

measures that will reduce gun violence and save lives.

Keeping guns out of the hands of suspected terrorists and criminals—what can be more common sense about that? The vast majority of Americans certainly believe such policies are common sense.

Give us a vote, Mr. Speaker. Give Americans a vote.

#### A BETTER WAY TO FIGHT POVERTY

(Mrs. WALORSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the important work being done in Indiana's Second Congressional District to fight poverty and end hunger. This August I visited the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, which serves six counties and church community services in Elkhart. Both have been doing incredible work fighting poverty for decades.

I also toured the Washington Discovery Academy in Plymouth, where they have a garden to teach kids about nutrition and grow produce for a local food pantry, and the Marshall County Neighborhood Center, whose food pantry serves 400 families each month.

Mr. Speaker, hearing from those on the front lines of the fight against poverty is the best way to learn what works and what doesn't. That idea is central to our House Republicans' A Better Way agenda. Too many people are getting trapped in a cycle of poverty. That is why A Better Way calls for innovative and evidence-based solutions.

By listening to people in our communities and testing new ideas, we can build a bridge out of poverty.

#### HONORING THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE MARK TAKAI

(Ms. JUDY CHU of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, or CAPAC, I rise today to honor our colleague, the Honorable Mark Takai of Hawaii, who passed away in July after a hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mark was a true patriot, public servant, and friend who truly had the aloha spirit. His strong commitment to improving the lives of the people of Hawaii and all Americans was integrally woven into the fabric of his distinguished military and public service career.

In Congress, he led notable efforts to reunite Filipino World War II veterans with their families and to assist atomic war veterans suffering from radiation exposure.

It was a privilege to work with Mark, and I will never forget his warmth,

kindness, and strong dedication to bettering our community and our country. On behalf of CAPAC, I thank Mark for his lifetime of leadership and service.

Mahalo, Mark.

#### AMERICANS BELIEVE THE MEDIA IS BIASED

(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, a recent poll by Morning Consult found that only 27 percent of Americans believe the media is fair and unbiased. Americans know that the media is not impartial and that objectivity is not a priority when reporting on current events.

For example, the media has routinely ignored former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's wrongful use of a private server, her improperly handling classified emails, and her using the Clinton Foundation as a way for donors to receive access to both Clinton and the State Department.

The Associated Press recently reported that at least 85 of 154 donors to the Clinton Foundation were granted a meeting with then-Secretary of State Clinton. The New York Times did not find this newsworthy.

The national media should give the American people the facts, not slant the news or just give them one side.

#### ZIKA VIRUS

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, in the United States, the Zika virus is spreading faster and infecting more people every single day. We are staring down the barrel of a new Flint water crisis, yet we fail to act because we are arguing over a price tag while Americans are truly paying the price every day. The March of Dimes estimates that the cost of treating one child with microcephaly may be more than \$10 million over that person's lifetime.

Right now, according to the CDC, the Centers for Disease Control, over 14,000 people have been infected with the Zika virus right here in the United States so far, and 20 babies have already been born with birth defects.

Like Flint, the longer we wait, the more this will cost the American public. Congress must act immediately. We must get ahead of this epidemic and slow the threat of the Zika virus across the United States.

Whether you are White, Black, man, woman, a doctor, or a child, the virus does not discriminate. No one is immune.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. This Sunday marks the 15th anniversary of that horrific day when nearly 3,000 innocent people were killed. It was a despicable act of terrorism and one that we will never, ever forget.

Mother, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, and daughters who all went to work that Tuesday had their lives cut short by terrorists who attacked us merely because we believe in the principles of freedom, justice, and liberty for all.

Some of those who perished were the brave first responders who ran into the burning buildings as others ran out. Their heroism showed the world America's true colors—something that no attack can ever take away.

President Bush said that evening in his address to the Nation: "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of America's resolve."

Mr. Speaker, those words still ring true as we thank those first responders and mourn for all those who were lost that fateful day.

#### FLINT FUNDING

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, it is our job here in Congress to support communities in crisis.

It has been a year since we learned about the lead-contaminated water in Flint. It is way past time to act, Mr. Speaker.

We are here to call on our Republican colleagues to do their job and to address the urgent needs of the people of Flint. We have to consider funding a bill that will take care of the needs of the people in Flint.

This crisis happened when Governor Snyder ripped democratic rights away from the people of Flint and tried to run the government like it was a business. The State made decisions in the name of fiscal responsibility, but when it comes to people's health, the government should not be run on the cheap with people's health.

Funding from Congress can help Flint replace corroded pipes, support health and education assistance for kids exposed to lead, and deliver economic development opportunities for the community.

Earlier this year, I traveled to Flint with Representative KILDEE and 25 other of my colleagues to hear directly

from the people. Mr. Speaker, here are a few of the things that they said:

One woman spoke about the loss of dignity she felt while waiting in line just for water, and many others gave us important stories which I will put into the RECORD at a later time.

#### STORMONT HOUSE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, last month the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, which I co-chair, hosted a briefing by women from Belfast on the aftermath of the Northern Ireland conflict in which 3,500 people died, 90 percent of them men. Women survived to pick up the pieces.

The 1998 Good Friday agreement that ended the war protected human rights going forward but did not address the past, so the needs of victims of human rights violations committed by both sides are still unmet.

Women in Northern Ireland who have supported survivors have now developed gender principles for dealing with the legacy of the past. The 2014 Stormont House Agreement could help victims and survivors access truth, justice, and reparations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all those concerned with human rights, peace, and security in Northern Ireland to encourage the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland Assembly to fully implement the legacy parts of the Stormont House Agreement incorporating the gender principles.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 7, 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 September 7, 2016 at 9:41 a.m.:

Appointment:  
Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission.

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5063, STOP SETTLEMENT SLUSH FUNDS ACT OF 2016

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on

Rules, I call up House Resolution 843 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 843

*Resolved*, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5063) to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

□ 1245

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on House Resolution 843, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to bring forward this rule on behalf of the Rules Committee. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5063, the Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2016.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee and also provides a motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rule makes in order 7 of the 11 amendments submitted, representing ideas from Members on both sides of the aisle.

Yesterday, the Rules Committee received testimony from the chairman of the Judiciary Committee and the ranking member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law. Subcommittee hearings were held on both H.R. 5063 and on the topic of the Department of Justice's mortgage lending settlements with major lending banks. In May of this year, H.R. 5063 was marked up and reported by the Judiciary Committee. The bill passed the Judiciary Committee after the consideration of several amendments. The Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act went through regular order and enjoyed thorough discussion at both the subcommittee and full committee level.

H.R. 5063 is supported by the Institute for Legal Reform, Americans for Limited Government, and Americans for Tax Reform because it increases accountability for how settlement funds are spent and it helps to restore the balance of power between the branches of government.

The Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act was introduced after the nearly 20-month investigation by the House Judiciary Committee found that the Department of Justice was systematically circumventing Congress and directing settlement money to activist groups. This bill will help address that problem.

The power of the purse is one of Congress' greatest tools to rein in the executive branch and exercise oversight. It is no surprise, then, that this administration would want to find a way around that oversight and grow its authority. In fact, in the last 2 years alone, the Department of Justice has funneled non-victim third-party groups as much as \$880 million.

The Department of Justice does this by collecting money from parties who have broken the law and then use that money to create a slush fund, rather than sending the money to the victims of the illicit activity. The Department of Justice allows the "donations"—if that is what they are called—required under the settlements to count as a double credit against defendants' payment obligations. Interestingly, credit for direct relief to consumers is only counted as dollar for dollar, indicating