

yet that the Obama policies won't accomplish anything, all while working to undermine their effectiveness. We will then vote on H.R. 8, a fossil fuel giveaway that will do nothing to combat climate change, but only accelerate the problem.

The best solution to the climate threat is not these foolish votes and obstructionism, but an action that has the potential to resolve other controversial issues while addressing our major climate challenges.

It is past time for the Federal Government to enact a revenue-neutral fee on carbon emissions. This would not be an excuse to expand government spending and new programs, but instead simplify and solve current problems in a cost-effective manner.

Consider for a moment that high on the list of problems, in addition to climate change, is that almost everyone thinks we should fix our broken corporate Tax Code, avoiding the looming Social Security deficit, and streamlining the patchwork of uneven energy subsidy provisions.

A revenue-neutral carbon tax is a proven market mechanism to reduce the devastating carbon pollution. We could sweep away expensive and often conflicting clean energy subsidies and replace them with something much more effective.

We could use the carbon revenues not for new programs, but to eliminate the looming 25 percent cut in Social Security, acting quickly while a solution is more affordable and less disruptive to the lives of our seniors.

At the same time, we could adjust the Social Security tax downward to protect middle and lower income people from impacts of the fee, and we could boost small business, shielding them from part of the cost and lowering the payroll tax they pay, making it cheaper for them to employ people.

Finally, a portion of the revenues could be used to buy down the world's highest corporate tax rate that the United States currently has, which distorts business decisions and places us at a competitive disadvantage with other developed countries.

Think about it. We could solve the existential climate threat, make the tax system simpler, more fair, and effective, avoid the looming Social Security crisis, and shield individuals and small business from the undue impact from the carbon fee, while making our businesses more competitive. That is about as close as can you get to a non-partisan, nonideological, grand-slam policy home run.

Instead of policies of division and denial, it is time for us to come together to support a revenue-neutral carbon tax to solve multiple problems and meet our obligations to our children and grandchildren.

HONORING WILLIAM BOSTIC JR. AND DOUGLAS CLAYTON FARGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lives of two outstanding Americans who passed away in October. Both men were part of the Greatest Generation and served our country honorably during the Second World War.

William Bostic Jr., also known as Bill, passed away on October 30. He was a native of West Virginia, born in Renick in 1922, lived most of his life in Ravenswood in the Second Congressional District, and was the son of William Bostic Sr. and Nancy Lou Dale Bostic.

In 1943, he was called to serve his country, and serve it well he did. Bill served in the Pacific Theater, where he was injured in the line of duty.

On February 8, 1945, Corporal Bostic was serving as a member of an artillery liaison party when the enemy began attacking with rocket, artillery, and mortars in support of demolition units. Bill, with complete disregard for his own safety, left his foxhole and crawled to a point where he could better communicate with the supporting artillery.

After establishing communications, he was struck by enemy mortar fragments and, though seriously wounded, refused to leave his post until the enemy attack had been repulsed. His utter disregard for his own personal welfare and his devotion to duty assisted materially in the adjustment of artillery fire that broke up the enemy attack.

For this act of gallantry, Bill was awarded the Silver Star. During his 11 years of service to our country, he also earned six Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, and a Good Conduct ribbon, just to name a few.

Bill is survived by his wife of 65 years, Pauline Bostic. She still lives in Jackson County, West Virginia. He will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Douglas Clayton Fargo, Doug, is another true American hero who passed away.

Doug lived in Charles Town, West Virginia, for over 25 years. After graduating from high school, Doug enlisted with the U.S. Army and served from 1944 to 1946. He fought in nine major battles and was quickly elevated in rank from a private to a sergeant as he served under the great General George Patton. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge for his services.

In 1951, he was recalled to Active Duty and served another 2 years in the Korean war, where he received his field commission as a lieutenant. He led 11 combat patrols and was awarded a second Bronze Star and a second Combat Infantry Badge, as well as 18 other ribbons and decorations.

