



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

No. 164

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

November 16, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2016, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, it has been 32 years since we have experienced a single month with a temperature below the 20th century average. We are now all but certain that 2016 will be the single hottest year on record, replacing 2015 and 2014, which both held that title before it.

As we stand here today, representatives from 195 nations, including our own, are meeting in Morocco to discuss how the world will move forward to im-

plement the historic Paris Agreement forged last December.

Yet, in that same 1-year span, the President-elect used his campaign for our country's highest office to promote policy ideas that would not only pollute the planet, but expose millions of Americans and billions worldwide to loss of life, livelihood, and property.

If these dangerous ideas are put into action, they will imperil the unique and fragile ecosystems that make the United States a wonder of the world, and saddle our economy with potentially trillions of dollars in increased health care, disaster recovery, and adaptation costs, all while preventing American businesses and consumers from realizing the economic opportunities of a low-carbon economy.

We have heard from the next Commander in Chief that climate change is a hoax concocted by the Chinese, which is beyond absurdity. Climate change is real, it is happening, and it is man-made. The science is settled with 97 percent of climate scientists in strong, steadfast agreement.

Just take a look at the last month here in the United States. In October, more than 5,600 all-time high temperature records were set. Only 350 all-time cold records happened in the same time span. In a stable climate, these numbers would be about even. We do not have a stable climate.

Our next President has also claimed that climate change action is costing our country money when, in fact, the opposite is true. Independent analysis has demonstrated that President Obama's Clean Power Plan could save the United States more than \$20 billion a year in decreased costs related to climate impacts, and will put more than \$80 a year back into the pockets of everyday Americans in decreased energy costs by 2030; not to mention the economic activity that would be spurred by the creation of thousands of new clean energy jobs.

The Federal Government has also found that damage to human health, agricultural losses, decreased biodiversity, and the physical impacts of sea level rise, drought, wildfires, and other climate impacts will cost more than \$150 billion a year in the United States alone.

We have heard talk about bringing back coal and creating new coal jobs, like it is flipping a switch. The fact is, though, that the economic decline in the coal industry and in the coal communities is driven by market forces, not government policy.

While coal is still our dirtiest form of fuel, it is no longer our cheapest. Natural gas has now overtaken coal and, in some cases, even renewables like wind and solar have become cost-competitive. Coal is in decline because, increasingly, consumers no longer want it.

And thanks to technological advances in the industry, it takes fewer people to mine more coal. Coal jobs in West Virginia have been declining since the fifties, long before any existing climate policy.

At the same time, as extractive industries continue to slash jobs and profits, the solar industry alone has more than doubled its domestic workforce in the last 5 years and now employs more people than coal. Jobs in renewable energy exist. They are increasingly available, they pay well, and they cannot be outsourced.

Finally, there has been talk about canceling the historic Paris Agreement and reneging on our international pledges to join the world in acting on climate change. Doing so would abdicate our position as a global leader, and it would allow our international rivals like China to set the terms of the new global economy to benefit them, at the expense of our people and our businesses.

The fact is, our climate is changing and will only continue to do so. We

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H6241

cannot afford inaction. We cannot afford to undo the progress we have already made.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand up for coastal communities, farmers, vulnerable people all over the world, and future generations to not fall victim to the self-serving propaganda from those who seek to profit by polluting the world.

To defend the work we have done, we must meet the challenge of the global call to act on climate. Regardless of who sits in the Oval Office, we must continue to fight for commonsense action in Congress that will address the pressing environmental threats of today in order to create a more sustainable future for tomorrow.

No partisan rhetoric or repudiations of fact can stand in the way of our important work to fight and win this battle.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. JENKINS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, time is running out to do right by our retired coal miners and their widows. When they went down into the mines, they were made a promise: When you retire, you will have good pensions and healthcare benefits.

They literally put their lives on the line to put food on their table and power our nation, but now that promise is in jeopardy.

At the end of the year, the healthcare benefits for many miners and their widows will dry up, and their pensions could end soon as well. These families are worried about making ends meet, and they are going into the holidays with great uncertainty about what the new year will bring.

We have a solution. It is called the Coal Healthcare and Pension Miners Protection Act, legislation which I am proud to cosponsor. It is a bipartisan bill, and a similar bill is actually pending in the Senate.

Congress needs to act to fulfill this promise. Our miners have done so much for our country. They mined the coal that made the steel that built the skyscrapers and won world wars. These miners and their families deserve no less than what they worked their entire lives to earn: the peace of mind that comes with a pension.

