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STAND WITH SHERIFF LUPE VALDEZ

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand with Lupe. That is Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez. Sheriff Lupe Valdez has a great history in Dallas County, but recently she has come under attack from our Governor for trying to build relationships between the law enforcement community and the immigrant community.

Governor Abbott sent a threatening letter to Sheriff Valdez, questioning her decision to decline certain Federal ICE detainers when the immigrant in question is not a public safety risk—not a public safety risk.

Sheriff Valdez understands that, in order to serve and protect the immigrant community, she must have the trust of that community.

I call on Governor Abbott, instead of trying to erode that trust between law enforcement and the immigrant community, to work with the Republican Texas delegation to push for comprehensive immigration reform, to push for the things that the business community wants, that the church community wants, in order to do something about our broken immigration system instead of trying to push for things like sanctuary city bills.

If we work together with the immigrant community and do the right thing, together we can work on solving a lot of these issues.

I ask my colleagues and the Governor to stand with Lupe and to do the right thing when it comes to Texas immigrants.

HONORING VESTA MANGUN

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a faithful and God-fearing woman, Ms. Vesta Mangun of Alexandria, Louisiana, who will soon be celebrating her 90th birthday.

Ms. Mangun is a dedicated member of The Pentecostals of Alexandria Church. She has been instrumental in the life and spirit of the Pentecostal community for a long, long time.

Ms. Mangun and her husband, G.A. Mangun, started The Pentecostals of Alexandria when it was known as the First United Pentecostal Church with just 38 members. Today The Pentecostals of Alexandria is made up of thousands of members, largely thanks to the dedication of the Mangun family.

The work of Ms. Mangun extends far beyond community. A daughter of an east Texas pioneer, Vesta Mangun has dedicated her life to sharing the Lord's word as a speaker at camp meetings across the country and across the world.

I commend the Mangun family for their tireless dedication to Louisiana, and I congratulate The Pentecostals of Alexandria in their celebration this week commemorating 65 years of ministry.

GOOD THINGS AND BAD THINGS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today we will have an opportunity to support the Export-Import Bank opening so that constituents across America, including Houston, Texas, will have the opportunity to grow jobs and to compete internationally. That is a good thing, Mr. Speaker.

Soon I hope we will be able to reopen Riverside Hospital in my congressional district with the collaboration and work with Health and Human Services and State authorities to open the doors for those who need health care. That is a good thing.

Mr. Speaker, the showing of a video of a student being dragged out of a classroom violently while educators stand by and watch is a bad thing. It calls upon the Justice Department of that State, the Attorney General, and the local district attorney to stand up and be counted. It also calls upon the U.S. Department of Justice to determine whether the civil rights of that student were violated.

Not one American should be able to tolerate the heinous, horrific, violent actions of throwing a young girl student on the floor, up against the door, dragged as if she were a bag of potatoes. No one should tolerate that.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon everyone to address the conditions in schools and violence along with those who are perpetrating these acts against students.

NDAA VETO

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, last week the President once again disappointed the American people while only seeking to advance his own political agenda. Despite only vetoing four bills in 7 years, the President took the extraordinary measure of vetoing a bill vital to keeping Americans safe.

The annual National Defense Authorization ensures our troops have the tools and training they need to destroy our enemies and to return to their loved ones back at home. This bill has been passed for 53 consecutive years, yet this President saw fit to veto it, putting campaign promises above our military and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the world is not becoming a safer place. In fact, it is becoming much more dangerous. China is building military islands in the South China Sea. The Russians are destabilizing Europe. Foreign fighters are flooding to

ISIS by the thousands. Iran is on the path to having a nuclear weapon. Yet this President is more concerned about liberal politics than he is about the safety of our Nation. As a veteran, I find it disgraceful.

WEAR RED WEDNESDAY

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Wear Red Wednesday to Bring Back Our Girls.

This month President Obama announced he will deploy 300 troops to Cameroon to help with the fight against the ISIS-linked terrorist organization, Boko Haram. These American troops will provide vital intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance support to the multinational regional coalition fighting Boko Haram.

I applaud the President's commitment to rooting out and destroying radical terrorism in the region. This newly announced aid could be a turning point in the fight against Boko Haram.

Mr. Speaker, until the precious Chibok girls are returned, we will continue to wear red and continue to tweet, tweet, tweet. Continue to tweet, tweet, tweet #bringbackourgirls. Tweet, tweet, tweet #joinrepwilson.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very innovative program in my home State of Arkansas. Governor Asa Hutchinson proclaimed October to be Farm to School Month. The Farm to School program provides healthy, locally grown food to our State's schools while creating new revenue streams for our Arkansas farmers.

According to the USDA, 169 schools, serving over 86,000 young Arkansans, participate in the program. This directed over \$600,000 into local economies by purchasing products from local farmers.

The Farm to School program helps to combat childhood obesity by encouraging healthy eating habits among our youngest, most impressionable citizens. Also, at a time when families are moving away from the rural, agricultural parts of our Nation, I believe it is vital that our children know how and where their food is produced. The Farm to School program helps to educate them.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Farm to School program is important to the economy, health, and education of Arkansas' Fourth District. I look forward to working with the many stakeholders in Arkansas to see the continued success of the Farm to School program.

