

Further northwest, where I live, there is the Interstate 74 Bridge. Just over the weekend, I stood alongside it. It spans the Mississippi River. It was built for traffic of about 40,000 cars. Today it accommodates about twice that many. In fact, former Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood stood alongside that bridge and said it is the worst bridge he has seen in the United States of America.

The families I represent deserve better. The businesses I represent deserve better. We need to pass a bill, a long-term highway bill, and we need to pass it now.

□ 1215

IRAN DEAL

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about this Iran deal. President Obama has made a deal with Islamic Republic of Iran, a terrorist regime that regularly leads chants of "Death to America," burns our flag, and has killed hundreds of American soldiers.

In April, Energy Secretary Moniz said inspectors would have "anywhere, anytime access" to Iran's civil and military sites. Unfortunately, this deal sets forth no such requirement.

Under the deal, inspectors can only ask for permission to access Iranian military sites, like their fortified underground facility in Fordow. Decisions about access will be left to Iran's leaders, who have said that inspectors will not be permitted to inspect military sites even "in their dreams."

This deal doesn't require the release of the American hostages being held by Iran's Government. It has no acknowledgement of Israel's right to exist. These provisions would signal that Iran is serious about changing their ways, but they have said no. And that is why Congress should reject this bad deal.

SAN DIEGO PRIDE MONTH

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, June may be LGBT Pride month. Back home in San Diego we continue to celebrate well into July, and we sure have something to be proud of this year.

The Supreme Court finally affirmed what all of us know to be true, that love is love, that equality is for everyone, and that discrimination against one is discrimination against all.

Without knowing the outcome of the Supreme Court decision, but knowing that all are created equal, San Diego Pride appropriately chose this year's theme as "Liberty and Justice for All." As we continue to push toward that goal, we can't forget that there is more to be done.

LGBT individuals still do not have workplace or housing protections in

many States. Many LGBT students aren't protected from bullying in schools, and transgender individuals, in particular, face added obstacles that arise from stigma and ignorance.

So while we have much to be proud of, there is still work for this House to do. Let's come together to ensure that truly there is liberty and justice for all.

IRAN NUCLEAR NEGOTIATION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, from the very beginning of the negotiations, President Obama and Secretary Kerry placed far too much faith in the Iranian regime. Trusting Iran to adhere to the terms of this agreement is a fool's errand.

This deal allows Iran to continue research on advanced nuclear technologies. Over the course of the deal, the temporary restrictions on Iran's nuclear weapons program will wind down. President Obama admitted himself that toward the end of the agreement Iran's nuclear breakout time could shrink almost down to zero.

Meanwhile, Iran will receive sanction relief, a boon of \$100 billion in frozen assets, at the same time while chanting "death to America" and "death to Israel."

The agreement lifts an arms embargo of conventional weapons in 5 years, and they will even achieve the ability to have intercontinental ballistic missiles in 8 years, meaning Iran will have even more money and more weapons to continue to destabilize Iraq, Syria, and its neighbors in the Mideast and, with the advent of ICBMs, even the United States of America.

Congress now has 60 days to review this plan and see if there is something good in it or not, but we need to be very cautious. Just to take any deal is not a good deal. So it is time that we be tough with Iran.

CUTTING OFF YOUR NOSE TO SPITE YOUR FACE

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as of the first day of this month, thousands of American exporters, big and small, were unilaterally disarmed in the battle for new business overseas.

The conservative Members of this body succeeded in their quest to kill the U.S. Export-Import Bank. They did it. The Ex-Im's charter has expired.

Now there is only the Export-Import Bank of China, the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation of Australia, the Export Development of Canada, Finnish Export Credit, Hungarian Export Credit Insurance, the Israel Export Insurance Corporation, the Japan Bank

for International Cooperation, the Export-Import Bank of Korea, the Norwegian Guarantee Institute for Export Credits, the Export Credit Bank of Turkey, and about 75 other foreign government-run agencies that are all helping businesses, big and small, in their quest to export and create jobs in their countries.

American companies alone find themselves at a distinct disadvantage. Our colleagues have successfully cut off their nose to spite their face.

It is never too late to fix a mistake. Let this Chamber vote on renewing the Export-Import charter and create more American jobs.

IRAN, STATE SPONSOR OF TERROR

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, let's not forget the kind of regime that exists in Iran, a country that will soon be receiving billions of dollars in sanctions relief.

Look at this poster. Friday was Al Quds Day in Iran. And what were they all doing? Officially sanctioned parade, shouting "death to America" and "death to Israel."

Iran has been labeled as a U.S.-designated state sponsor of terrorism for over three decades now. Yet, just yesterday the White House spokesman couldn't even confirm that Iran would remain on the terrorism list after this deal.

How hard a question is it to answer, Mr. Speaker? Will the administration's next concession to Iran be to remove it from the terrorism list in addition to the billions of dollars in sanctions relief?

Doing so would mean that we will be helping to finance Iran's support for terror, most of it aimed at us and our ally, the democratic Jewish State of Israel.

Look at this poster, Mr. Speaker, where the Supreme Leader says, "No cure for barbaric Israel, but total annihilation."

Doing so would be a problem of serious consequences to the United States. Let's get a better, tougher deal. We deserve better.

GI BILL STEM EXTENSION ACT

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, we all agree that we should provide veterans the tools they need to successfully transition from Active Duty to civilian life. Yet, far too many servicemen and women are struggling to provide for themselves and their families once they return home. We can and must do better.

