

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, recently I visited the Newberg-Dundee bypass, a highway construction project in my district that will divert traffic around two small communities that are thriving but choked with congestion. Once completed, local residents and visitors will no longer be stuck in traffic, especially on the weekends. The many wineries and farms and other small businesses in the county won't have to wait hours to get their customers in and their products out of the region. New businesses will see opportunity in relocating to the area, rather than obstacles to commerce.

For this growing county, a comprehensive transportation network is critical to its success. This isn't just true for my district; it is true across the country. Our roads, trains, buses, bridges, and ports are at the center of our economy. They are the way people get to work and businesses get their goods to market.

But unfortunately, funding for our transportation system continues to shrink. Spending on our infrastructure is now at its smallest share of GDP in the last 22 years.

In my State, in a 2014 report, the Oregon Department of Transportation estimates that the current 20-year forecast budget for the State highway system is insufficient to preserve and maintain pavement and bridges in their current condition. The report finds that not only will our roads deteriorate, but an increasing number of bridges will close to heavy trucks, forcing lengthy detours that will cost businesses time and money.

Poor-quality roads lead to greater maintenance costs, congested arteries, and traffic that delays the delivery of products; and, of course, the failure to update our trains and bridges threatens public safety. I implore this body, let us take action before another tragic accident.

The short-term extensions of the highway trust fund have left contractors and workers with uncertainty as they delay or even scrap construction plans. This costs us jobs and defers unnecessary maintenance and new construction while increasing expenses.

Recently, Ed Wytkind, president of the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department, said: "Years of congressional inaction on a long-term surface transportation bill has harmed our economy." Congress needs to "get to work on a robust long-term bill that expands investments and job creation and is paid for with a sustainable revenue stream." I couldn't agree more.

The Newberg-Dundee bypass was decades in the making. It is a partnership with local, State, tribal, and Federal support, and, quite simply, it wouldn't be under construction without previously approved funding. The Oregon Department of Transportation couldn't make a commitment without a commitment from the Federal Government as well.

When I visited the construction site last week, it was clear that this project

is putting people to work: contractors, construction workers, people down the supply chain, and many others.

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Now with just a few days until the current transportation bill expires, I call on my colleagues to take up a robust, multimodal, long-term transportation bill. Funding transportation provides our communities with an economic boost now and reinforces our infrastructure in a way that will sustain and strengthen our economy years from now.

Mr. Speaker, there have been many discussions in this Chamber about global competitiveness and the U.S. role in the world. World class infrastructure is critical to securing and maintaining this role. We need to act. We need to act now.

IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT REVIEW ACT

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act. While I wish it were stronger, it does force the administration to bring it before this body to review any deal. Last week, I traveled to Israel on a weeklong mission to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship and convey the message that we stand with our Israeli partners on the security challenges that are in front of us.

The threat posed by Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon was at the forefront of literally everyone's mind. The Israeli leaders that I met with, individuals across the political spectrum, all reiterated what I have said all along: concern about the direction of the P5+1 nuclear talks with Iran is not—I repeat, is not—a partisan issue. In fact, there was multipartisan support and appreciation in Israel for Prime Minister Netanyahu's outspoken opposition to a bad deal.

Mr. Speaker, this is not just an American and an Israeli issue. A nuclear Iran threatens the Middle East, and, I would argue, the entire world.

Our allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council are also skeptical of the deal taking shape. The leaders of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates have made their displeasure known by choosing to skip the President's Camp David summit this week.

Saudi Arabia, already fighting a proxy war with Iran in Yemen, will not sit idly by if we agree to a deal that legitimizes Iran as a nuclear threshold state. The last thing anyone in the P5+1 wants is a nuclear arms race further destabilizing the Middle East and, I believe, increasing the chance of a nuclear war.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues to vote in favor of this important legislation today to ensure that the Amer-

ican people have a say in any final agreement with Iran.