After his retirement, he remained active in the community and stayed involved with a number of veterans organizations, including the Korean War Veterans Association, Forty and Eight,

Kiwanis, and Military Officers Association of America.

Doug was preceded in death by his first wife, Maria Laura Mae Fargo, and his second wife, Eileen Fargo, as well as the last love of his life, Eunice Steed. Additionally, Mr. Fargo lost his grandson, Adam Joseph Fargo, on July 22, 2006, when he was killed in action while fighting in Iraq.

Doug will also be buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.

Bill and Doug were fantastic men who served their country and their communities with honor.

PARIS CLIMATE TALKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, this week, more than 40,000 negotiators from 196 governments have descended on the French capital for the Paris climate summit. This summit provides the world with a critical opportunity to take a significant step toward creating an ambitious and effective global framework for addressing climate change.

Climate change is no longer a problem for future generations. It is our problem, and we must act now. Paris gives us that opportunity.

The science demonstrating the reality of climate change advances by the day. In fact, 14 of the 15 warmest years on record have occurred since the year 2000, and 2015 is on track to be the warmest year of all.

No country, no matter how large or small, wealthy or poor, is immune to the detrimental effects we will face if we do not address this global climate crisis.

The good news is that there has been quite a bit of global action over the past few months leading up to the Paris summit. Nearly 180 countries, covering more than 95 percent of the global greenhouse gas emissions, have pledged to take steps to reduce CO₂ emissions.

A U.N. report shows that the pledges submitted so far represent a substantial step in global action that will significantly curtail the world's carbon trajectory.

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If those pledges are implemented, global warming would slow to roughly 3 degrees by 2100. While this isn't enough to meet U.N. targets, it is better than the 4- to 5-degree increase if nothing were done.

With such a significant and impactful opportunity in front of us, many eyes are on the U.S. What will we do? How will we act?

As the world's largest economy and the second largest emitter of carbon dioxide, we cannot stand by and do nothing. Thanks to President Obama, we have made real progress in advancing our goals of reducing emissions and improving our air quality.

Earlier this year the administration finalized the Clean Power Plan, which establishes the first ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from existing power plants. This is a plan that will prevent up to 3,600 premature deaths, 90,000 asthma attacks in children, and 300,000 missed workdays and schooldays, all the while creating tens of thousands of jobs and saving American families money on their energy bills.

Right now world leaders at the Paris Climate Summit are working to forge international progress on the climate crisis. So it comes as no surprise that my colleagues here in Congress are taking action on this important topic as well. Not so much.

In Paris, they are developing a road map to gradually reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In Washington, we are voting on resolutions that would nullify the only national plan we have to address carbon pollution.

In Paris, the burden of slashing greenhouse gases is being shared by everyone, not just the wealthy countries. In Washington, some, the majority, are reluctant to take any blame for this growing crisis.

This all makes perfect sense. Right?

At a time when the world is coming together to address one of the defining issues of our lifetime, some of my colleagues have decided to sabotage American leadership on this critical topic.

This is not what American families need, and this is certainly not what the world needs to see from a global leader.

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Knowing what's right doesn't mean much unless you do what's right."

We know we are running out of time to mitigate climate change. If we fail to take meaningful action now, that knowledge will mean nothing.

As with any global challenge, climate change will not be solved in one fell swoop. No single action, no single government, and no single summit will decisively address one of the greatest global threats our world has ever seen.

But Paris does allow us the opportunity to devise a common purpose to create a better world for future generations.

I urge my colleagues to do the right thing, vote against these harmful environmental riders on the floor this week, and allow America to be the leader on climate change.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OFFICER DANIEL N. ELLIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and note the "End of Watch" for Officer Daniel Ellis, originally of Campbellsville, Kentucky, and more recently of Richmond, Kentucky.

On November 6, Officer Ellis was suddenly and tragically killed while on

duty as an officer with the Richmond Police Department.

