

that had happened in the past connected to deregulation of Wall Street.

We were staring down the worst recession since the Great Depression. Today, we are about to embark back down that path to deregulate Wall Street again. Don't do it.

#### REMEMBERING ROBERT JORDAN

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to honor my friend, lifetime Fayetteville resident and entrepreneur, Robert Jordan, who passed away on December 16, 2014.

In 1952, Robert got his first job in retail at the age of 17 at the old Travis Hardware store in downtown Fayetteville. During his visits to various warehouses around town, Robert noticed items seemingly not for sale and placed off to the side. Eventually, he realized he could cheaply buy some of those discarded items, take them back to downtown Fayetteville, and sell them for a profit, while still offering his customers a good deal.

By the early 1970s, Robert was giving full-time attention to buying and selling salvage merchandise and became well-known for his wheeling and dealing. If you wanted to know anything about the community in Fayette County or if you wanted to win an election, you would see Robert Jordan. Robert was the guy to go to.

Jordan Sales and Salvage became popular and profitable, and it is a fine example of what American entrepreneurship is all about. The way Robert ran his business and treated customers as his friends is a true statement of the compassion and faith involved in all the aspects of his daily life, especially the big love he had for his family.

Joan and I send our condolences and prayers to the Jordan family, especially his wife of 60 years, Nellie, during this difficult time, and I am thankful to have met Robert and to have visited his store from time to time, but I am especially lucky to call him my friend.

Robert, until we meet again, we miss you.

#### DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand against the tactics used by the House Republicans for their partisan fights. I find it unconscionable that the House Republicans would threaten the funding of the Department of Homeland Security over the President's executive action on immigration.

We just saw what happened to our friends in France, and now, they are

going to play games with our national security and threaten its funding. This executive action isn't an election strategy or a scheme to grow the Federal Government; it is a moral imperative.

The President acted because this House refused to even vote on the bipartisan comprehensive immigration bill. It was widely expected that a vote on that bill would have succeeded.

Our broken immigration system has forced millions to live their lives in fear. The President's action is the right thing to do, is the humane thing to do.

I oppose the defunding of this executive action, Mr. Speaker, and I oppose the threatening of the funding of the Department of Homeland Security and, by extension, our national security.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO PENN STATE WORLD CAMPUS

(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, I rise today to recognize Penn State World Campus on being ranked number one in the Nation for the best online bachelor's programs in the country.

The recognition was given by the U.S. News & World Report's 2015 Best Online Programs and marks the highest ever ranking for the university; further, Penn State ranks in the top 10 for the best online graduate programs in business, engineering, education, and computer information technology.

The assessment criteria included student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation, student services, and technology.

Penn State World Campus, which provides high-quality online education to meet the needs of busy adults who want to advance their careers, currently has 10,805 students enrolled in 119 degree and certificate programs.

The third year that U.S. News & World Report has ranked online degree programs, almost 300 institutions that offer online bachelor degrees are included in the rankings.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my alma mater for this esteemed recognition, including the talented staff and the innovative educators at Penn State University.

#### DON'T PICK POLITICS OVER COUNTRY

(Ms. SEWELL of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of our Nation's continued safety and national security. Recent world events vividly remind us of the importance of supporting and maintaining a strong and robust homeland security policy.

Today, we are going to vote on H.R. 240, the Department of Homeland Security

Appropriations Act, and it provides for critical, important funding to the Department, including vital support for essential law enforcement activities and programs.

I had hoped that my Republican colleagues would bring this bill, a clean bill, to the floor; instead, we have more politics as usual. A bill that would actually be signed into law by the President is what this country needs; however, what we have is not that case today.

It is unfortunate and extremely upsetting that the Republicans are now threatening to shut down the Department of Homeland Security, endangering the security of our entire country and appeasing the most extreme anti-immigration reform fringes of their party.

This is simply politics over country and should not be a part of the debate surrounding our critically important appropriations bills for Homeland Security.

The five amendments that the Republicans plan to attach to the bipartisan Homeland Security bill represent some of the most extreme anti-immigration legislation.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject these amendments, reject this partisan gamesmanship that threatens our national security, and call on the majority to vote on and pass the original version of H.R. 240.

