

to the people there. They are suffering greatly. Now we have found cases in parts of Florida, including areas that my colleague, Congresswoman WILSON, represents, and areas around Miami Beach. More importantly, there are 2,000 Zika cases in the United States, 600-plus are pregnant women, babies not yet born; and 35 cases have been found to have been transmitted here in the United States—and yet fiddling is going on. Unnecessary riders are being included in something that should simply pass because it is an emergency.

Shame on those who would cloud legislation with preventing the health clinics that women need, run by Planned Parenthood, from getting money. Shame on those who would try to undermine the executive order about confederate flags in veterans cemeteries on official flagpoles. You have every right to put it at your personal grave, or the family does. How ridiculous, how undermining of our authority, our constitutional responsibility to govern this Nation.

I am saddened because the image that is being perceived is that we cannot do our job. We can. We have to be Americans united together, facing the emergency.

Many Americans are not focused on the Zika virus. I understand. It has been a time of summer and frolic and time with family. But most infectious disease doctors—the regional task force that I have organized: Dr. Hotez, an infectious disease doctor at Baylor who is well renowned; and Dr. Persse, a well renowned medical professional in public health; along with OB/GYN and State officials. I want to thank them for their work.

They are asking me: Where are the resources for mosquito control, for the research, for the vaccine?

Just so you know, the cost of a baby that has been impacted by this terrible disease is \$10 million.

IRS COMMISSIONER

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, and then on the question of our duties, why would there be any discussion to impeach or to suggest the impeachment of a public servant like the IRS commissioner, who I know has done nothing wrong, including the words of the inspector general who can find nothing wrong that this retired private citizen, who came to help turn the IRS around, who came way after the trouble was raised about targeting different groups—he had nothing to do with it. And yet someone is suggesting he should be impeached.

What are you going to do with Americans who sacrifice and say, I want to serve, and then you abuse them and abuse the power of this Congress and suggest some kind of an impeachment?

I have gone through impeachment proceedings. Read the Madison papers. There is no suggestion of misconduct or treason by this individual.

We can't impeach people because the IRS is some entity that most of us would find not a welcomed guest at our

dinner table. And then again, they do great work. They are a part of the structure of this government.

So I would ask the question: Why?

That is not oversight; that is abuse.

CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF THE CHIBOK SCHOOLGIRLS

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to celebrate the return of the Chibok schoolgirls. Many of you know that 200-plus girls were taken back in 2014, in Nigeria, snatched out of their beds, snatched out of a boarding school, abused, and taken by Boko Haram. Boko Haram, of course, is an ISIS cousin.

I want to acknowledge that FREDERICA WILSON, LOIS FRANKEL, and myself, we went to Nigeria when they were taken. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to celebrate those girls are back. But we are going to fight Boko Haram in every way that we can possibly fight.

Finally, congratulations to the University of Houston football team that beat Oklahoma.

MEDICARE PART B PROPOSED PLAN FOR DRUG REIMBURSEMENT

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of seniors in the First Congressional District of Georgia. Many seniors in the First Congressional District of Georgia and across the Nation battle medically complex diagnoses, including cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, severe immune deficiency, epilepsy, and macular degeneration. These Medicare patients face significant complexities in their care and treatment options.

This spring, I joined over 240 of my colleagues in sending a letter to CMS that expressed our deep concerns with a sweeping, nationwide experiment that the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation has proposed.

Patients and physicians in my district told me with no uncertainty that the CMMI experiment with part B drug payment will have negative consequences for millions of Medicare patients who depend on access to life-saving treatments to live better lives. Under the part B drug experiment, in many cases, Medicare payment for certain drugs would be significantly below a physician's acquisition cost for the drug. This will put patients at tremendous risk, potentially forcing them to abandon treatments for other treatments that have shown less success. Ultimately, CMS will manipulate choice of treatment for Medicare patients using heavy-handed reimbursement techniques that undermine any efforts by medical professionals who have dedicated their lives to treating complex conditions like cancer.

