

on the Endangered Species List, despite the fact that no one is trying to list it. Placing an animal on the Endangered Species List is a scientific decision not within the purview of Congress, and the administration has promised not to list the bird anyway, thanks to a compromise conservation plan. So the provision that is holding up the entire bill not only blatantly prioritizes politics over national security policy, it is legally meaningless.

I think Speaker RYAN put it best earlier this month when he said that playing politics over the NDAA is “shameless, and it threatens more than five decades of bipartisan cooperation to enact a national defense bill for our troops. The men and women who defend our country deserve better.”

Well, Mr. Speaker, then your party is chicken for prioritizing talking points over national security.

The sage-grouse is such an important issue to House Republicans that it makes you wonder what they will do next to contain the serious national security threat. Perhaps we will soon hear calls to build a wall on the Canadian border to prevent sage-grouse from sending their chicks across the border, even though some, I assume, are good hatchlings.

We may then hear about a plan to prevent sage-grouse from entering the country altogether until we find out what is going on. Maybe the Republicans will ban sage-grouse mating dances as breeding grounds for—well, if not terrorism, then, at least more sage-grouse.

But, seriously, colleagues, is this really what our constituents are most concerned about?

It is time to focus on passing a bill that provides accountability on defense spending to taxpayers and is in line with the Bipartisan Budget Act. Our inability to overcome this pointless provision is just further evidence that this Congress is for or, in this case, against the birds.

UNHCR'S BASH ISRAEL DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this week, world leaders are gathering in New York for the United Nations General Assembly, and throughout this whole process we are reminded yet again of just how broken the U.N. system really is.

Nowhere is this more evident than at the U.N. Human Rights Council. What a misnomer. This body that is supposed to promote and defend human rights worldwide has become a tool used by human rights abusers. And the office that provides support to the Council, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR, is no better, as it is overrun with an anti-Israel bias and an anti-Israel agenda.

We see this play out each time the Council meets for its Bash Israel Day—

yippee—a day dedicated to permanent Agenda Item 7, the only agenda item of the Council devoted to a single country, Israel.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Council. In those 10 years, Mr. Speaker, there have been over 70 resolutions condemning Israel and about 65 resolutions for all of the other countries combined. Seventy on Israel, 65 for every other country. Countries like China, Russia, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Cuba use the Council as a way to detract attention from their abuses and play upon the natural anti-Israel bias at the Council and the OHCHR.

So tomorrow, when the Council meets to discuss Agenda Item 7, it will be another Bash Israel Day that the administration failed to prevent. It will be another example of how this administration's influence fails to protect our friend and ally, the democratic Jewish State of Israel.

Instead of continuing to legitimize this sham of a body, Congress must withhold all contributions and participation at the Council and to the OHCHR, and call for the dissolution of the Council. The administration must press the High Commissioner to denounce Agenda Item 7 and work against the inherent anti-Israel bias of the Council and the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights.

Earlier this year, Canadian Professor Michael Lynk was appointed as the Special Rapporteur for the Palestinian territories, despite his obvious bias and conflicts of interest, which we now know he lied about in his paperwork. This selection was so egregious that Canada's Foreign Minister from Professor Lynk's home country urged the U.N. to reconsider his appointment. The administration should echo those calls, but, instead, it has been silent.

The administration should also lead an opposition to the upcoming reelection next week of Jean Ziegler as an adviser to the Council. Ziegler is a notorious puppet of the Castro regime and an avowed defender of dictators and apologists for Islamic extremist groups and had no business being elected the first time around, let alone being reelected.

The Obama administration had an opportunity to block his candidacy while serving as the coordinator for the Western European and Others Group this year at the Council, but failed to do so; and now it looks as if Ziegler's reelection is a done deal, thanks to the administration's failure to act.

The administration, Mr. Speaker, continues to argue that only by being engaged and only by being full members of the U.N. can it advance our interests and protect Israel. Yet, next month, UNESCO is set to adopt a resolution that seeks to whitewash the Jewish and Christian religious and historical ties to Jerusalem. And while we might not be voting members of the full UNESCO body, this administration is an active member of UNESCO's exec-

utive committee, where this resolution was first approved.