#### MENTAL ILLNESS AND THE HOMELESS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, the wind chill in Buffalo, New York, was 20 below zero. Dead of hypothermia was Ronald Hunter. He was 21 and had untreated schizophrenia.

A third of the Nation's 750,000 homeless are so severely mentally ill that they cannot take care of themselves. They starve, they freeze, they live in their own squalor.

Had Ronald had some other brain disease like Alzheimer's, he might very well be alive today, but because he had a mental illness, the system refused to help.

Ronald's father told The Buffalo News:

"When he was living with us, I found him curled up in a ball in the corner of the bedroom," and I said, "What is wrong, baby?"

He replied to his dad, "I am hearing voices telling me to kill myself."

Ronald's parents called Crisis Services, but as his stepmom said, "Because he was 18, it was up to him if he wanted help." In other words, we let him die with his rights on.

Don't you understand, America, that this is a brain disease; it is not a choice?

I will soon be reintroducing the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis

Act, and I invite all Members to join me in rebuilding our broken mental health system, so that we have treatment before there is tragedy.

#### AMERICA'S IMPROVING ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in 2014, the American economy had the strongest job growth it has had since 1997. That is 18 years ago. We have had private sector jobs growth for 58 straight months. That is the longest stretch on record.

Our economy has once again become the envy of the world. Inflation is tame. Gas prices are low. The deficit is falling, and the stock market is up.

Consumer sentiment is now at its highest level since the early years of 2007. The economic outlook looks good, but it could and should be better. This success has been based on sound public policy.

If we stop the politicking and work together, we can make our growing economy work for all Americans.

□ 0915

#### IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the President's continued use of executive action to bypass Congress and the American people in order to move forward with his own agenda. In the Granite State, we believe deeply in the rule of law and separation of powers, and the President's abuse of executive authority runs counter to these principles.

The United States is a very generous country to those who come here seeking a better life for themselves and their family. Every year, countless seek solace on our shores in search of economic and political freedom.

Unfortunately, our laws have not kept up with our needs. Our current economic system is broken. Instead of encouraging legal immigration, streamlining the process, and reforming our visa system, the President has intentionally refused to enforce the laws already on the books. The President's DACA order has encouraged thousands of children to take a perilous journey, ripping them from their families and placing their well-being with those who seek to exploit them.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation cannot send a signal that we won't enforce our laws or hold those responsible for breaking them. Our immigration system can be better. Compassion for people and care to faithfully execute our laws are not mutually exclusive.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 2015

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks, including extraneous material, on further consideration of H.R. 240, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.) Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 27 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 240.

Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) kindly take the chair.

□ 0917

##### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 240) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, with Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

##### H.R. 240

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

##### TITLE I

##### DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Homeland Security, as authorized by section 102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112), and executive management of the Department of Homeland Security, as authorized by law, \$132,573,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$45,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That all official costs associated with the use of government aircraft by Department of Homeland Security personnel to support official travel of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary shall be paid from amounts made available for the Immediate Office of the Secretary and the Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this

Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, a comprehensive plan for implementation of the biometric entry and exit data system required under section 7208 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (8 U.S.C. 1365b), including the estimated costs for implementation.

##### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Management, as authorized by sections 701 through 705 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 through 345), \$187,503,000, of which not to exceed \$2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, \$4,493,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, solely for the alteration and improvement of facilities, tenant improvements, and relocation costs to consolidate Department headquarters operations at the Nebraska Avenue Complex; and \$6,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, for the Human Resources Information Technology program: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary for Management shall include in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2016, submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report, which shall include the information required under the heading "Office of the Under Secretary for Management" under title I of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74), and shall submit quarterly updates to such report not later than 45 days after the completion of each quarter.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, as authorized by section 103 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113), \$52,020,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2016 is submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Future Years Homeland Security Program, as authorized by section 874 of Public Law 107-296 (6 U.S.C. 454).

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, as authorized by section 103 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113), and Department-wide technology investments, \$288,122,000; of which \$99,028,000 shall be available for salaries and expenses; and of which \$189,094,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be available for development and acquisition of information technology equipment, software, services, and related activities for the Department of Homeland Security.

##### ANALYSIS AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for intelligence analysis and operations coordination activities, as authorized by title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.), \$255,804,000; of which not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses; and of which \$102,479,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.