

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignations are accepted.

There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Homeland Security:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 19, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby resign from the Committee on Homeland Security.

Sincerely,

PATRICK MEEHAN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 272

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. Emmer of Minnesota.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. Donovan.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Donovan.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this evening I will have the honor and the privilege of presenting the national Eagle Scout Association's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award to Mr. John Graham, president and CEO of the American Society of Association Executives.

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was established in 1969 to ac-

knowledge Eagle Scouts who have received extraordinary national-level recognition or eminence within their field and have a strong record of voluntary service to the community.

Mr. Speaker, of the over 100 million Scouting alumni over the last century, less than 4 percent attain the rank of Eagle, and of these Eagles, only 1 in 1,000 will be awarded the Distinguished Eagle Scout honor. Renowned Distinguished Eagle Scouts include the president of the Boy Scouts of America, Secretary Bob Gates, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, President Gerald Ford, astronaut Neil Armstrong, and director Steven Spielberg.

As a fellow Distinguished Eagle Scout, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. John Graham on receiving this prestigious award.

SUPPORTING A LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO OUR NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE CRISIS

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, for months we have been calling for a long-term surface transportation bill to replace the one that expires at the end of this month.

In recent weeks, I have joined many of my colleagues as we counted down the days left for Congress to act. Without a funding solution, the jobs of over 600,000 American workers are at risk. The gas tax, by the way, hasn't been raised in 20 years and is no longer sufficient to pay for repairs to dangerous roads, highways, bridges, and rail lines needed to protect Americans.

We are being asked to vote this week on a bandaid approach that only runs to July instead of a real solution to this infrastructure crisis. This is often what happens here, but it is not the best way to govern. States and local transit agencies need this certainty that long-term funding will be available as they make important decisions about construction projects to meet our needs well into the future.

Let's pass a long-term transportation bill now.

CONGRATULATING TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING IN PRINCETON, INDIANA

(Mr. BUCSHON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a manufacturer in Indiana on a tremendous milestone for not just the company, but our communities in southern Indiana. Just this month, Toyota Manufacturing in Princeton, Indiana, impressively surpassed 5,000 employees, and the plant plans to add an additional 300 positions by the end of next year.

Mr. Speaker, these are good-paying jobs that support our families and our

local economy. In addition to the workforce growth, the plant recently celebrated the production of its 4 millionth vehicle, which is a testament to the best workforce in America.

These dedicated hard-working men and women are making topnotch products in Indiana that are being shipped across the country and around the world.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, the infrastructure investment can be an economic game changer. In western New York, the Federal highway bill funded the reconstruction of Fuhrman Boulevard, which reconnected our community with its waterfront, resulting in new private sector investment.

From Filmore Avenue and Ohio Street in Buffalo to Main Street in Williamsville, the Robert Moses Parkway in Niagara Falls, and Kenmore Avenue in Tonawanda, tens of millions of Federal dollars are contributing to transformative projects in our community. The construction of these projects has economic benefits as well. 660,000 jobs depend on Federal road and transit investment. Yet today, the House will extend, for just 2 months, the Federal transportation program that is weak and inadequate. We can do much better.

America needs a long-term bill that provides funding. We need to create jobs and bring our infrastructure to a state of good repair.

Last week, I introduced the Nation Building Here at Home Act to do just that. Congress should be humbled that it has allowed our infrastructure to fall into such disrepair, and we should use these 2 months to pass a long-term bill that America needs.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe Mental Health Awareness Month.

Approximately one in five Americans have a mental illness. That is roughly 43 million Americans. These invisible wounds are just as serious as physical ones, and it is vital we understand the health care needs of individuals living with mental illnesses.

Race, sex, age, gender—mental illnesses do not discriminate.

Many of the Americans who suffer from PTS and TBI are our veterans, our true heroes. As vice chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am familiar with their struggle. This is why I introduced the COVER Act, which recently passed in the Veterans' Affairs Health Subcommittee and which gives veterans choices to seek

alternative therapies and treatments for PTS and TBI.

As we observe Mental Health Awareness Month, let us all remember: these invisible wounds deserve our attention as much as the physical ones.

SAM HOUSTON HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TEAM

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sam Houston Texans on their soccer team and their hard-fought journey to the 6A University Interscholastic League semifinals. These 25 young men not only demonstrated their athletic talent but exemplified the teamwork and perseverance needed to complete a successful season.

I also want to congratulate Samuel Huerta, Rene Benitez, and Eddy Rodriguez of the Sam Houston High soccer team for being named to the first team 6A all-State team.