Where was our influence then?

We can't even prevent a resolution that wipes away Jewish and Christian ties to Jerusalem, despite these being historical facts. It is very apparent that either the administration has no influence at the U.N. or the administration has no desire to upset the entrenched and damaged status quo.

That is why it is up to Congress, Mr. Speaker, to force the change at the U.N. I urge all of my colleagues to take a long, hard look at the Human Rights Council as a representation of all that is wrong and bad with the U.N., and to make reforming the U.N. a priority going forward. It will be up to us.

COMMEMORATING THE 1956 HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to engage in a colloquy with my very able colleague from Florida, Congressman DENNIS ROSS. And perhaps as we begin, we can welcome into our midst the very able Ambassador from Hungary to the United States, Ms. Reka Szemerkenyi.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS).

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for yielding. And I do wish to say hello to our good friend from Hungary, Ambassador Szemerkenyi.

I am grateful, quite frankly, to have this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, as I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution and Freedom Fight.

Sixty years ago this October, Hungary stood tall in the shadows of communism and said: Enough is enough—eleg volt. Hungarian schoolchildren and college students took up arms against the totalitarian government and its Soviet policies.

On October 23, 1956, approximately 20,000 protesters convened next to the statue of General Jozef Bem, a national hero of Hungary. Despite orders to disband, protestors tore down a 30-foot bronze statue of Stalin near the city's Heroes' Square.

The following morning, power was consolidated and a new multiparty government was formed. The Hungarian Revolution spread like wildfire throughout the countryside.

On November 1, Prime Minister Imre Nagy announced Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact and a declaration of neutrality. Embarrassed by the uprising, the USSR sent Soviet tanks and troops across the Hungarian border. Unfortunately, thousands of Hungarian civilians were killed, and the communist-backed government in Budapest was reinstalled.

In the months that followed the Hungarian Revolution, more than 20,000

Hungarians were imprisoned, 229 were executed, and more than 200,000 were forced to flee across the world.

Many of the Hungarians, named “56ers” because of the year that this happened, sought new lives in the United States with the help of Hungarian Americans, many of whom live in my good friend, Ms. KAPTUR’s district.

My own parents were married in the Hungarian Catholic Church, St. Emeric, also located in Ms. KAPTUR’s district. And as a child and grandchild of Hungarian Americans who helped 56ers, I am honored to sponsor this resolution with my good friend from Ohio in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

I would like to thank my Hungarian American Caucus co-chairs: Ms. KAPTUR, ANDY HARRIS, and DAVID JOYCE.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for organizing this event this morning, and I wish to also say that the 1956 Hungarian Revolution was a breakpoint historical event that marked a turning point in the cold war.

It took great courage by those who participated during that unforgettable period as freedom fighters in Budapest and across that country stood tall in opposition to the communist-installed Hungarian people’s false government and its Soviet-imposed repression.

□ 1030

You can travel to Budapest, Hungary, today, and you can see the bullet holes and the tank markings in some of the old, old buildings in that country. We know over 2,500 Hungarians died, 20,000 were imprisoned, and over 200,000 more fled as refugees.

Congressman ROSS has referenced certain individuals in my own region. Some of those refugees came to Ohio, including men like Reverend Martin Hernady, who ministered his entire life in Ohio serving the Hungarian diaspora, and the Ujvagi family of Toledo, whose compassion, patriotism, and genius have meant so much to our community and to me, personally.

In October and November of 1956, the country at the heart of the European Continent underwent 3 weeks of political turmoil that shook the region and exposed the ideological fissures behind the Iron Curtain.

The movie, “Torn From the Flag,” I recommend to all of our colleagues. It gives people living today a sense of what happened during that fateful period.

During the 60th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and its freedom fight, we commemorate tens of thousands of Hungarians who took to the streets to protest the heavyhanded invasion by the Soviet Union. Their heroism is legendary, and it has made a difference in world history. They showed a united front and one that called upon their government to promote democratic ideals and unification.