To make matters worse, CMS sought little to no stakeholder input, and has provided little turnaround time before medication treatment will be based on

cost, rather than what is best for the patient.

As a lifelong pharmacist, I trust clinically trained medical professionals to determine the best treatment for patients, not an unaccountable bureaucrat. Adding to the outlandish nature of this part B drug pilot project, there is nearly no escaping it. CMMI proposes to force nearly 75 percent of the country to participate in this Medicare drug experiment. 75 percent of the country is not a pilot project. It is near full implementation of a new program.

Just last week, CMS responded to the letter we sent them and simply thanked us for sharing our opinion. Such a brief and dismissive response is indifferent to the risk posed to our Nation's sickest patients and to this congressional body.

For all these reasons, I applaud my colleague from Indiana, Dr. LARRY BUCSHON, for sponsoring H.R. 5122 to prohibit CMS from moving forward with this dangerous, misguided experiment with seniors' lives. I proudly join him in his effort as a cosponsor of H.R. 5122 and encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

REMEMBERING GEORGE KOMELASKY

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, George Komelasky of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, was a friend and political colleague. His passing last month at the age of 66 was a personal loss that also leaves a gap in the township government where he served for 31 years. He was first elected in 1985, and he successfully was reelected just last year to another 6-year term.

At all times, George viewed his responsibilities in elective office as public service and performed intelligently and honorably term after term. Those with whom he served know he was conscious of his responsibilities to the taxpayers while providing necessary services that enhanced the quality of life in his hometown.

He was a leader who left his partisanship at the door and was viewed as a role model and also a mentor. Most of all, our friend, George Komelasky, will be remembered for his good nature and the values that guided his public and his private life.

MARGARET R. GRUNDY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize the 50th anniversary of the Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library in the borough of Bristol, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, we also acknowledge the legacy of United States Senator Joseph R. Grundy, who established this beautiful library on the banks of the Delaware River in the name of his sister Margaret.

This remains a privately funded public library with an ongoing mission:

opening doors, inspiring minds, and connecting community. Now in its milestone year, the library is a testament to the generosity and vision of Senator Grundy and Margaret Grundy and the dedication of those who followed.

The original mission has made this library a vital educational institution, valued by local and regional learners of every age. Grundy Foundation grants carry on the Grundy family legacy by continuing to improve the quality of life for residents of Bristol Borough and people throughout all of Bucks County.

The Grundy Foundation supports the Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library, the adjacent Memorial Museum, and countless local projects.

On October 6, 2016, the library will hold a public anniversary celebration with a reception and exhibition featuring historic artifacts, photographs, and primary documents.

Heartiest congratulations to all of those involved, past and present, who have carried on and enriched so many lives and will continue to do so for generations to come.

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LOUISIANA UPDATE

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give an update from home. I represent south Louisiana. A few weeks ago, we had a rainfall event that has been categorized as a 1,000-year storm.

Mr. Speaker, in some areas of south Louisiana we received 31 inches of rain. To put that in perspective, that would take 5 years for the city of Bakersfield, California, to achieve that number. That would take 10 years for the city of Yuma, Arizona, to receive that level of rain. For those Americans that haven't realized they can live in the pleasure of the subtropics and you live up north, to translate that to snowfall, that is the equivalent of a 25-foot snowstorm; a storm that leaves 25 feet of snow. This is categorized, again, as a 1,000-year event: 31 inches of rain in, in some cases, as short as perhaps 36 hours.

Mr. Speaker, we have areas that have never, ever flooded, never seen water, never retained or held water in any way, shape, or form, that dealt with several feet of water in their homes and businesses. In Livingston Parish, Louisiana, it is estimated that 86 percent of the homes and 91 percent of the businesses were flooded. This has been a devastating event for many folks in our community.