CLEAN THE BARN

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, Speaker BOEHNER has pledged to clean the barn before handing the Speakership over later this week.

So far, we are off to a good start. First, a bipartisan majority is finally able to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank. Ex-Im supports countless American jobs and historically has enjoyed broad bipartisan support.

Today we learned of a bipartisan deal. I am still reviewing the details of this compromise, but I am encouraged that the leaders of both parties came together to protect the full faith and credit of the United States and to reduce the burden of sequestration.

Now, I represent the heart of San Diego. We don't have many farms in my district, but even I know that, when you put off cleaning the barn, the you-know-what tends to pile up.

There is so much more that Congress should be doing that we are not doing this week. We still need a highway bill that will improve our Nation's infrastructure and create jobs. We need meaningful immigration reform and a deal to get rid of sequestration once and for all.

Let's hope this week marks the beginning of an effort to not just clean the barn, but to keep the barn clean.

FIRST ANNUAL CRISTINA GOMEZ 5K RUN/WALK

(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, I rise today to urge south Floridians to run or walk this Sunday, November 1, to support the Cristina M. Gomez Traumatic Brain Injury Foundation—TBI Foundation—at its first annual Cristina Gomez 5K Run/Walk at Miami Executive Airport.

Cristina was a senior majoring in education at my alma mater, Florida International University, when she suffered a traumatic brain injury after falling while out on a run.

While her family is encouraged by Cristina's slow, but steady, recovery, she still requires 24/7 care, and her continuing treatment is not fully covered by insurance, concerns that they share with many other families.

As a result, proceeds from Sunday's event will help ensure that other traumatic brain injury victims and their families in our community receive the emotional and the financial support they need to keep hope alive.

Registration is online now at cristinagomezfoundation.org.

WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS

(Mr. CASTRO of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, a bipartisan effort to increase educational opportunities and improve educational outcomes for Latinos in America.

Over the past 2½ decades, the initiative has made great progress. The percentage of Hispanics with a high school degree has jumped by nearly 20 percent. The percentage of Hispanics dropping out of high school is nearly 20 percent lower. The percentage of Hispanics with a bachelor's degree or higher has nearly doubled.

Progress like this is possible because of so many committed organizations across our Nation. The initiative has identified certain "Bright Spots" in this effort, and I would like to recognize those programs that received the "Bright Spot" designation in my own congressional district.

They are: The Academy for Teacher Excellence, the Graduate Support Center at UIW, IDRA's Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program, Northwest Vista College's College Connection Program, and San Antonio College's College and Grants Development Department.

Congratulations to these "Bright Spots," and thank you to all the organizations out there helping to make this program a success.

HOME HEALTH CARE PLANNING IMPROVEMENT ACT

(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 to bring attention to the dire need for nurses in the Granite State. The New Hampshire Union Leader—my newspaper of Manchester, New Hampshire—reports the need will only increase as our population ages and more nurses reach retirement.

Also, healthcare facilities are concentrated outside the State, increasing the need for healthcare practitioners in New Hampshire. I recently hosted a Manchester Job Fair to help meet the need, and I am a proud cosponsor of the Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2015.

Right now, according to Medicare rules, a nurse practitioner may not prescribe home healthcare services for beneficiaries. They must seek a doctor's permission, a process that would take weeks in rural areas like northern New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association visited me in Washington last month to tell me about this critical problem. Current rules add extra time and cost to home health care. Qualified nurses should be able to make the best decisions for their patients, especially in the isolated or homebound arena.

The Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act would allow nurses to

do their jobs and help patients recover. It is time to remove a needless layer of bureaucracy and give them the tools they need to succeed.

□ 1230

FARM TO SCHOOL ACT OF 2015

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to pay attention to the Farm to School Act of 2015. Like my colleague from Arkansas, California is a big agricultural State, and we know that kids go hungry.

We have the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Children Act, providing some \$5 million annually in competitive programs for schools to establish the Farm to School Act programs. These programs are vitally important to farmers, increasing their income, but even more important to kids who can get good, healthy food, locally grown and available in their schools.

So let's pay attention here. Let's get this new bill underway. Let's move this program forward. Let's put some money so our kids can have good food and our local farmers can have a good market.

FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN TURKEY

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

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the upcoming Parliamentary elections being held in Turkey. With so much on the line for Turkey, both domestically and internationally, it is my sincere hope that the elections are held in an environment that is consistent with international standards on November 1.

Free and fair elections are a fundamental part of any democratic society, and Turkish citizens of all backgrounds deserve to know that not only does their vote count, but it will be cast in a welcoming, safe and open atmosphere.

Freedom of the press is also a crucial part of democracy and, with the future of Turkey at the forefront of the November elections, Turkish citizens deserve to hear every narrative, and journalists and reporters should not have to worry about intimidation or legal action, simply for doing their jobs.

As Turkey enters a pivotal moment in its history, I wish them a safe and successful election day. And just like any democratic society, the real winners at the end of the day will be the citizens of Turkey.

CONGRESS' LAST SHORT-TERM EXTENSION OF THE HIGHWAY BILL

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