

Today, I voted for the defense authorization. Included were amendments that I offered that were sustained in the conference report which require the Department of Defense to conduct outreach programs to assist the concerns of small businesses that are owned and controlled by women, veterans, and socioeconomically disadvantaged minorities.

In addition, my amendment, which provides guidance to the Secretary of Defense in identifying HBCUs and minority-serving institutions and to assist them in developing and enhancing science, technology, engineering, and math, was also kept in the bill.

Finally, my amendment, which requires the Department of Defense to evaluate commercial, off-the-shelf business systems for security, resilience, reliability, interoperability, and integration with existing interrelated systems, was also incorporated.

So, in protecting the security of the defense mechanisms, in providing opportunities for small businesses, and in working with Historically Black Colleges and minority-serving colleges, this bill is a good bill.

I, again, support the fact that we are moving the defense bill forward and that we are protecting not only our veterans, but we are protecting the men and women who serve us in the United States military.

ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH: DENTISTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of creating access to oral health care and to raise awareness for initiatives that deliver important dental services to underserved communities.

This year, more than 75 million Americans won't visit a dentist, even though nearly half of the people over 30 suffer from some form of gum disease and an estimated 25 percent of children under the age of 5 already have cavities.

It is time to take action.

That is why the American Dental Association launched Action for Dental Health: Dentists Making a Difference. This initiative is a nationwide, community-based movement that is focused on delivering care to people who are already suffering from dental disease, and on bringing dental health education and disease prevention into underserved communities.

This Sunday, the American Dental Association will transform the Walter E. Washington Convention Center into a Mission of Mercy—a 100-chair dental clinic—in order to treat 1,000 adults and children who don't receive regular dental care.

We can grow support for initiatives like these through H.R. 539, the Action for Dental Health Act, which will help

dentists and others improve the health of Americans who need it most but without requiring any additional tax dollars. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 539.

□ 1230

TRI-VALLEY YMCA

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Tri-Valley YMCA, which on November 6 will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Since 1965, the Tri-Valley YMCA has been strengthening the communities of Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore, and Sunol through its youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility programs. Among these is its work to promote our children's confidence and relationships, positive leadership, civic engagement, and community compassion. Through child learning centers, camp programs, Youth in Government, and family support programs, the Y is providing enriching education and life experiences for all children and teens in our community.

One of the most noteworthy commitments of the Y is that all of its programs and activities are open to everyone, regardless of the family's ability to pay. Led by Executive Director Kelly O'Lague Dulka, the Tri-Valley YMCA has also extended its community giving and distributed nearly \$1 million in household supplies last year.

Beyond personal character development, the Y has become a valuable safety net in my district, nurturing the potential of all children involved in their activities, helping people of all ages improve their health, and providing opportunities for the community to come together and support each other.

Congratulations to the staff and board of directors of the Tri-Valley YMCA for 50 years of selfless giving to our community.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the inaugural observance of National Apprenticeship Week. Across the United States, hundreds of thousands of apprenticeship programs are helping to prepare workers for today's high-skilled, in-demand jobs.

For far too long, there has been a discrepancy in what students are learning in the classroom and what employers say they need in the workplace.

Apprenticeships are key to narrowing that skills gap because they offer students a low-cost and, in many cases, a no-cost education that arms them with the knowledge and skills they need to

thrive in today's global economy. Apprentices often earn an average starting salary of \$50,000 and go on to make \$300,000 more than their nonapprenticeship peers over the course of their career.

Employers who invest in these work-based learning programs are attracting and retaining highly qualified employees. They are also seeing results in the form of increased productivity and greater innovation.

Apprenticeships can change lives, and I look forward to seeing how these valuable programs continue to strengthen America's workforce.

2015 WORLD SERIES CHAMPION, KANSAS CITY ROYALS

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2015 World Series champion, the Kansas City Royals.

Some of my fondest memories growing up come from listening to the Royals play-by-play on the radio while riding with my dad in his tractor as he plowed our family field at dusk.

This year's playoffs run was filled with many exciting moments that will inspire lifelong memories for a new generation. It was particularly exciting for my family, as my wife delivered a beautiful baby girl, Eloise Jane, just hours after the Royals' World Series victory.

Perhaps the most memorable moment for all of Kansas City was Eric Hosmer making a mad dash home to score in the 17th hour and 38th minute of the World Series, tying game five in New York, which the Royals would eventually go on to win.

Mr. Speaker, this Royals team was backed by a proud and unified Kansas City, unifying both Kansans and Missourians. And these Royals embodied the Midwestern spirit. They worked hard, played as a team, always hustled, and never gave up.

So, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, and for the first time since 1985, I would like to say congratulations to the best team in baseball, the Kansas City Royals, and their Most Valuable Player, Salvador Perez.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015, TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today on a motion offered pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 91, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution, and, further, that the order of the House of

January 6, 2015, regarding morning-hour debate not apply on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOOLENAAR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 2, 2015, through November 3, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 582, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 583, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall vote No. 584, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall vote No. 585, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 586, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 587, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall vote No. 588, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall vote No. 589, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 590, I could have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 591, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 592, I would have voted “aye.”

