

and the proud father of two adult children; Ross and Ashley. Dr. Cain and Susan are looking forward to traveling and spending time with their four grandchildren.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable leader for his exemplary service and dedication to the State of Texas. I thank him for a job well done and I wish him the best of luck in the future as he enters into this new phase of life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2016, due to a family emergency I was absent for recorded votes 206 through 216.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here:

On Roll Call Number 206 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 207 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 208 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 209 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 210 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 211 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 212 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 213 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 214 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 215 I would have voted yes, and

On Roll Call Number 216 I would have voted no.

TOM RICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that Congressman TOM RICE of South Carolina, with his accounting and legal background, was recognized for his role in determining the unlawful implementation of Obamacare. The following article by Emma Dumain was published May 13, 2016, in the Charleston Post and Courier:

WASHINGTON—A federal judge on Thursday ruled the Obama administration was improperly funding a subsidy program of the Affordable Care Act, a victory for House Republicans who took the unprecedented action nearly two years ago to sue the White House.

U.S. Rep. Tom Rice argues that he's partially to thank.

The South Carolina Republican doesn't get much, if any, public credit for being the first member of Congress to broach the idea of filing a lawsuit against President Barack Obama on the grounds he was overstepping the limitations of the executive branch on health care, immigration and other issues.

But as Rice tells it, the seeds of the Obamacare lawsuit began with the resolution he introduced in December 2013 at the end of his very first year on Capitol Hill.

Rice became bothered by Obama's alleged circumventing of Congress that summer when the U.S. Supreme Court determined the penalties the health law places on individuals who don't buy insurance are protected by the Constitution, because they count as taxes.

Around that time, Rice, like other Republicans, was also reeling over Obama's decision to delay implementation of the so-called "employer mandate" which requires business owners to provide health insurance for their employees.

"I'm a tax lawyer," Rice told The Post and Courier, "so I knew that cannot be right. If the president can just willy nilly choose to waive a tax or enforce a tax, then his power is unlimited. He can say, 'well, I'm not gonna apply the highest tax rate this year. I'm not gonna apply the capital gains tax this year. I'm not gonna apply whatever.'"

So Rice consulted legal experts on what legislative remedies might exist to hold Obama accountable short of impeachment, which even the staunchest critics of the administration knew was a political minefield.

The result was the STOP Act, short for "Stop This Over-Reaching President Act." It authorized the House of Representatives to sue the Obama administration in any of the following areas: The delay of the employer mandate, the stays of deportations for certain children of undocumented immigrants, and changes in criteria for receiving welfare.

Rice took the resolution to then-House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

"I asked him to read it and to my surprise he came back to me within two hours," Rice recalled. "And he said, 'a lawsuit against the president? That's kind of radical, isn't it?' So I knew it wasn't going anywhere fast."

But momentum grew, with more co-sponsors signing onto the STOP Act every time Obama said or did something that perturbed the Republican base.

"I filed it right before Christmas of 2013. And over December the president said, 'I got a pen and a phone and if you all don't do what I want you to do I'm gonna do it myself.' And I got like 50 co-sponsors the next day," said Rice. "And then in January he gave the State of the Union address and he said, 'if you don't enact my agenda then I'm gonna do it myself.' I got 15 more co-sponsors."

As 2014 wore on, the pressure was growing on Boehner to allow the House to act.

"He was getting a lot of calls," said Rice, "so he called me in and said, 'I need you to help me market this but I'm going to re-file this resolution under my name.' So he did. He put my resolution aside and filed an entirely new resolution."

By July, the House voted to authorize a lawsuit in federal court challenging Obama's delay in implementing the employer mandate. It also targeted the cost-sharing program between the administration and insurance companies which Republicans say Congress never approved.

On Thursday, a federal district judge in Washington, D.C., ruled in the House's favor on that second point. The Justice Department has appealed the ruling, which sets up a prolonged legal battle. Rice said he still feels "vindicated."

"I'm happy that it moves towards restoration of the balance of powers that the framers set up in the Constitution," he said. "I'm sorry we had to go through this great lengths to make that happen."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately on May 23, 2016, I missed roll call votes 229 and 230 due to travel delays caused by inclement weather in traveling from Columbus, Ohio to Washington, D.C. On roll call vote 229, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on final passage of the Kelsey Smith Act, H.R. 4889. On roll call vote 230, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage of the Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act, H.R. 3998.

TAMILA BUTS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tamila Buts for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Tamila Buts is a 12th grader at Nationwide Academy (Home Schooled) and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tamila Buts is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tamila Buts for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PEARLAND HIGH SCHOOL'S FRED ARMSTRONG CELEBRATES 35 YEARS OF COACHING

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pearland High School Coach, Fred Armstrong for his 35-year career of coaching track and field.

Armstrong graduated from Beaumont French High School and Lamar University, where he attended school on a track scholarship. His first job was at Beaumont Charlton-Pollard High School, he then shifted to Clear Lake and Clear Brook High Schools. Eventually working his way to Pearland High School, Armstrong coached multiple state champions. Over his 35 year career in Track and Field, Armstrong has seen the sport evolve firsthand.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to recognize Fred Armstrong for his 35 years as a track and field coach and mentor to our area's

young athletes. Thank you for coaching some of the state's finest athletes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CARLOS CURBELO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on May 23, I missed votes on account of a family commitment in the district. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call 229: I would have voted Yea: H.R. 4889—Kelsey Smith Act.

Roll Call: 230: I would have voted Yea: H.R. 3998—Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST CELEBRATES THEIR 75TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. John's United Church of Christ for providing faith and fellowship to the Rosenberg community for 75 years.

St. John's United Church of Christ congregation has been a place of worship for generations. St. John's United Church of Christ had its beginnings in 1941 when Reverend William Luthé met in City Hall to develop plans for the beginning of an Evangelical and Reformed Church in Rosenberg. Since the church opened its doors, there have been six ministers and four interim ministers guiding their congregation in worship.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I want to congratulate St. John's United Church of Christ on its 75th anniversary. Thank you again for bringing faith, fellowship and worship to our community; we look forward to another 75 years.