprecedeted flooding in Texas to deadly drought in India. This is not a coincidence. It is not a fluke. It is a real trend identified by ninety-seven percent of climate scientists worldwide. And it requires our urgent action to protect our constituents and our environment.

It is past time. And when skeptics in this Congress refused to acknowledge reality and refused to take any steps to prevent disaster, the President used his authority under the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon emissions, which are a leading contributor to climate change. His proposed Clean Power Plan is a flexible framework for states to cut carbon pollution from power plants for the first time. It's a plan that sets goals, provides options, and lets states figure out what works best for them.

But today we are considering a bill that would undermine the very structure of the Clean Air Act. Currently, when states refuse or fail to fulfill their obligations to reduce pollution under the Clean Air Act, the federal government has the obligation to step in to put forward a plan that would meet the law's requirements. This federal backstop is a critical part of our nation's environmental laws. Today's legislation would allow states to "opt out" of a federal plan, giving them the authority to ignore their responsibility to comply with the rule

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and leaving their residents without protection from carbon pollution.

Moreover, we are considering this bill before the Clean Power Plan is even finalized. The EPA is in the process of considering input from many states to refine the proposal before putting forward a final rule. This bill would simply delay efforts to reduce air pollution.

Mr. Speaker, just last week the Pope called on all of us to live up to our moral responsibility to act on climate change to protect our communities, our environment, and the most vulnerable among us. We should heed that call, reject this bad bill, and work together to prevent the most damaging impacts of climate change.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF GREATER NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey.

For a whole century, this organization has provided assistance and opportunity to a wide host of thankful recipients in the New York and northern New Jersey area.

Founded on February 13, 1915 in a Brooklyn suburb by two clergymen, the first Goodwill in New York began the task of providing assistance to persons with disabilities and disadvantages so they could achieve a level of self-sufficiency. From this humble start, people requesting assistance earned a living through the collection and sale of donated clothing and other goods. It wasn't long before the success of the Brooklyn Goodwill spread to other communities.

Years later, in 1922, St. Paul's Community House founded its own Goodwill in Jersey City, New Jersey. In 1962 the Goodwill in Brooklyn merged with its Jersey City cousin to form Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey Inc.

The success from that early Brooklyn store is how the organization gained its current name. Goodwill Industries International is composed of 165 agencies in the United States, Canada, and fourteen affiliates abroad. Goodwill's mission is to "empower individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment to gain independence through the power of work," and they certainly have acted on that directive. In 2014 alone, the organization served 95,000 persons in need and connected approximately 8,500 with jobs. Aside from providing job services to persons with disabilities, immigrants, and war veterans, Goodwill also provides free afterschool programs in a bid to assist in the proper education and direction of our nation's young people.

Goodwill has also dedicated their efforts towards assisting those afflicted by two major disasters in recent memory. After the events of 9/11, Goodwill organized an emergency employment initiative to assist those whose families had been effected by the terrible events of that day, offering over 70 programs aimed at retail training and rehabilitation

through 42 Goodwill stores across New York and New Jersey.

In the wake of the destruction of Hurricane Sandy, Goodwill gave back to the community by organizing the distribution of crucially needed donated goods, as well as supporting communities in the afflicted areas by partnering with local businesses. Even today, Goodwill continues to work with state officials in providing donated goods for those still struggling to recover from the storm.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in thanking Goodwill Industries and congratulating them on their 100th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a special Iowa church congregation from Imogene, Iowa. St. Patrick Catholic Church will be celebrating the centennial of their building on July 11, 2015.

Founded first in 1880, the third St. Patrick Catholic Church building was established August 1915. Since that time, and long before, congregations of Iowans have been worshiping at St. Patrick's. Still to this day it remains one of the bedrock institutions of this small Iowa town.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate the members of St. Patrick's for their many years of faithful attendance and service to God. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating St. Patrick's and wishing them, their pastor, Reverend Tom Kunnel, Bishop Richard Pates, and the community of Imogene nothing but joy in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE RUSSELL

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 376 I was absent due to travel for personal reasons and in connection with my official duties.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

TRIBUTE TO RON DICKERSON

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ron Dickerson on his retirement from Nucor Steel Indiana after 27 years with the company.

As a student at Wabash College, I can remember the steel mill being built and the excitement it brought to the community as they

moved closer to production. Like Wabash College, Nucor Steel Indiana calls the Fourth District's Crawfordsville home. Ron has been with Nucor Steel Indiana from the beginning when he was hired as a frontline worker in the hot rolling mill. He worked his way up to the top job, serving as Vice President and General Manager of the mill for the past 13 years.

As a native of Crawfordsville, Ron understands as well as anyone the positive impact the mill has had on the city of 16,000. Nucor Steel Indiana is a major employer, providing high-paying jobs and supporting the work of nonprofit organizations in the community. Nucor's culture emphasizes the importance of its teammates and Ron embodies that culture.

Nucor Steel Indiana has enjoyed great success under Ron's leadership, but he would be the first to tell you that success is the result of the hard work of Nucor's 742 teammates in Crawfordsville. For Ron, nothing is more important than the men and women who work at the mill.

I have known Ron for a number of years, and have always been impressed with his work ethic and desire to succeed. We have a shared love for classic cars, and his 1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1 embodies that American desire and work ethic. I have always valued Ron's counsel and appreciate his friendship and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Ron Dickerson for his outstanding career in the steel industry and his commitment to the community of Crawfordsville. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING DR. LINDA HENRIE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Linda Henrie, Superintendent of Mesquite Independent School District, who is retiring after 43 years of service. Dr. Henrie has been an invaluable asset to the students, teachers, and community of Mesquite, and will be sorely missed.

Dr. Henrie leaves behind a legacy of leadership that started in the 1980s when she began shattering glass ceilings. She began her career with Mesquite ISD as a business teacher at Mesquite High School and became president of the Mesquite Education Association. In the fall of 1986, Dr. Henrie became one of the first women to be appointed to a secondary administration position in the district.

Dr. Henrie has served MISD in a variety of positions throughout her long and successful career. She spent 15 years in administrative positions and four years as deputy superintendent prior to assuming the role of superintendent in 2005. In addition to her official job description, she has also been a cheerleader for many athletic events, a patron of countless school plays and shows and an overall supporter to everyone in MISD.

Thanks to her fiscal savvy and wise stewardship of limited resources, the school district was able to succeed and even reach new accomplishments in recent years. She found a way to avoid job cuts and often reminded her hard-working staff—in both word and by example—that they were charged with giving the