As a father of a young family, my heart breaks for his wife, Katie, and their 3-year-old son, Luke.

Officer Ellis was known by his friends and family to have a gentle spirit and a servant's heart. His death, while tragic, has united Kentuckians in honoring his service in Richmond.

My wife, Carol, and I were privileged to attend the memorial service for Officer Ellis on the campus of Eastern Kentucky University. Thousands of people lined the streets to show their support during his funeral procession.

Blue ribbons and wreaths adorned the windows of local businesses, and 7,000 mourners packed Eastern Kentucky University's Alumni Coliseum, including law enforcement officers from around the Commonwealth and the Nation, to honor the life of Officer Ellis, a life, as was noted during the service, that was devoted to justice, kindness, and service to others.

His death is a tragic reminder of the dangerous, selfless, and heroic work done by law enforcement officers and first responders each and every day.

I thank Officer Ellis for his service and devotion to our community. We celebrate and honor his life.

SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to respectfully share with my colleagues some of the thoughts and concerns shared by residents in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. These are heartfelt views expressed since we last met as a legislative body and voted on the passage of the American SAFE Act.

A passionate public discussion is underway about the role the United States should play during one of the greatest humanitarian crises of our time. I have received calls, emails, handwritten letters, texts, Facebook messages from fellow Texans back home.

Many have expressed clearly that they think that some of the enhanced security clearances for Syrian and Iraqi refugees really means that America's legacy as a Nation that shares its freedom and opportunity is in danger.

They have expressed their disappointment, sometimes anger, that we may be allowing our national security concerns to trump our Nation's history of standing for liberty and justice.

I will take a moment to share their thoughts and views to ensure my colleagues that we also consider their views when making any future decision about the Syrian refugee crisis.

One resident stated that voting for a pause in accepting refugees from Iraq and Syria may not slow down the trickle that arrives here, but it is a huge symbolic vote.

Another resident stated that the SAFE Act only makes it harder for good people to flee from danger and being used by ISIL, and his hope is that the Obama administration is able to provide what Congress needs to do its job and that good Members reconsider the SAFE Act and don't vote to override the President's impending veto.

Other residents, like one in Arlington, directly stated that this bill was wrong.

Let me be clear. I did not view the SAFE Act as a vote against Syrian or Iraqi refugees or the greater refugee community. But the constituents that I represent have sent a strong message that any action that does not effectively balance national security with our national values is off course.

We must remember that the Statue of Liberty is more than just a symbol of freedom. It is a symbol that America is committed to welcoming and protecting those who seek and need refuge.

Many of my Democratic colleagues have joined me in supporting legislation that echoes this sentiment. We have sent letters to the administration and agencies supporting refugees this past year.

I have cosigned a letter to President Obama urging him to convene international negotiations to stop the Syrian civil war.

I cosponsored the Protecting Religious Minorities Persecuted by ISIS Act of 2015. This legislation directs the Secretary of State to establish or use existing refugee processing mechanisms to allow those with a credible fear of persecution by ISIL for gender, religious, or ethnic membership to apply for refugee admission to the United States.

But we can do more, as a Congress, to support the goals of refugee resettlement and keep the American people safe at the same time.

If we vote to update the refugee resettlement program, we must also allocate appropriate funds to ensure that men, women, and children fleeing violence do not get caught in unnecessary bureaucracy.

As a Congress, we can give legislative teeth to security enhancements to the Visa Waiver Program implemented by the Department of Homeland Security earlier this year. We can fully fund the President's budget request for aviation security. We can support and expedite our efforts to expand preclearance capability of foreign airports around the world. Doing so will provide with us a greater ability to prevent those who should not be flying here.

I am committed to keeping Americans safe, but I know that doing so is not inconsistent with providing refuge to some of the world's most vulnerable people. To turn our backs on refugees would be to betray our values.

The United States is a welcoming country that knows diversity equals strength. Our resettlement program must continue to reflect this. Any legislation that challenges this legacy should be rejected.