That is why I am proud to partner with my Republican colleague, DAVID

MCKINLEY, in sponsoring legislation to provide resources to help our veterans pursue higher education and gain the skills and training they need to succeed in STEM careers.

The ability to analyze, communicate, and motivate, honed while in the military, makes veterans ideal candidates for the STEM fields. And with growth and demand for STEM experts expected to outpace other professions in the next two decades, this legislation will help meet the need for a highly skilled workforce, enabling us to better compete in the global economy while also creating new employment opportunities for our Nation's heroes.

So I urge my colleagues to join Mr. MCKINLEY and me in supporting the GI Bill STEM Extension Act.

“WE THE PEOPLE” INITIATIVE

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

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge participation in my new initiative, “We the People.”

Imagine a Congress that functions effectively. Imagine a Congress that hears from you daily and, as a result, devises legislation and legislative solutions based on your individual needs and from your own experiences. This is my view of an effective government, and it is why I have launched the “We the People” initiative this week.

Because of your ideas and your feedback, we have been able to pass two pieces of legislation this year. Let's continue to build on that success and continue to make Washington work for the Granite State.

I know we have much left to accomplish. So I want to hear from you. From now on, my office will be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can email me directly your legislative solutions and ideas to wethepeople@mail.house.gov or you can call me or text me directly at 603-250-6850.

From your suggestions, I will better be able to tailor legislation to meet your needs. My office remains yours. So please spread the word about the “We the People” initiative.

U.S. MUST CONSIDER ITS ISLAND TERRITORIES

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago the President announced resumption of diplomatic relations with Cuba.

While we celebrate the implications of a renewed relationship both for Cuban and American citizens, the citizens of my own home district do so with guarded welcome.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. territories of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico and

our geographic proximity to Cuba makes us a direct economic competitor. All indicators point to massive growth in Cuba's tourism industry.

While the U.S. Virgin Islands continues to be a premier tourist destination particularly for Americans, with more than 2.7 million tourists in 2014 alone, Cuba is shaping to be a formidable competitor.

Prior to resumption of relations, a report from the Caribbean Tourism Organization showed just over 3 million visitors to Cuba in 2014 compared to 2.7 for the Virgin Islands and 3 million in Puerto Rico.

However, in the first quarter of 2015, the Cuban Government has already reported more than 1.4 million tourist visits, a number that more than doubles the amount reported for the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico during this same time.

Mr. Speaker, the United States must consider its own island territories of the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico in the advancement of diplomatic relations with Cuba. Investments must come to the U.S. Virgin Islands.

I wish all of our French citizens a happy Bastille Day.

HELPING BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION SCHOOLS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, we should always strive as a country to make sure that the promises we make are kept. Unfortunately, when it comes to the students at our Bureau of Indian Education schools, our promise to them is falling far short.

Students at these schools in Minnesota and around the country have endured deplorable conditions, including leaking roofs, schools with no heat, and other problems that make it difficult, if not impossible, to learn.

However, momentum is gaining to right this wrong. Some of us in the Minnesota delegation, including my colleagues JOHN KLINE and BETTY MCCOLLUM, have highlighted the need for critical repairs and construction for these schools.

The issue is not just financial, though. Washington, including the executive branch, needs to ensure that red tape is not keeping these students from getting an acceptable learning environment.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to take action and focus on making sure that these students have a safe school setting where they can learn, grow, and excel.

NEVADA FAA 2015 WORLD CHAMPION LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

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

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give honor to Payton Dahmer,

Kaylee Farmer, Cara Comstock, and Skyler Scotten for earning the title of the 2015 World Championship FFA Livestock Judging Team.

These members of the Nevada FAA chapter, along with their coach, Tanya St. John, practiced for countless hours, traveling all across the State and Nation to evaluate the quality of classes of cattle, swine, sheep, and goats as well as demonstrate the reasoning behind their placements in the oral presentation.

At the national competition, the team placed first overall, with all four competitors placing in the top ten individually. Winning nationals qualified them for the International Livestock Judging Competition in Scotland, where they again placed first in the team judging event.

While it was a long and challenging journey to earn this title, I would like to commend the 2015 World Champion FFA Livestock Judging Team for their dedication, perseverance, and poise they displayed in this competition. I am proud of how they represented themselves, their families, and our country.

I want to congratulate Payton, Kaylee, Cara, and Skyler for this amazing achievement. You are the future agriculture leaders this country needs.

□ 1230

WESTERN WATER AND AMERICAN FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 2015

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

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about California's water crisis. Later this week, we will be debating a bill, the Western Water and American Food Security Act of 2015, which was born out of many conversations with the Senate and with the administration.

Over the years, we have discussed how dry California is. Now, we can't prevent Mother Nature from creating a drought, but we can plan and store water for those dry years. It has happened for centuries. The problem is it just hasn't been happening in the last several decades in California, which means over 1 million acres of farmland will go fallow.

Mr. Speaker, this is not just a California issue. This is an issue that will affect the entire United States food supply. We need to make sure we are capturing water.

While Members want to continue to debate climate change, shouldn't we all agree that hydroelectricity, the cleanest electricity out there, is good for our environment? The trees that I grow as an almond farmer are good for the environment. If you want to reduce carbon, let's plant more trees.

If we want to have safety and security in our communities that have forestland, then shouldn't we clear the