

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS ACT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to cosponsor the Employee Rights Act, introduced by Chairman TOM PRICE, which establishes protections for American workers—to not join a union; to have a secret ballot; and, if they choose to join a union, to know how their dues are being spent. This legislation is critical to empowering American workers and shielding them from unfair treatment in the workplace.

South Carolina is a staunch defender of right-to-work protections, even when threatened by the National Labor Relations Board. For years, the NLRB has threatened to destroy jobs, particularly in the Charleston community. It has invaded employee privacy and encroached upon their rights.

I am grateful for Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, Senator TIM SCOTT, Governor Nikki Haley, and South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson for their leadership in protecting our State's right-to-work laws.

Right-to-work States like South Carolina have seen firsthand that job creation and economic growth come from expanded freedoms. We need to expand commonsense reforms like those in the Employee Rights Act to protect American workers and create jobs.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of our ancestors, thank You for giving us another day.

We pray You, O God, to be with the Members of this House today and as they return to their home districts during the August recess. Give them sound judgment and make them as practical as the American people who sent them here as their Representatives.

Help them to withstand open criticism when they know what is right be-

fore You and conscience. Often, they are characterized by half-truths and attributed motives that are far beneath them. Uphold them at such times with personal integrity and compassion for those most in need.

Having called them to serve others to the best of their abilities, lift them even higher by Your grace and power to live and work for Your greater honor and glory, both this day and throughout the remainder of the summer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HIGGINS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING PLYMOUTH FIRE CHIEF RICHARD KLINE

(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, I rise today to recognize the service of Plymouth Fire Chief Richard Kline, who has announced that he will be retiring at the end of this year.

For over 20 years, Chief Kline has diligently served as the head of the Plymouth Fire Department during a period of tremendous growth and change.

Chief Kline has led the way when it comes to bringing firefighting into the 21st century by embracing new technology and equipment techniques not only locally, but also being involved at the national level through education and speaking engagements.

He also serves as chair of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association Safety and Health Committee where his influence is felt throughout the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chief Kline for his service, for his dedication in leading our first responders, and keeping our community safe.

I know the Plymouth community will miss him, but Chief Kline's steadfast leadership leaves Plymouth on a firm foundation for the future.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday marked the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Since its enactment, the ADA has been a beacon of hope for millions of people with disabilities, both throughout the United States and around the world.

Many passionate advocates and champions fought for the rights and protections enshrined in this law. Thanks to their pioneering efforts, people with disabilities can participate in more aspects of society than ever before. Where barriers exist, so, too, do the opportunities to remove them, thanks to the protections and accommodations afforded under the ADA.

We have come far since the passage of the ADA, but we still have much more work ahead. As we commemorate the silver anniversary of the ADA, I hope everyone will join me in celebrating the strides we have made, while also committing our efforts to achieving the full equality and opportunity on which the ADA and our country were founded.

REMEMBERING TERRY STAMBAUGH

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember the life of Terry Stambaugh of Harrison, Arkansas.

Terry died this week when his car was struck head on by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, fleeing from police. It is heartbreaking to see the life of a community servant taken

at the age of 61—or for any age, for that matter—under these circumstances.

Terry Stambaugh was chairman of the board of the Harrison, Arkansas, regional chamber of commerce; president of the Harrison Rotary Club; board member of the 14th judicial district's court appointed special advocates program; past president of the Harrison District Board of Realtors; and had a long history working in the trucking industry. In addition, he was a deacon at the First Christian Church of Harrison.

Mr. Speaker, Terry was a man of tremendous faith. While I know the entire Harrison community will forever mourn his loss, we take comfort in the fact that God is real, as Terry stated in his final Facebook posting, and that Terry is now at his side.

I stand in this well today, Mr. Speaker, to honor Terry for his many years of service to his faith, his family, and his beloved city of Harrison and say a final thank you to this dedicated community leader.

My prayers are with his wife, Carey; his children, Angela Keys, Sarah Stambaugh, and Hannah Lutz; and his stepchildren, Blake and Logan Cook, during this very difficult time for the family.

EDWARD A. THOMAS BUILDING

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great excitement to congratulate the Houston City Council and our chief, Charles McClelland, for naming our beacon of law enforcement building after Edward Alfred Thomas, the longest serving and greatest patrol officer in the history of the Houston Police Department, so noted by fellow officers.