This moment in time was encapsulated in a statement by the then-director of the Hungarian News Agency just before his untimely death in the revolution. He said: “We are going to die for Hungary and for Europe.”

In the years since the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, Hungary has made progress toward democratic reform and has since become a member of the European Union and NATO. Its award of Nobel Prizes in every single scientific and cultural field is a testimony to the talent and to the abilities of the people of that country.

So like Congressman ROSS, as co-chair of the Congressional Hungarian Caucus, I remain dedicated to continuing channels of cooperation to further these efforts and to ensure that the principles of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution are fully realized.

I think the Partnership for Peace initiative between our respective militaries is a foundation stone to build our continuing relationship forward and support the revolution recognizing this important moment in world history in the 20th century.

May I say, long live liberty and long live Hungary.

I thank the gentleman, all the members of our Congressional Hungarian Caucus, and, again, I thank the Ambassador from Hungary for being here with us today and all of our colleagues for listening.

FATHER PATRICK RYAN

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and work of Father Patrick Ryan.

Father Ryan, the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul’s parish in Chattanooga from 1872 to 1878, was a shepherd who gave his life in ministering to his flock. He died a martyr’s death in the yellow fever epidemic of 1878 when he was only 33 years old.

Perhaps his most notable accomplishment in the Chattanooga community was the opening of Notre Dame Academy, under the direction of the Dominican Sisters, which is the oldest private school in the city. The school had been in operation for little more than 2 years when it had to be converted into a hospital and orphanage because of the terrible yellow fever scourge in the city.

Although many people left the city as the disease spread, Father Ryan and Jonathan W. Bachman, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, were among the 1,800 people remaining in the city. They were good friends, and when Father Ryan was stricken, he was visited by Dr. Bachman.

Father Ryan is described by an eyewitness as “going from house to house in the worst infected section of the city to find what he could do for the sick and needy.” He continued ministering

to his flock, after he himself had contracted the dreaded disease, to within 48 hours of his death.

In 1901, when the Chattanooga Council of the Knights of Columbus was organized, it was named the Father Patrick Ryan Council in honor of the priest who, by his high ideals, his devotion to duty, his spirit of sacrifice for his congregation and his city, seemed to exemplify the aims and purposes of the new order.

Several letters have been written in support of the cause of beatification and canonization of Father Patrick Ryan, including the Notarial Act of the Bishop of Knoxville, the Most Reverend Richard Stika; the letter naming Reverend J. David Carter as Episcopal Delegate and Promoter of Justice for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization; and a letter naming Deacon Gaspar DeGaetano as Vice Postulator for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization.

I believe it is most appropriate to honor a man who sacrificed himself to provide comfort to the people in Chattanooga who were afflicted with yellow fever so long ago.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a crisis in our communities and our country. I have watched in horror, day after day, as people of color are shot by the police officers sworn to protect them.

Now, we all know that the vast majority of law enforcement officers are committed to serving their communities, and many do incredible work despite dangerous and sometimes life-threatening conditions. I commend all of those speaking out and working against the injustices of some. Tragically, as we have witnessed in Dallas and Baton Rouge, innocent police officers have been the victims of violence as well. However, these tragedies do not change the underlying reality that our criminal justice system is broken.

Since Michael Brown was shot in Ferguson 2 years ago, 2,195 people have been killed by police in our Nation. As a mother of two Black men and the grandmother of five Black grandchildren, I worry that someone I love could become number 2,196.

Each time we lose a precious life to fear, distrust, and prejudice, the list of things that will get you killed as a Black person in America gets a little longer. Today I want to spend a little time going through that list.

Now you can get killed for going to buy a bag of Skittles, like Trayvon Martin; or even get killed for riding on New Year’s Day, for instance, in the subway in the Bay Area like Oscar Grant. This is a subway card. Or maybe you can get killed for selling cigarettes, like Eric Garner. Or you can get killed for selling CDs, like Alton Sterling. This is a CD. You can also be