

Beyer	Grayson	Nolan
Bishop (GA)	Griffith	Norcross
Blumenauer	Grijalva	O'Rourke
Bonamici	Gutiérrez	Pallone
Boyle, Brendan	Hahn	Pascrell
F.	Hastings	Payne
Brady (PA)	Heck (WA)	Pelosi
Brownley (CA)	Herrera Beutler	Perlmutter
Bustos	Higgins	Peters
Butterfield	Himes	Pingree
Capps	Hinojosa	Pocan
Capuano	Honda	Polis
Cárdenas	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Carney	Huffman	Quigley
Carson (IN)	Israel	Rangel
Cartwright	Jeffries	Rice (NY)
Castor (FL)	Johnson (GA)	Richmond
Chu, Judy	Kaptur	Roybal-Allard
Cicilline	Keating	Ruiz
Clark (MA)	Kelly (IL)	Ruppersberger
Clarke (NY)	Kennedy	Rush
Clay	Kilmer	Ryan (OH)
Cleaver	Kildee	Sánchez, Linda
Clyburn	Kilmer	T.
Cohen	Kirkpatrick	Sarbanes
Connolly	Kuster	Schakowsky
Conyers	Langevin	Schiff
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Schrader
Costa	Larson (CT)	Scott (VA)
Courtney	Lawrence	Scott, David
Crowley	Lee	Serrano
Cummings	Levin	Sewell (AL)
Davis (CA)	Lewis	Sherman
Davis, Danny	Lieu, Ted	Sinema
DeFazio	Lipinski	Sires
DeGette	Loeb	Slaughter
Delaney	Lofgren	Smith (WA)
DeLauro	Lowenthal	Speier
DelBene	Lowey	Swalwell (CA)
DeSaulnier	Lujan Grisham	Takai
Deutch	(NM)	Takano
Dingell	Luján, Ben Ray	Thompson (CA)
Doyle, Michael	(NM)	Thompson (MS)
F.	Lynch	Titus
Duckworth	Maloney,	Tonko
Edwards	Carolyn	Torres
Ellison	Maloney, Sean	Tsongas
Engel	Matsui	Van Hollen
Eshoo	McCollum	Vargas
Esty	McDermott	Velázquez
Farr	McGovern	Visclosky
Fattah	McNerney	Walz
Foster	Meeks	Wasserman
Frankel (FL)	Meng	Schultz
Fudge	Moore	Waters, Maxine
Gabbard	Moulton	Watson Coleman
Gallo	Murphy (FL)	Walters (FL)
Garamendi	Nadler	Yarmuth
Goodlatte	Napolitano	
Graham	Neal	

NOT VOTING—3

Aguilar	Johnson, Sam	Sanchez, Loretta
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□ 1731

Mr. WELCH changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CURBELO of Florida). The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

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

STOP THE RECKLESS POLICIES OF PRESIDENT OBAMA

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in using the

power of the purse to stop the reckless policies of President Obama that leave the citizens of the United States vulnerable. Americans overwhelmingly support this.

The FBI, DNI, and DHS have testified that they cannot fully screen the thousands of refugees that the President wants to bring in from Syria, Somalia, Iraq, and other regions with high rates of terrorism. Illegal immigrants from Syria, Libya, Somalia, and other hotbeds of terrorism continue to test the openness of our southern border. The loopholes in the screening of immigrants from hotbeds of terrorism are being exploited, and the administration opposes closing them.

This House has one chance, the end of the year appropriations bill, to end these dangerous policies.

This Member of Congress will vote against any bill rushed to the floor that fails to stop these reckless policies.

Let's put aside political correctness, criticism from foreign nationals that leave Americans vulnerable. This is our chance to stop future San Bernardinos, Parisés, Chattanooga, Garlands, and Ft. Hood. The lives of these American citizens are worth it. Indeed, they cry out for it.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, Marysville, Washington, October 24, 2015:

Andrew Fryberg, 15 years old.
Zoe Galasso, 14.
Gia Soriano, 14.
Shaylee Chucklaski, 14.
Charleston, South Carolina, June 17, 2015:

Susie Jackson, 87 years old.
Daniel Simmons, 74.
Ethel Lance, 70.
Myra Thompson, 59.
Cynthia Hurd, 54.
DePayne Middleton Doctor, 49.
Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, 45.
Clementa Pinckney, 41.
Tywanza Sanders, 26.

