

partner in the local community. It is a pleasure to have this outstanding company in North Carolina's Fifth District.

U.S. INCREASES TROOPS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA: WHEN WILL CONGRESS ACT?

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Drip, drip, drip, Mr. Speaker. That is the sound of U.S. escalation in Syria and Iraq. Yesterday, the Pentagon announced that the U.S. will send 217 additional troops to Iraq, pushing the official number of U.S. troops there to more than 4,000.

Mainly Army Special Forces, they will be embedded with Iraqi brigades and battalions. They will be stationed close to the front lines. They will include trainers and maintenance crews for the new deployment of Apache helicopters.

More U.S. commandos could also head to Syria, bolstering the roughly 50 Special Operations Forces advising and training rebel forces on the ground.

Just when is the House going to debate and vote on an authorization for deploying U.S. troops in Iraq and Syria?

When is the House going to debate these escalations that add more firepower and put more U.S. troops close to the front lines?

Our troops carry out their constitutional duties. When will Congress act and carry out its constitutional responsibility?

The American people are tired of endless wars. Putting these wars on remote control, with no debate and no votes, is shameful.

ENSURING INTEGRITY IN THE IRS WORKFORCE ACT

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

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, with tax day yesterday and millions of Americans feeling the sting of a burdensome government agency, the House will focus its efforts on giving taxpayers relief from the bureaucratic mess known as the IRS.

When the scandal broke that the IRS improperly targeted conservative 501(c)(4) groups, the Nation was shocked, but not surprised. After thorough investigations by Congress and unrelenting criticism by liberals and conservatives, several high-level officials resigned.

While the IRS can and has fired many low-level employees for other abuses and poor performance, a report by the IRS Inspector General found that many of the IRS employees were rehired.

That is why this week we are passing the Ensuring Integrity in the IRS

Workforce Act, which will prevent the agency from rehiring anyone who was previously terminated for misconduct.

Government employees, especially those in the IRS, who work with private and sensitive data of American citizens should not be given the chance to do it again.

This week the House will show the American people that we take our responsibility to stop corruption, misconduct, and abuse of power in the Internal Revenue Service seriously.

BUDGET RESOLUTION DEADLINE

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, last week the House Republican leadership blew past the deadline to adopt the budget.

Instead of coming together to enact a budget that invests in American jobs, grows our economy, and builds the paychecks of American workers, Republicans actually decided intentionally not to pass a budget at all.

Even worse, in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, 100,000 people can't drink their water because it has been poisoned by lead through decisions made by its own State government. It is in crisis.

There is a bill in the Senate and there is a bill in this House to provide relief to this great city during a disaster, and this Congress won't bring up that bill, nor will it bring up legislation to deal with the opioid epidemic or the Zika virus epidemic.

This is shameful. This is the Congress of the United States. We are supposed to do the work of the American people. We have people in crisis in my own hometown, and we can't get Congress to act, not on a budget, not on health for Flint, and not on Zika.

We need to do our job in the body of this United States Congress.

SUPPORTING THE TEXAS-LED CHALLENGE TO THE PRESIDENT'S UNILATERAL AMNESTY

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, this week the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the United States v. Texas case. This is the Texas-led challenge to the President's executive orders on immigration, a challenge that I strongly support.

By granting unilateral amnesty to 5 million illegal immigrants, the President has blatantly disregarded his duty to enforce our laws. Instead, he is trying to rewrite them altogether. It doesn't work this way.

Article I of the Constitution is clear. All legislative powers shall be vested in Congress. Erosion of this principle is a threat to the rule of law. That is why this challenge by Texas and other States is so important.

This fight is about asserting the will of Americans and defending the author-

ity of Congress. I am pleased that the House has voted to put its full support behind Texas and our Speaker. Lower courts have already ruled to halt the President's illegal amnesty.

On behalf of my constituents, I strongly urge the Supreme Court to do the same.

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CONGRATULATING J.W. OAKLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize J.W. Oakley Elementary School for their academic and civic accomplishments.

Over the past 18 years, Oakley's commitment to academic excellence has enhanced the lives of their students and earned them statewide recognition. Oakley has been recognized as a California Title I Achieving School and California Distinguished School. In doing so, Oakley has consistently placed among the top performing schools in our district, with a California Academic Performance Index score of 804.

Furthermore, their extraordinary participation in the Jump Rope for Heart program has helped raise over \$200,000 for research initiatives.

I would like to commend the hard-working administrators and teachers for their work—teachers like Maryann Vasquez-Moreno, an educator of 15 years, who in addition to preparing her students to succeed, also organizes yearly food drives during the holidays for her community.

I am delighted to recognize Oakley Elementary School for their commitment to our children.

