

could have been there last night, but I want Sophie to know that I support her and that I will be fighting for DAPA for her and for the 5 million children just like her across this great country.

#### WE MUST COMBAT THE HEROIN EPIDEMIC

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

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to discuss new bipartisan steps my House New Hampshire colleague, FRANK GUINTA, and I are taking to combat the heroin epidemic seizing New Hampshire and many other States across this country.

Last year in New Hampshire alone we experienced 321 drug-related deaths, according to the State medical examiner's office, and the rate of drug-related fatalities in 2015 is expected to increase.

I continue to see the impacts of this terrible epidemic as I meet with affected communities and stakeholders across my district. From educators to police officers, to advocates and health providers, it is only when we stand united and coordinate our efforts that we will be able to halt the destruction that this dangerous substance is causing all across our communities.

That is why I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me and my fellow Representative from New Hampshire in our Bipartisan Task Force to Combat the Heroin Epidemic. This task force will focus on finding solutions to the growing epidemic. We believe we must do everything possible to spread awareness, increase educational efforts, and hear from affected families and individuals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join us to end this epidemic in our communities.

#### OCTOBER IS NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

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

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, October is National Farm to School Month, and I want to talk today about the recent gains our schools have made in connecting students with local food.

Across the country, the Farm to School movement has inspired over 40,000 schools to spend more of their food dollars locally, to create healthier meal options, and to teach students about growing and preparing local food. These efforts have brought numerous benefits, like new markets for local agricultural producers, better nutrition for students, and less food being thrown away in the trash.

I am proud that schools in my State of Maine have helped lead the way; but, like others, they encounter many challenges in replacing highly processed food with fresh ingredients.

The USDA Farm to School grants have eased that transition for many schools by helping them make needed changes in procurement, facilities, and training. As we celebrate Farm to School efforts this month and look toward child nutrition reauthorization, I encourage my colleagues to support increased funding for this program so more communities can reap the benefits.

#### HONORING MAJOR PHYLLIS PELKY

(Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Air Force Major Phyllis Pelky, who died earlier this month in a helicopter crash in Kabul, Afghanistan.

As a Major in the Air Force, Phyllis Pelky served her nation with distinction as aide-de-camp to the superintendent of the Air Force Academy. Major Pelky had been deployed in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan, working as the deputy manpower chief of the American Train, Advise and Assist Command.

As we take this moment to honor the service and patriotism of Major Pelky and recognize her sacrifice, the ultimate sacrifice as a member of our armed services, we also thank her for her contributions in the classroom.

Major Pelky was a beloved humanities teacher at the Rio Rancho High School. Her commitment to her students, combined with her enthusiasm, encouraged them to learn. She left a lasting impact on those who were fortunate to have her as a teacher. Her enduring spirit will live on through the many students she inspired.

As we mourn the passing of Phyllis Pelky and celebrate her life, my thoughts and prayers are with her husband, her two sons, her family, and the Rio Rancho community during this sad time.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. One in three women report experiencing domestic violence throughout their lifetimes. In North Carolina alone, 108 people died because of domestic violence in 2013.

Earlier today Ron Kimble, deputy city manager of Charlotte, who resides in my district, spoke at the new Members meeting about the severity of domestic violence. Mr. Kimble and his wife, Jan, lost their daughter Jamie, an only child, to domestic violence in 2012.

Jamie, a 31-year-old graduate of the University of North Carolina and rising star at Coca-Cola Consolidated, worked

up the courage to leave her boyfriend, who was controlling and emotionally abusive. Just 3 months after leaving him, he took her life and then he took his own in a murder-suicide.

While Jamie can no longer share her story, her parents—Mr. and Mrs. Kimble—wanted me to share it with you today to shed light on the tragedy that often emerges from domestic violence.

I am a proud cosponsor of the Teach Safe Relationships Act because I believe including safe relationship behavior curriculum in sex education will help combat domestic violence. This Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I urge this Congress to pass the Teach Safe Relationships Act and support other critical domestic violence legislation.

#### FIGHTING BACK AGAINST BREAST CANCER

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

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and all the men and women working to raise awareness in north Florida.

About one in eight U.S. women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. Approximately 43,000 will be diagnosed in Florida in this year alone. But in north Florida, we are fighting back.

Local charities, media outlets, survivors, and strong women currently fighting the disease are standing up to be heard and reminding everyone to "Think Pink."

Each year we make greater strides against breast cancer. Together we are going to beat it and save lives.

□ 1230

#### REAUTHORIZATION OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

(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, last evening, I voted against reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank, a Federal entity that financially backs purchases of American goods and services by providing taxpayer-backed loans and loan guarantees to foreign companies and governments.

While the Ex-Im Bank can help American industry break into foreign markets, too often it underwrites purchases by companies that directly compete with domestic companies, placing them at a significant disadvantage. For example, when foreign airlines purchase aircraft at lower costs with Ex-Im Bank backing, they are able to charge lower fares and outcompete our domestic airlines.