Edward Alfred Thomas was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1920. He played football for Southern University. As well, he was drafted in World War II, where he saw action with the United States Army in Normandy, in northern Africa, and during the Battle of the Bulge.

After the war, with his honorable discharge, Edward Thomas became one of the first African American police officers in the city of Houston—when he started, he could not vote without a poll tax—where he worked for 63 years until his retirement on July 23, 2011. He worked for more than six decades, way before the civil rights movement.

His work was not without challenges. Because of his work and because of his race, Officer Thomas was not allowed to drive a squad car or arrest White suspects without obtaining permission from his supervisor.

At one point in his career, he was disciplined for speaking to a White meter maid, who asked him to walk with her in order to avoid the unwanted attention and advances of nearby construc-

tion workers, just extending himself and doing his job.

I am excited about him having his name on the 26-story headquarters building, and I would offer to say that, to this great leader, I will be coming home to present you with a number of resolutions and honor.

I know that he wants the Voting Rights Act reauthorized because he couldn't vote then, but now, he stands as the longest serving police officer and one of great service.

I salute you, Edward Alfred Thomas.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY CHAPLAINS

(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 to congratulate the Army Chaplain Corps on their 240th birthday.

Since their founding this day on July 29, 1775, by the Continental Congress, at the request of General George Washington, military chaplains have served with courage, honor, and selflessness.

I am grateful that Fort Jackson, located in the Midlands of South Carolina, serves as a training facility for this distinct group of individuals who do so much to fulfill the religious needs of our men and women in uniform.

It is home to the Chaplain Regimental Museum Association. This museum highlights those who have a shared desire to minister to soldiers and their families. I appreciate the president of the association, Chaplain Brigadier General Don Rutherford, and the board of directors for their dedicated service to our men and women in uniform.

I know firsthand of chaplains' extraordinary service to my and my son's National Guard duty. I appreciate Army Colonel Steve Shugart, who was my son Alan's roommate in Iraq. I am grateful to work with Air National Guard Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Brian Bohlman, for his military family nonprofit foundation, Operation Thank You.

Congratulations to the Army Chaplain Corps on their 240th birthday. Chaplains make a difference helping servicemembers and military families have a more fulfilling life.

SUPPORT EACH WOMAN ACT

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, for the past 40 years, antichoice politicians have convinced Congress to maintain Hyde amendment language while pushing for restricting access even further.

For four decades, the Hyde amendment has denied too many women their constitutional right to choose by pro-

hibiting the use of Federal funds to pay for abortion services. The fact that this restriction discriminates against women with limited resources at the very time in which they need the support the most is unconscionable.

We have had enough of letting the majority restrict access to abortion services when the majority of Americans support a woman's right to choose. It is time to change course.

The EACH Woman Act ensures health coverage of these services for every woman, no matter how much she earns, how she is insured, or where she lives.

I urge my colleagues to be bold, end Hyde, and support the EACH Woman Act.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES MARINE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ATTILIO M. LUPACCHINI

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and service of United States Marine Private First Class Attilio M. Lupacchini, who was laid to rest with full military honors this morning.

Private Lupacchini—a native of Yardley, Bucks County, in my district in Pennsylvania—was just 2 years out of high school, when, on December 9, 1950, he made the ultimate sacrifice for his Nation in the mountains of North Korea while on a mission to rescue a group of fellow marines.

His platoon leader described Private Lupacchini as a true fighting marine who was small in stature but enormously courageous.

After more than 65 years, Private Lupacchini's spirit has returned home and now rests among our Nation's bravest at Arlington National Cemetery, forever providing a place of reflection and remembrance for generations of family members and grateful Americans.

From the bottom of my heart, I express my gratitude to Attilio Lupacchini for his membership in the internal ranks of those who sacrificed at freedom's altar.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK, RECLAIMED ITS FUTURE BY EMBRACING ITS PAST

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, visitors to the 1901 Pan-American Exposition, which was held in western New York, were so astounded with the electric light powered by Niagara Falls that Buffalo became known across the world as The City of Light.

Last week, The New York Times reported to the Nation Buffalo is back, due again to our investments in renewable energy.