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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 26, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAN NEWHOUSE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the President for speaking directly to the American people on immigration last night in a town hall on Telemundo and on MSNBC. He was very clear that he will comply with the dictates of the judicial branch, even as he fights a Federal judge's temporary injunction in the courts and is prepared to appeal those rulings all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary.

The President will follow the law—as he has been doing—and comply with the injunction.

But let me be clear to my Republican friends and to the American families impacted—for now—by the court's action. Nothing about the injunction compels the President to deport anyone he has identified as a low priority for enforcement.

No matter how many lawsuits are filed, how many symbolic votes are held in Congress, or how many Federal agencies are shut down, there is nothing the Republican Party can do to force the President of the United States to deport DREAMers or go after the parents of U.S. citizens if they have no criminal record and have lived here for a while. And the Republicans know there is nothing they can do to force the President to deport 5 million people that he has said he is going to protect—nothing.

For years, Congress has only provided enough funding to deport 4 percent of the total undocumented population, or 400,000 people a year. Clearly, we in Congress know that only a small percentage of people will be targeted by our limited enforcement resources because that is the law that we here in Congress made.

For all the talk about a rogue or imperial President, he is actually doing the job we asked him to do—to spend the limited enforcement resources we appropriated on doing what? Protecting the homeland by deporting the worst of the worst, not on DREAMers, not on the parents of U.S. citizens who have strong ties to this country and decades with no criminal background. The DACA program for DREAMers announced in 2012 is still in place and renewals are happening right now, as we speak. It is 640,000 strong.

So, under the enforcement priorities and under the DACA program, it is clear to me—and I want to make it clear to everyone at home—that the

President has no plans to deport DREAMers or the parents of U.S. citizens who have never been involved in crime.

Now, I know firsthand about numerous efforts to negotiate across the aisle—that the majority of our country and the majority of the Republican Party would like to have a functioning legal immigration system. But the impression the Republican Party is leaving with the American people—the only solution the Republicans are offering—is that they demand the deportation of DREAMers and the deportation of the parents of 5 million American citizens who would be protected—and continued to be protected—under the President's executive actions.

This is what my colleagues fail to appreciate when they stand alongside the hard-liners and opponents of legal immigration: in their zeal to support non-citizens, Republicans are hurting themselves with citizens.

In my district in Chicago, just like the rest of the country, there is no caste system where people who were born in the U.S. never mix with people who weren't born here. There are no differences between the people who came with a visa, the people who overstayed a visa, the people who never had a visa to begin with, and people who were born U.S. citizens.

When we celebrate the Fourth of July or Thanksgiving, believe it or not, we all sit at the same table. The undocumented are a part of our families, live in our neighborhoods, attend our churches, and are in classrooms with our children.

What the Republican Party fails to see is that when they call for the deportation of DREAMers and long-term residents, they are calling for the deportation of our family members, our neighbors, and my children's classmates.

Don't forget: most Latinos in America are not immigrants but are U.S.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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citizens. So it should come as no surprise that when the 1 million or so Latino U.S. citizens turn 18 this year, they will not think fondly of the Republican Party—the party that is bent on deporting members of their families and their communities.

Another statistic: 93 percent of Latinos under the age of 18 are U.S. citizens. Ninety-three percent of them are U.S. citizens. They will not have a warm and fuzzy feeling about the party that fought tooth and nail to throw out their moms and dads. And the 5 million citizens whose parents are undocumented—who worry every day about whether their families will remain intact—are going to remember which party was cruel to their moms and dads, using them as scapegoats and insinuating they are all criminals bringing diseases to this country.

The Republican Party's goal of forcing the President to deport all the non-citizens they want deported will simply never be achieved until the Republican Party elects one of their own to the White House. And the strategy of the Republican Party—forcing this President to deport all the noncitizens they want deported—pretty much guarantees that one of their own isn't going to get to the White House anytime soon.

REMEMBERING REPRESENTATIVE CASS BALLENGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, a week ago yesterday, the Nation lost one of its most selfless and unique public servants with the passing of my predecessor, former North Carolina 10th District Congressman Cass Ballenger.

Up until 2005, Congressman Ballenger represented the 10th District of North Carolina in the United States House of Representatives. During that time, he served as chairman of the House Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, where he authored groundbreaking legislation that improved workplace safety and created the opportunity for employers and regulators to be partners, not adversaries, in protecting the health and safety of workers.

As chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee on the International Relations Committee, he took on the daunting and often thankless task of fighting to promote democracy and defend human rights in Central and South American nations. He did this not only for the sake of justice in those countries, but also to protect the interests of the United States.

His personal commitment to serving his constituents is a legendary example that I strive every day to follow. I was the beneficiary of his kind and gracious nature when I was elected to represent the 10th District in 2005 after his decision to retire from the House. He personally provided me with guidance and

assistance that immeasurably helped me as a new Member of Congress and ensured continuity of our quality constituent services for western North Carolina.

In his personal and professional life, Cass placed others before himself. He was a part of the Greatest Generation. He fought in World War II and returned home to go to college. He started a family and joined his father's business in box manufacturing. He told his father that boxes were a thing of the past and the wave of the future was plastics. It is almost like it was George Bailey coming home to say that.

As a county commissioner in Catawba County, he was one of the first Republicans elected after the Civil War. Now, at this date, Catawba County is one of the most Republican counties in the State of North Carolina.

He led the way to establish the Catawba Valley Community College and Catawba Valley Medical Center. As a legislator in the North Carolina General Assembly, he authored the State's first meaningful open meetings law and was named Most Effective Republican Legislator by the North Carolina Institute of Government.

It would take volumes to talk about all of the philanthropic work of Congressman Ballenger and his wife, Donna, but they are responsible for countless schools, day care centers, hospitals, and disaster responses in the United States and Central and South America as well.

Personally, Cass was the ultimate character. He could tell you a great story, a great joke, and tell you off, and you would laugh at everything he said.

In addition to being one of the most distinguished Members of the House and the North Carolina Republican delegation generally, Congressman Ballenger was also very colorful. There are great moments here on the House floor that we can point to.

Anyone who spent any time with him knew that he was affable, kind, and brutally honest. He would tell you exactly what he was thinking, and generally with a hilarious delivery. He was one of the few people who could hold someone accountable in the most blistering way possible, make you laugh, and also help you out of a tight spot, all in one conversation. He was a rare person, indeed, and he will be missed.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in a moment of silence on the passing of Congressman Cass Ballenger.

ESEA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, like many of you, as a kid, I learned about Robin Hood. You know the story: he stole from the rich and gave to the poor.

But today, I come to talk to you about something a little less story-

book. In this case, my friends on the other side of the aisle are supporting a bill that robs from poor schools and gives to rich schools.

The so-called Student Success Act that we are debating today takes money from schools with the greatest need and redistributes it to less needy schools in more affluent communities, hurting students and teachers in its wake. That is hardly the definition of success the bill claims to make.

The Student Success Act would reauthorize education funds first signed into law in 1965 by President Lyndon Johnson, who said that "full educational opportunity should be our first national goal." But the Student Success Act completely misses the mark of what LBJ was trying to accomplish.

A former teacher, LBJ believed that equal access to education was the key to success, and that the vital education funding that the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provided would help millions of "children with poor families overcome the greatest barrier to progress: poverty."

For 50 years, the ESEA has provided essential funding for school districts that serve low-income students as well as aid to State education agencies to help them improve the quality of elementary and secondary education around the country. But the robust progress that our schools made in the first 40 years after the passage of the ESEA has slowed over the last decade.

Since the passage of No Child Left Behind, we have seen both sides acknowledge the problems that have resulted and commit to fixing them. But rather than fixing those problems and redoubling our commitment to equal access to education, the Student Success Act actually creates more problems, moving even further away from what we know is best for students, is best for teachers, and is best for our country.

In its current form, H.R. 5 undermines the progress our Nation has made in providing a high quality education for all Americans, regardless of their ZIP Code. If we allow H.R. 5 to become law, school districts in Illinois and across the country will see their funding cut exponentially. Nationally, this will cut education funding by over half a billion dollars in 2016 alone.

Chicago public schools, where over 60 percent of students are below the poverty level, will lose over \$64 million in title I funding. That is a 23 percent cut in Federal education dollars at a time when Chicago schools need it the most.

But wait, there is more. This bill eliminates qualification requirements for paraprofessionals, teachers' aides, and support staff, who provide vital assistance to classrooms across the country. It eliminates requirements to ensure quality professional development for teachers.

It directs 1 out of every 10 dollars away from public schools and directs it to private companies. It allows students with disabilities to be taught