COMMENDING U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL FOR ENCOURAGING WOOD USE IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, which I am proud to represent, has a deep heritage with wood products and timber industries. Wood is the ultimate green building material and should be encouraged for its environmental benefits.

Unfortunately, USDA's Bio-Preferred Program did not recognize wood products, despite the obvious benefits of using such material in buildings. Because of this, I authored the Forest Products Fairness Act of 2013. This legislation, which was ultimately included in the 2014 farm bill, modified USDA's definition of bio-based products to specifically include forest products.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the U.S. Green Building Council

in taking the next step with the recent changes to their Leadership in Energy Environmental Design, or LEED, green building rating system.

This change will encourage more use of domestic wood in building construction. The change includes lumber companies certified by the American Tree Farm System and landowners certified by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative or the Forest Stewardship Council.

This decision by the U.S. Green Building Council is another step in the right direction and will provide a boost to many across Pennsylvania involved in the industries that rely on our significant timber resources.

RECOGNIZING THE PAMELA SILVA CONDE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding south Floridian and her initiative, the Pamela Silva Conde Scholarship.

Having graduated from my alma mater, Florida International University, with a degree in broadcast journalism and a master's degree in business, Pamela understands the importance of higher education.

While Pamela calls Miami home, her work as a six-time Emmy Award-winning journalist has taken her all over the world. With her success, Pamela has made it a point to be civic-minded and engaged in our community, primarily on children and college education issues.

Always wanting to do more, Pamela founded the Pamela Silva Conde Scholarship, which focuses on assisting first-generation, low-income business or journalism majors and help them attend college.

Today I ask my Congressional colleagues to join me in honoring Pamela Silva Conde, and thank her for all that she has done and will continue to do for students in our south Florida community.

RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2016 North Carolina Teacher of the Year, Bobbie Cavnar, from my district in Gaston County.

Mr. Cavnar has spent the last 13 years teaching British literature at Belmont's South Point High School. He spent the last year receiving awards, tremendous awards, in fact. In May, he was named Gaston County's Teacher of the Year. Then, in December, he was named the best teacher for North Carolina's southwest region.

Mr. Cavnar's students describe him as an engaging teacher who asks your

opinion and values what you say and believe—maybe something we in the House could learn from—and the type of teacher who makes you want to come to school, perhaps the highest compliment you could pay to a high school teacher these days.

Please join me in congratulating Bobbie Cavnar, and thank him for his dedication to the students of Gaston County.

OBAMA CAN'T MAKE IMMIGRATION LAWS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the State of Texas argued before the Supreme Court that the President's executive amnesty violates Federal immigration laws and the separation of powers enshrined in the Constitution.

The Constitution is clear: Congress has the sole power to write laws, including immigration laws; and the President must faithfully execute the laws, whether he agrees with them or not.

In fact, President Obama has said dozens of times that he doesn't have the power to unilaterally rewrite immigration laws. However, when the House of Representatives refused to approve the President's mass amnesty policies, he violated his own words and acted alone.

The Supreme Court should uphold the rule of law and stop the President's unprecedented executive amnesty policies.

HEALTHIER ACT OF 2016

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Remote Area Medical is a nonprofit organization that sends teams of doctors and nurses to give free medical care to our Nation's poorest people. I am proud that it is headquartered in my district and founded by my constituent, Stan Brock.

RAM, as we call it, is world-renowned for its great work. For over 30 years, many thousands of people in the U.S. and worldwide have benefited from the free medical services provided by RAM's volunteers. RAM has been featured on 60 Minutes and recognized for its excellence by media outlets such as Time Magazine, BBC, and countless others.

I have introduced the HEALTHIER Act of 2016, which would give a financial incentive to any State that does pass, or already has passed, laws that enable groups like RAM to volunteer more easily across State borders to provide free medical services to our Nation's neediest. Unlike many recent

healthcare initiatives, this is not a Federal mandate. It uses funds already available and does not require new funding. It protects State's rights.

My bill makes those who can't afford good health care a priority. It unites them with people who are always searching for ways to help others. That is what health care is all about—helping others.

I ask my colleagues to cosponsor my legislation so that our doctors and nurses can volunteer their skills and expertise to help their fellow citizens who desperately need help and health.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 19, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 19, 2016 at 10:56 a.m.:

Appointment:
Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1206, NO HIRES FOR THE DELINQUENT IRS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4885, IRS OVERSIGHT WHILE ELIMINATING SPENDING (OWES) ACT OF 2016

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 687 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 687

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1206) to prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until the Secretary of the Treasury certifies that no employee of the Internal Revenue Service has a seriously delinquent tax debt. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114-47 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; (2) the further amendment printed in the report of the