Navy Yard, Washington, D.C., September 16, 2013:

John Roger Johnson, 73 years old.
Kathleen Gaarde, 62.
Vishnu Pandit, 61.
Michael Arnold, 59.
Gerald Read, 58.
Martin Bodrog, 54.
Sylvia Frasier, 53.
Richard Michael Ridgell, 52.
Frank Kohler, 51.
Mary Frances DeLorenzo Knight, 51.
Mr. Speaker, my time has expired, but I will be back.

VENEZUELAN ELECTIONS

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

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, the people of Venezuela took to the polls and, in a loud, clear voice, deposed the Chavista ruling party from the National Assembly.

Polls leading up to the election indicated that a vast majority, 87 percent of Venezuelans, were dissatisfied with the direction that Maduro and his cronies were taking the country.

Maduro's policies have led Venezuela to having the hemisphere's highest inflation rate, causing critical shortages of food and medicine, as well as the collapse of the Venezuelan currency and rampant crime.

The newly elected coalition has pledged to make necessary reforms to get a handle on the economy. It has also promised to pass laws to release the political prisoners that have been unjustly arrested by the Maduro regime.

Sunday's elections were a watershed moment for the Venezuelan people, and it charts a new course for their destiny. However, there is still hard work that needs to be done to ensure a thriving, prosperous, and just Venezuela, at peace with itself and with its people.

I congratulate the Venezuelan people and the Venezuelan community in the United States on this momentous occasion.

FDA, DO YOUR JOB, BUT GET IT RIGHT

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the Food and Drug Administration has an extremely important job to make certain that our food is safe, but it is often misguided and overreaches in some of its regulations.

The FDA is considering a standard that would severely impact artisan cheese producers. They have proposed a safety standard that seeks to limit the level of nontoxicogenic E. coli found in raw milk cheeses.

The problem is there is absolutely no scientific connection between meeting that standard and improving food and safety. Yet, there is a very practical, burdensome impact on our artisan cheese makers.

It is why the ICMSF, the leading global food safety body, the European Union, and many U.S. food safety experts have argued that monitoring raw milk cheeses for nontoxicogenic E. coli is absolutely unwarranted. In spite of that international consensus, the FDA is forging ahead, and it is going to do real damage to our artisan cheese makers.

Artisan cheese makers already have rigorous protocols in place to ensure safety. That is why I led a bipartisan, bicameral group of colleagues in sending a letter to FDA raising concerns with this standard: FDA, do your job, but get it right.

POVERTY AND ITS IMPACTS ON AMERICAN FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CURBELO of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to thank my friend and colleague from New Jersey, Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN, for her tireless work on so many issues, and for allowing us to use the Congressional Progressive Caucus' time tonight to organize this Special Order on poverty and its impacts on American families.

Also, I would like to recognize my friend and colleague from Missouri, and thank our cochair of the Congressional Black Caucus' Poverty and Economy Task Force, Congressman CLEAVER, for his leadership on poverty, opportunity, housing, and so many issues that he cares about and has been a champion about for so many years.

Also, to our colleague and our good friend and whip, Mr. HOYER, his unwavering commitment is very evident in making poverty a priority for this body.

Also, to Leader PELOSI, I want to thank her and recognize her for her commitment to the most vulnerable, and for reminding us constantly that 20 percent of America's children continue to live below the poverty line.

So this evening, I rise as the chair of the Democratic Whip's Task Force on Poverty, Income Inequality, and Opportunity, and cochair of our Congressional Black Caucus' Task Force on Poverty and the Economy to call on all of our colleagues, and our country, really, to refocus our efforts on programs and policies in funding that help lift Americans out of poverty, but also to remember that there is a safety net that has to be preserved until we can do just that: People want to work; people want opportunity.