The legislation today guarantees that Congress will have an up-or-down vote on the future of any deal. It is that vote—the one which will occur after a deal is reached—that will be the pivotal moment in our efforts to stop Iran's nuclear program. That will be the vote that decides whether Iran has an internationally accepted and legitimized path to a bomb or whether we will hold the administration accountable to its assertion that no deal is better than a bad deal.

Looking ahead to that vote, we must withstand the pressure and unequivocally reject any deal that leaves intact Iran's nuclear infrastructure; cements Iran's position as a nuclear threshold state; unwinds the sanctions architecture, giving Iran an infusion of literally billions of dollars that it will use to finance terror against Israel and around the globe; and legitimizes a sure-to-fail inspection regime that falls short of "anytime, anywhere" inspections. Mr. Speaker, we must not be fooled into false choices, and Iran must not be left with any path to a nuclear weapon.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight something very concerning related to Syria which, I believe, has significant implications for any Iran agreement. Recent reports indicate a clear violation of the deal that this administration struck with Bashar al-Assad 2 years ago to remove chemical weapons from Syria. Unfortunately, these serious violations are not receiving the attention and scrutiny they deserve. According to reports, an international monitoring body found traces of chemical weapons in Syria and reported this breach to the administration earlier this year.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Syria Robert Ford is quoted as saying: "The Syrian revelations shouldn't be a surprise given the regime's track record. It is a violation of the deal we struck with the Russians, and it is a violation of the deal the Syrian regime struck with the U.N."

Mr. Speaker, we cannot let history repeat itself with a bad deal with Iran. This deal, if done incorrectly, has far-reaching implications not just for the United States, Israel, and our allies, but for the world and future generations.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the legislation coming before this body today so that we can give the American people an opportunity to review what the deal is and have an opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" based upon what is in this agreement.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. I strongly support the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, and encourage my colleagues to join me in voting yes later today.

I am extremely skeptical of the framework agreement released in April because, as written, I believe it will legitimize Iran's status as a nuclear threshold state. This is unacceptable, and we should not support any deal that permits this.

The American people deserve a voice on this critical matter of national security, and Congress must have the opportunity to take an up-or-down vote on any final deal.

THE BILLY FRANK, JR., TELL
YOUR STORY ACT

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

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, we hear a lot about rap sheets these days. We hear of a lot of young people defined simply by their brushes with the law. But for this man, Billy Frank, Jr., his story was so much more than the crimes for which he was arrested—not convicted I might add. His rap sheet, Martin Luther King's rap sheet, Rosa Park's rap sheet, and Congressman JOHN LEWIS' rap sheet are just a piece of a larger narrative about the struggle for social justice.

Billy Frank, Jr., was the Pacific Northwest's foremost advocate for restoration of Native American fishing treaty rights, a dream he lived and saw realized. He cherished clean water and salmon, and he was a key voice in the recovery of the Puget Sound, the largest estuary in the United States of America. Billy was also a proud patriot. He served in the United States Marine Corps where, ironically, he was a member of the military police.

Billy passed away a year ago May 5. But he really isn't gone. His story is here in the Halls of Congress, in which he was so often seen and which he roamed on behalf of his beloved causes, including protecting the Puget Sound, our fisheries, and the cause of clean water.

His story is in the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, which we now protect to give our wildlife a clean and sustainable place to live and which was made possible by a great former Member of the House of Representatives, Norm Dicks. Billy was born, raised, and grew up at Frank's Landing, which was literally just a hop, skip, and a jump from the wildlife refuge and is where his family lived for perhaps thousands of years. He fished in the Nisqually River, which snakes through the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge, and that is the location of where he was arrested more than a dozen times—well, okay, it was actually 59 times.

The bill I introduced this week, H.R. 2270, will rename that refuge after Billy Frank, Jr., and it will also make the place of the signing of the Treaty of Medicine Creek a National Historic Site. It will make sure that the story of that site is told, especially by the descendants of those who lived that history. Those tribes will be involved in the development and the understanding behind that site and what it means to them now and before.