On rollcall vote No. 593, I would have voted “no.”

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, ensuring Americans are capable of filling the skills gap and finding quality jobs through stakeholder-led and accountable workforce development programs has been one of my highest priorities in Washington.

That is why I was so proud last Congress to see legislation I sponsored, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, or WIOA, enacted into law. WIOA was the first major workforce development legislation to be enacted in more than 15 years and included many vital provisions to modernize, streamline, and localize our workforce development system.

The highway bill that passed the House earlier today included a front-line workforce development program intended to address human resources needs in public transportation that was not subject to the reforms contained within WIOA.

In order to ensure that program is assessed consistently with other Federal workforce development programs and targeted to areas that have identified needs in public transportation as part

of their broader workforce development programs, I introduced a bipartisan amendment to the highway bill with my colleague from Washington (Ms. DELBENE) that applied WIOA’s performance measures and coordination reforms to the program.

All of our Federal workforce development programs should be assessed in a consistent manner and be considered as part of an overall package tailored to State and local needs that provide stakeholders on the ground greater input and control. That is why I am also pleased the House adopted our bipartisan amendment as part of the broader transportation package and strengthened the frontline workforce development program in order to better serve the workers who learn skills through the program and those policymakers who evaluate the programs to improve its future outcomes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

WORKING TOGETHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, everyone has gone back to their offices but you and me, and I appreciate you sticking around to get this hour in. It is not going to be an exciting hour. Ordinarily, I bring down charts and graphs and try to share something in a visual way that folks might not have seen before. Today, it is just words, because words matter.

Mr. Speaker, we have just finished in this Chamber this fantastic—you have heard me say it—it was a festival of democracy. Every Member who had an amendment, they brought them to the Rules Committee. We made over a hundred of them in order. It has been 3 days, Mr. Speaker, and we passed in a very bipartisan way Federal transportation policy for the first time in more than a decade. Democrats had failed to get it done. Republicans had failed to get it done.

We, as 435 individual Members representing diverse constituencies across the Nation, came together today and we got it done. They said it wouldn’t be done. Chairman BILL SHUSTER said it could be done. Ranking Member PETE DEFAZIO of Oregon said it could be done, and we did it.

Something has happened, Mr. Speaker, in this town that has people identifying as Democrats or Republicans first and as Members of this body, of the Article I legislature, second. It is bad. It is bad for the country, and it is bad for the people we represent. It is a bad process.

Mr. Speaker, that is what I want to talk about today. You can’t see the chart that I have here, but it is a quote from President Obama—you will remember it—back in August of 2013.

You will remember we worked together with the President. Nine different times, we repealed portions of the President’s healthcare bill. We repealed them. They were unworkable. He knew it. We knew it. We came together nine times. He signed legislation into law that repealed parts of the President’s healthcare bill.

It was the summer of 2013 and we were talking about how to come together on some of the bigger problems in the President’s healthcare bill. You remember the mandates were getting ready to go into effect—the business mandates, the individual mandates—and the country wasn’t ready. The country was not ready. We all knew it. Every Member, from left to right, Mr. Speaker, knew it.

The President held a press conference and he said this:

In a normal, political environment, it would have been easier for me to simply call up the Speaker and say: You know what? This is a tweak that doesn’t go to the essence of the law. It has to do with, for example, are we able to simplify the attestation of employers to whether they are already providing health insurance or not. It looks like there may be some better ways to do this. Let’s make a technical change to the law.

The President goes on to say, Mr. Speaker:

That would have been the normal thing that I would prefer to do, but we are not in a normal atmosphere around here when it comes to ObamaCare.

The President says:

We did have the executive authority to do so, and we did so.

Mr. Speaker, this was from that very contentious time trying to solve problems for the American people, again, problems the White House knew existed and problems the Congress knew existed.

The President says:

You know what? If it was ordinary times like any time in the past 225 years, I would have called the United States Congress and I would have said: “Listen, the Constitution gives you Article I powers to legislate, and I need a legislative change made because the law is not working.”

He didn’t, and he said he didn’t, and he said he wasn’t going to. He said he was going to go it alone. The disappointment in that decision, in this body, was very partisan, Mr. Speaker. It was very partisan.

I don’t know how we get past the allegiance to the President because he is from our party. Republicans did this when George Bush was in office. Democrats are doing this when President Obama is in office. It is not about who the President is. It is about what the President does.

What the President does is implement the laws that we pass. He doesn’t change the laws. And every time we fail on behalf of our constituents to stand together as 435 Representatives of the people and instead become Representatives of the Republican Party or the Democratic Party, we fail America.

Mr. Speaker, what I have here is the chart of the Supreme Court decision in