The Federal Government should ensure that competition occurs on a level

playing field, without tilting it toward one side or another.

Furthermore, Ex-Im Bank supporters used a discharge petition to bring this bill to the floor, a parliamentary tactic which limits the use of amendments and creates an end run around the normal committee process that should apply to every measure considered by Congress.

It is the American public that shoulders the risk of these loans, and, at the very minimum, they deserve an honest debate on this floor on the best way to move forward in promoting our exports abroad.

#### BIPARTISAN BUDGET AGREEMENT

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan budget agreement that will come before us here in the House soon. It restores critical funding for our Nation's defense and domestic priorities in a balanced fashion, sparing us from the mindless meat-ax cuts of sequestration.

Under previous Republican budget proposals, spending on domestic programs would have fallen to its lowest level in 50 years. It is the threat of uncertainty, of those indiscriminate cuts, that has held back our economy.

This agreement also pulls us back from the brink of defaulting on our Nation's credit. Although I am astounded at how some of our colleagues continue to advocate for such a catastrophe, it would send a shock wave through the global economy. We avert that in this agreement.

Mr. Speaker, governing is about the art of compromise. Today's agreement, not perfect, represents that principle. I hope your successor and, frankly, more of the Members on your side of the aisle, will embrace that spirit moving forward in this Congress so, once again, we can start delivering for the American people.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1314, ENSURING TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS THE RIGHT TO APPEAL ACT

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 495 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 495

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1314) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the Ma-

jority Leader or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution modified by the amendment printed in part B of that report. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), my good friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Rules Committee met and reported a rule for consideration of H.R. 1314, the Bipartisan Budget Agreement of 2015. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the majority leader that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1314, with an amendment consisting of the text of the Bipartisan Budget Agreement of 2015. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader.

Mr. Speaker, I want to start with a phrase I often share with my fellow Members: In a negotiation, you are always going to get less than you want and give up more than you would like. I think that is a fitting way to describe the bill we find ourselves presented with today. In an era of divided government, that is the reality we find ourselves in.

At the beginning of the negotiation, the President demanded a clean debt ceiling increase with no changes and no conditions. In addition, he wanted more spending and higher taxes. Given that, I think the deal that we have before us is a testament to our leadership's ability to negotiate.

As I said yesterday, Mr. Speaker, nobody is going to be popping champagne corks at either end of Pennsylvania Avenue over this bill. It is what most things are in divided government, in a system of checks and balances, and in an era of polarized politics. It is a deal that leaves both sides unsatisfied, but it is a deal that avoids default, prevents a government shutdown, and adequately funds our military. Moreover, it reforms and funds the Social Secu-

rity Disability Insurance Fund, saving it from bankruptcy, and prevents a crippling increase in the premiums paid by many people who receive Medicare part B.

There are any number of provisions that Members on both sides can point to as reasons to oppose this legislation. I, myself, would have negotiated a different deal. But in determining one's support for this legislation, I encourage Members to look at what the alternative would be, and that is this: the first default on our Nation's debt in the history of this country, significant cuts to our military in a time when we need our military the most, and an almost 50 percent increase in Medicare premiums for many of our seniors. That is the reality of what happens if we do nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged by a number of provisions in this legislation. First, just like the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, this legislation sets forth 2 years of budget certainty for the Appropriations Committee. That certainty puts us on a path to ensure consideration of full-year spending bills for the next 2 years, just as we were able to accomplish this past fiscal year.

In addition, this budget certainty provides the needed investment for our military. With the ongoing conflicts across the Middle East, Russian activity in Eastern Europe, and Chinese claims in the South China Sea, it is clearer now than ever that America needs a robust military.

Mr. Speaker, most importantly, all these discretionary spending increases are fully paid for by offsets in mandatory programs.

In addition to these critical investments, the legislation before us makes a number of commonsense, structural reforms to SSDI, like requiring a medical review before awarding benefits, and expanding Cooperative Disability Investigations units to investigate sophisticated fraud schemes before benefits are awarded. These reforms both ensure that the disability trust fund will be able to pay full benefits and ensure that those who truly are disabled have access to this important program.

Beyond that, Mr. Speaker, this legislation realizes over \$30 billion in Medicare savings within the budget window and countless billions in years to come.

I am pleased to again be talking about the real drivers of our debt: the two-thirds of our government spending that is on autopilot. If we are unable to deal with these mandatory programs, they will end up bankrupting us.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this legislation suspends the debt ceiling through March 15, 2017. Since its inception in 1917, 20 debt limit laws also included a change in fiscal policy. I am pleased that this debt limit increase is yet again accompanied by mandatory reforms.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, I would have preferred stronger reforms, but, in this era of divided government with a