Mr. Speaker, Billy was often asked, How do you do this? How do you effectively advocate on behalf of clean water and salmon—as he did—over so many decades? Billy always had the

same answer. He would say, “Tell your story. Tell your story.”

So when people go to the Billy Frank, Jr., Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, they will be able to see why—why—he held fish-ins. They will see why he risked arrest so many times. They will see why he ultimately worked with others to help protect his home and the home of the fish. They will see why he did all these things.

Like many young people today, he fought for what he believed in, and later in his life he worked with lawmakers to build consensus. In fact, he was a master consensus builder. How do I know this? Well, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He actually won the extremely prestigious Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism award, and he has had not one but two books written about him.

So my hope is that when people drive by the sign that directs them to the refuge, maybe they will feel a little bit of that Billy Frank, Jr., magic. Maybe they will wonder who he was, what he did, and find out about his story. For those of us who knew him, it will be a great reminder of a hero. In fact, I would count Billy Frank, Jr., a man I knew many decades and loved, more than a hero. He was truly a great man. He was the Pacific Northwest equivalent of Nelson Mandela or Martin Luther King, Jr. or Desmond Tutu.

That is how great a man he was. Here is what Billy said: “I don't believe in magic. I believe in the Sun and the stars, the water, the tides, the floods, the owls, the hawks flying, the river running, the wind talking. They are measurements. They tell us how healthy things are because we and they are the same. That is what I believe in. Those who learn to listen to the world that sustains them can hear the message brought forth by the salmon.”

Billy Frank, Jr., and his stories have to be told, and that is why I invite my colleagues today to join in cosponsorship of H.R. 2270. Join me and all the members of the Washington State House delegation, and Mr. COLE and Ms. MCCOLLUM, the co-chairs of the Native American Caucus, in cosponsoring the Billy Frank, Jr., Tell Your Story Act.

MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the month of May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I am proud to say that we have many visitors—in fact, hundreds of visitors—who are here at the Capitol, many celebrating this month with us. Among those who are visiting are some of my friends and some of my colleagues, and some persons who are from other places than my congressional district, but they are still friends of mine.

Among them is Dawn Lin. She worked in our congressional office for

sometime, and she is a visitor here today. She is the mother of the Confucius resolution that I brought before Congress and passed.

Another is the father of the International District in Houston, Texas, Mr. Wei Le. He is a dear friend, and I am honored that he is here today.

Another is Kenneth Li, known as the mayor of Chinatown in Houston, Texas, affectionately so.

We also have Chris Kang, Casey Kang, Dionne Cuello, Vickie Silvano, Ray Huang, and Lily Lee, all friends and visiting today.

I am honored today, Mr. Speaker, to say a few words about Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, because the truth is America the beautiful is a more beautiful America because of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

One such beautiful American was Wong Kim Ark. Wong Kim Ark was born in the United States, and in 1894, he decided that he would travel to China. Upon returning from China in 1895, he was denied entrance into the United States.

Wong Kim Ark was denied entrance into the United States because of the Chinese Exclusion Act. This act was one that was passed to prevent Chinese Americans from having ingress and egress into this country if you were not a citizen, of course.

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution became the subject of his reentry into the country because when they declared him ineligible to return to the country, it was because they were saying he was not a citizen, notwithstanding the fact that he was born in California. But if you read closely the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, you will find that it reads: “All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof”—that is some key language, “and subject to the jurisdiction thereof”—“are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.”

There were some persons who thought that the term “and subject to the jurisdiction thereof” meant that since their parents were the subjects of the Emperor of China, he could not be a citizen of the United States of America. This case went all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States of America, and it was all because of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

The Supreme Court did the judicious thing. They ruled in his favor that he was a citizen of the United States of America. While that might seem such a small thing today, it is really a significant piece of world history in terms of how persons born in this country become citizens, because had they ruled otherwise, there are a good many people who could be born in this country but not be citizens of the United States of America. He was the test case that went before the Supreme Court.

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While many persons conclude that the 14th Amendment has its roots in