I urge my colleagues to keep the promise and support this important legislation. Time is running out to stand up for our miners and their families.

RELIEF FROM PRESIDENTIAL MIDNIGHT RULES

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, in just 64 days, a new President will be sworn in. That is 64 days for the current President, President Obama, to jam through new regula-

tions; new regulations that will hurt our families, kill our jobs, and continue damaging our economies.

We saw that just this morning when his administration released the final environmental study for the stream buffer zone rule. This rule continues the administration's war on coal and will take it even further down the road of killing jobs in West Virginia.

Congress and the States have all issued opposition to this rule, but this administration didn't listen. It is full steam ahead for this radical agenda and overregulation from the Obama administration.

That is why I am proud to support what is known as the Midnight Rules Relief Act. We are voting on it this week.

This bill is simple. It gives Congress the authority to review and reject rules that this President, President Obama, or any President issues during the final months of their term.

American families and businesses have suffered long enough under this administration's, this President's regulatory onslaught, and they have spoken loud and clear at the polls that they do not want more business as usual from Washington.

This administration cannot be allowed to force its job-killing regulations on the American people after their policies have been so soundly rejected.

I urge my colleagues to join me in standing up against midnight rules and bringing transparency and accountability back to our Federal agencies.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAMON "CHUNKY" SANCHEZ

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ramon "Chunky" Sanchez, an exceptional musician and activist for the community of San Diego. Chunky Sanchez passed away on Friday, October 28, 2016, a few days before his 65th birthday.

Chunky Sanchez was born in 1951, in Blythe, California, to Mexican immigrant parents. He was a talented musician who was taught traditional Mexican music by his mother and his uncles. Chunky Sanchez quickly learned how to sing, play 10 different instruments, and compose his own music.

In 1969, he attended San Diego State University on a scholarship and began performing with La Rondalla Amerindia de Aztlan, a noted musical group composed of students and professors. Later, Chunky Sanchez became a vocalist for the folklore group Los Alacranes, the Scorpions, which he co-founded along with his brother, Ricardo. They recorded their first album in 1977.

Through his music, he would tell the story of the Chicano movement and of

the Mexican American bicultural experience. Chunky Sanchez was so well received that labor leader Cesar Chavez would often invite him to play at his union rallies.

Chunky Sanchez was also an incredibly active member of the San Diego community. In his song "Rising Souls," he sang that he needed and we needed "to educate, not incarcerate, so that humanity will shine."

During his lifetime, he embodied these lyrics as he worked with local youth as a coach, an educator, a youth center director, and a gang intervention counselor. His passion and care for the community garnered numerous awards and honors from organizations across California and throughout the city of San Diego.

Chunky Sanchez is best known for his song "Chicano Park Samba," which narrated the struggle for and the successful creation of Chicano Park in San Diego. A city historic landmark, Chicano Park honors the history of the Chicano Mexican people throughout their monumental works and murals and sculptures and earthworks, and an architectural piece.

Ramon "Chunky" Sanchez will be missed by his family, his wife, his five children, many grandchildren, and the San Diego community.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the lyrics of the "Chicano Park Samba."

CHICANO PARK SAMBA

(By: Los Alacranes Mojados: Chunky Sanchez, Ricardo Sanchez, Mario Aguilar, Marco Antonio Rodriguez)

In the year the year 1970, in the city of San Diego, under the Coronado Bridge, lied a little piece of land, a piece of land that the community of Logan Heights wanted to make into a park . . .

A park where all the chavalitos could play in so they wouldn't have to play in the street and get run over by a car . . .

a park where all the viejitos could come and just sit down and watch the sun go down in the tarde . . .

a park where all the familias could come and just get together on a Sunday afternoon and celebrate the spirit of life itself.

But the city of San Diego said, "Chale. We're going to make a highway patrol substation here, man."

So on April 22nd, 1970, la raza of Logan Heights and other Chicano communities of San Diego got together, and they organized . . .

and they walked on the land, and they took it over with their picks and their shovels and they began to build their park.

And today, that little piece of land under the Coronado Bridge is known to everybody . . . as Chicano Park . . . ¡Órale!

It began in 1970, under the Coronado Bridge En mi barrio, in San Diego

Where my people began to fight

For Chicano Park, for Chicano Park

Under the bridge, under the bridge, under the bridge . . .

We shall continue to live my brother,

We shall continue to fight my friend

For Chicano Park, under the bridge . . .

¡Raza!, ¡Que vivan, que vivan, Los barrios unidos!

Por Ramon 'Chunky' Sanchez.