The young men of Sam Houston High School's soccer team continue a tradition of success through hard work, determination, and pride. I am proud to represent Arlington Independent School District and Sam Houston High.

To all the coaches, parents, teachers, and students of Sam Houston High School, congratulations on this incredible athletic accomplishment. You have made north Texas proud.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT

(Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great support of S. 178, the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act.

Today marks a significant milestone in the fight against human trafficking, and I am honored to see my amendment adopted into this legislation.

Having served as a nurse, I recognize that members of the medical community are the only outside aid to have direct contact with trafficking victims. Mr. Speaker, my amendment will educate and train health care professionals on proper techniques in order to better administer care. But, more importantly, it empowers members of the medical community so they can intervene on behalf of those being trafficked.

It has been an honor to work with my colleagues on this pivotal piece of legislation, and I am thrilled to see this legislation and my amendment move to the President's desk to be signed into law.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

(Mrs. DINGELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, there are only 2 legislative days left until the highway trust fund expires on May 31, and we do not have time to waste. Across the country, 6,000 critical construction jobs are in jeopardy, and 660,000 good-paying construction jobs are hanging in the balance.

In Michigan, we know how desperately this funding is needed. Seventeen percent of our roads are rated in good shape—only 17 percent; 38 percent of our roads are in poor, some dangerous—not fair, but poor, condition. It is unacceptable.

We must work together to find a long-term solution to repair our roads, bridges, and transit. Today our Republican colleagues have introduced a plan that just kicks it down the road again. This must be the last time. Funding the highway trust fund is about this Nation's future. It is about our competitiveness. It is about providing businesses and local and State governments the certainty that they need, and it is about good-paying jobs for working families.

It is time to end this culture of crisis and bring to the floor a long-term, sustainable solution to authorize the highway trust fund.

□ 1215

HOPEFULLY THE PRESIDENT CHANGES COURSE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the President's decision to target Abu Sayyaf where Special Operations Forces heroically carried out a successful mission. I hope this is a change of course where the President takes action to stop further attacks on American families for a strategy of victory.

Sadly, the same day, ISIL murderers seized the Anbar capital of Ramadi, holding one-third of Iraq, revealing the President's failure to negotiate a Status of Forces Agreement. This follows the mass murder of Muslim pilgrims in Karachi, Pakistan, and Egyptian Christians in Libya. Radical Islamic attacks are increasing worldwide with the murder of Jews in Paris, the killing of troops at Fort Hood, and the stabbing in London.

Incredibly, the President continues negotiations with the murderous ideology of Tehran while they continue development of intercontinental ballistic missiles to fulfill their goal of death to America, death to Israel. Hopefully, the President will divert policies to establish a legacy of peace through strength. The President can avoid a legacy of continued attacks by terrorists who have declared war on the American people.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

COMMEMORATING THE HONORABLE SERVICE OF WARREN JACKSON AND ROY DUMONT

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the honorable service of Mr. Warren Jackson and Mr. Roy Dumont, both who bravely fought in the United States Army in World War II. Both gentlemen, who are from my hometown of Flint, Michigan, are in Washington today to visit the World War II Memorial and to pay their respects to their fellow men and women in uniform who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Mr. Jackson served honorably in the 3758th Quartermaster Truck Company throughout World War II and retired from the 41st Artillery in 1966. Mr. Dumont served honorably in the 87th Infantry Division, the Golden Acorns, from 1942 through 1945. These men risked their lives to defend freedoms that we cherish and often take for granted as Americans, and our country is and should be forever grateful to them for their service.

Mr. Jackson and Mr. Dumont, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District and on behalf of the entire 114th Congress, I thank you for wearing the uniform of the United States and defending this great Nation. You will forever have our lasting gratitude.

FREE ENTERPRISE AND OPEN MARKETS: KEYS TO A HEALTHY AND GROWING ECONOMY

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, policies that support free enterprise and open markets are the key to building a strong economy. Texas is a prime example.

For the 11th year in a row, Texas has been ranked by Chief Executive magazine as the number one State to relocate your business to; and for more than 20 years straight, Texas job creation has outpaced the rest of the country by a factor of 2 to 1.

Behind this lasting success are policies that have enhanced economic agreement and allowed Texas-made goods to be sold at markets across the world. It is no surprise Texas has also led the Nation in exports for the last 13 years running.

Allowing free enterprise and open markets to thrive has fueled decades of Texas growth. It has also created millions of good-paying jobs for Texas families. Let's build on these successful free market policies and bring lasting strength to our American economy.

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

(Mr. LOWENTHAL asked and was given permission to address the House