I invite all of our colleagues to join us tonight in creating a national strategy to eradicate poverty once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to hold my remarks and yield to my friend and colleague from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE), former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and member of the Education Committee and the Agriculture Committee. She has been, consistently, since she has been in Congress, and before she came to Congress, worked and spoke on behalf of the most vulnerable in our country.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I just want to say that there is no one in this Congress who works harder and puts in more time trying to find a way to come back and eradicate poverty than BARBARA LEE. It is my pleasure and my privilege to work with you every day. I have learned so much from you, and I just want you to continue to do the people's work, and I appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to address a topic that many of us know far too well, and that is poverty. I see its impact on the people of the 11th Congressional District every day.

My district has some of the Nation's most impoverished cities. The overall poverty rate is 28 percent. Out of the 435 Congressional districts in the United States, my district is one of the top 20 poorest districts in America.

Nearly 200,000 of my constituents live in poverty. I see and talk to poor people every day. Mothers and fathers without jobs, families with little to no access to healthy food or adequate housing, and children—yes, Mr. Speaker, children—who are in overcrowded classrooms with outdated textbooks.

Poverty is the source of our Nation's most persistent social and economic issues. It permeates our entire society and has victimized too many Americans for far too long.

We don't need another committee hearing on hunger or poverty to tell us what we already know. We know what the problems are and how to address them.

My colleagues and I have been proactive in finding solutions to eradicate poverty in this, the wealthiest country in the world. I have introduced bills supporting initiatives to feed children and families, fought to protect safety-net programs, and insisted Congress develop policies that create jobs that pay a living wage.

The majority in this House has not been a willing participant. Some Members believe that if you don't work, you are lazy. Others believe that poor people are looking for handouts.

Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker, none of that is true. The people I have spoken to are not looking for a handout. They simply need a hand up, a job to take care of their families and pay their bills. The dignity of work is what we all want.

□ 1745

We must put aside politics and pass policies that give everyone a fair chance at the American Dream. When we do not work together, our constituents suffer.

FDR said: "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

We must act now.

Ms. LEE. I thank the gentlewoman for her very powerful statement and for, once again, her leadership.

I want to remind this body that she has been such an active advocate on behalf of those needing that safety net of SNAP and food stamp benefits and for making sure that people have the right to eat in this country regardless of how much money they have.

Again, I thank Congresswoman FUDGE.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the ranking member on the Appropriation Committee's Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, on which I am honored to serve. Every day she is a champion on behalf of all of those who we are discussing tonight in terms of making sure they have an opportunity to live the American Dream.

Ms. DELAURO. I thank my colleague, Congresswoman LEE, for organizing this effort this evening. It isn't just this evening. Every day, 24 hours a day, in her heart of hearts, she knows what her mission is here. That is to make sure that there is a better life for our families and to make sure that there is a better life for our children. It is an honor to work with her on these issues.

Mr. Speaker, there is a saying that the strength of a nation starts with the strength of its families. The child tax credit was created in 1997 to help working families afford the expense of raising children. As we all know only too well, the cost of child-rearing goes up every single year.

According to the latest figures from the Department of Agriculture, the average two-parent, low-income household will spend more than \$218,000 per child up to the age of 18. Middle-income families will spend even more. We in this body have an obligation to do what we can to help households cope with these mounting costs.

Today the child tax credit helps improve the lives of some 38 million families. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, in 2013, the child tax credit alone lifted 3.1 million people out of poverty, including 1.7 million children. The child tax credit, together with the earned income tax credit, lift more children out of poverty than any other Federal program.

Thanks to the 2009 expansion of the credit, a household with two children and one full-time minimum wage earner receives a total credit of about \$1,812 per year. That is a real help to families who might otherwise struggle just to make ends meet. Unfortunately, each year, the value of that credit declines with inflation as the cost of raising a child increases each year.

In the last big tax deal, Congress made the estate tax cut both permanent and indexed to inflation. The beneficiaries of the estate tax are one-tenth of a percent of the people in this Nation. It strictly benefits the children of the wealthy. I don't want to deny them benefits, but I want us to consider the children in low-income families.