Mr. Speaker, as we move forward, certainly the Stafford Act, the Federal disaster law, has a role in helping our communities to recover. But what happened when this storm first came about and the flooding began is that it wasn't the Stafford Act or FEMA that came to

the rescue. It was our neighbors, it was our community, many of which were flooded themselves. They got their own boats and went out and rescued folks and rescued their neighbors to the tune of thousands and thousands of people rescued by what we deem the Cajun Navy. I had a chance to go out there in my own kayak and paddle board and rescue dozens of folks that were trapped in their homes.

Mr. Speaker, it didn't stop there. When shelters weren't open and weren't available, Cajun Navy shelters opened up. People just opened up their own homes and businesses to shelter those that were homeless. We had Cajun Navy chefs, many of which just for the first time deemed or designated themselves chefs, that cooked tens of thousands of meals not for compensation or because they were told to do so. They did it because we had friends and neighbors that were hungry and that were homeless. So we cooked for those folks.

And it didn't stop there. We had a cadre of folks that we deemed the Cajun Army that have come together and helped to gut and de-muck thousands and thousands of homes across south Louisiana, again, Mr. Speaker, not because they were compelled to do so by any requirement or compensation. They were compelled to do so out of their selflessness, out of their generosity, and out of their hospitality.

Mr. Speaker, we are now at a point to where the volunteerism, the hospitality, the generosity of our community is going to be exceeded. The needs are going to be greater than we can volunteer ourselves out of. We have thousands and thousands of homeowners across south Louisiana that are facing this scenario. They have a home that may be worth \$200,000 but, because it was flooded and is entirely gutted now, it may be worth just half that. They may have a mortgage balance that is in excess of the value of the home, which means they are upside down in their mortgage.

But that is not all. They have lost both of their cars, adding tens of thousands of dollars to the equation. They have to rebuild their home, which adds tens or maybe even six figures of liability. They have to replace their clothes, their wardrobe. And in some cases, their employers are under water; therefore, they don't even have a way of making money.

Mr. Speaker, we are not a community that sits around and asks for a handout. That is not what we do. But in this case, I will say it again: as generous, as hospitable, as selfless as our community has been, we are now at a point to where we are unable to address the needs. Again, the Stafford Act works in most disasters. This one is an anomaly. This is an extraordinary disaster.

I am looking forward to working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle moving forward on tailoring a recovery package for this region. This is

estimated or projected to be the fourth most costly flood event in U.S. history. It is an extraordinary event that, unfortunately, has not received the national media attention that most disasters of this nature would.

Disasters are awful. At some point, everyone in this country is going to experience some type of disaster—a flood, a tornado, a hurricane, an earthquake, a terrorist attack, or something else. When you have these catastrophic events, it is time for us to come together as a Nation to offer a helping hand. I am looking forward, again, to working with colleagues across the country to do that.

REMEMBERING JACOB WETTERLING

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Jacob Wetterling and offer my deepest prayers to his family.

Over the weekend, we learned of the tragic details and reached the awful end of this 27-year-long saga filled with grief, with hope, and with pain that moved Minnesota and the entire Nation. It was 27 years ago, Mr. Speaker, that Jacob was taken, kidnapped from a small rural Minnesota community, and went missing.

As a community, we extend our deepest sympathies to Jacob's parents, Patty and Jerry Wetterling. Throughout these 27 trying years, they have remained strong and became tireless advocates for children's safety. Their efforts have resulted in widespread awareness of effective measures to protect children, Federal legislation to monitor known and potential predators, and the founding of the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center to inform and prevent similar tragedies from impacting other families. They channeled their heartbreak to activism for the good of children and their families all across this country even as they grieved themselves. Because of their efforts, countless children have been saved from various forms of exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, while this is not the ending that we had hoped for after all these years, Jacob will never be forgotten, nor will his family's undying love and commitment to protecting our precious sons and daughters.

Jacob, may you rest in peace.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.