

discharged from the Army on October 23, 1953. He received a National Defense Service Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Korean Service Medal, with two Bronze Stars for his service. Mr. Rothstein took great pride in his service to our country and requested to be buried with his military medals. He received a military funeral at the Sinai Chapel in Fresh Meadows, Queens.

After being discharged from the war, Mr. Rothstein brought his work ethic to Local Union 3 IBEW and the New York Hotel Trades Council as an electrician. Anyone would be proud to know someone as dedicated to their community as Leonard.

Mr. Rothstein has been described as an unassuming, kindhearted person who rarely had a bad thing to say about anyone. He traveled with his wife, Gus, to every State in the Nation by bus, train, or plane since they didn't drive. Mr. Rothstein was beloved by his family, and is survived by his wife, his sister, his two sons, his five grandchildren, and great grandson.

I am happy to stand here today as Mr. Rothstein's representative to express my gratitude for his bravery in service and his hard work as a union member. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing one of our Nation's veterans, and offering condolences to his family during this time.

CONGRATULATING GENERAL JIM MATTIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that President-elect Donald Trump has made another excellent appointment in selecting General Jim Mattis to serve as Secretary of Defense to rebuild our military.

A recent article in The Wall Street Journal notes, "General Mattis has seen the cost of wars enough to want to deter them, but he also knows that if you fight them you need to do so with the force and will to win."

President-elect Trump stated that General Jim Mattis is "the closest thing to General George Patton that we have."

The recent service of General Mattis in the Middle East makes him uniquely qualified to address threats to service-members overseas and American families here at home. With General Mattis serving as Secretary of Defense, our military will continue to be the best fighting force in the world, our men and women in uniform will be supported, and our military families will be protected. As a 31-year veteran and the grateful dad of four sons who have served overseas in the global war on terrorism, I am confident that our goal of peace through strength will be achieved under the leadership of General Jim Mattis.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS STILL BARACK OBAMA

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I just got a call from a reporter about a tweet, which the President-elect has made, canceling the contract with The Boeing Company and the Federal Government to build Air Force One. Now, the last time I looked, I think that the President of the United States is still Barack Obama. He will be President of this country until the 20th of January.

What we have right now is a President-elect running around the world with his tweet bar making statements that are disruptive and distractive for the American public. He calls Taiwan and raises questions about our relationship with China as though he were the Secretary of State, but he has not even found anyone to do that job. He should be in the transition office figuring out how he makes a smooth transition of the American Government from the efficiently run government of Mr. Obama to his administration, not making the decisions himself and going out and announcing them through his tweet at 3 a.m. because he can't sleep.

This kind of operation is the operation of somebody who is used to running a big business. When he is president of Trump casino or Trump Tower, he can act like that. He can come in and say: Do this, do that, do this, do that.

I don't know if he understands, Mr. Speaker, that you and the House of Representatives are the ones who made the contract and appropriated the money for that plane. That is the democratic process of this country. It is not done by the President getting up in the morning and tweeting out 147 characters and ending a contract with hundreds of jobs at risk of people in my district, good hardworking Americans.

He will go down to Indianapolis, Indiana, and walk around and say: I have saved 1,000 jobs.

We still haven't seen the contract. We don't know what the deal is, how long the jobs have to last, or how many of them have to last. We don't know anything. We just know that a tweet went out that: We have. And then he went and did a big rally down there and did a victory lap, but there is no piece of paper.

Mr. Speaker, if I were to make a recommendation to the people in Indianapolis, it would be: Talk to the Indians, to the Native Americans, about the treaties that have been made with the United States of America and how good they are and how hard you have to fight to make those treaties work.

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He made a treaty with Carrier, which will get \$7 million from Indiana. Vice President Pence will give \$7 million from Indiana to Carrier, and then maybe there will be some kind of—no one knows what is going on, but the President-elect should spend his time in the transition office and decide who is going to hold the jobs that will make this country run. This is not going to be run by one man in the White House who makes pronouncements and thinks that all the world is going to throw itself down on the ground and worship him.

We have a democratic process, and the burden on the House of Representatives, as I leave it—I mean, in some ways, I am sorry to be leaving because I think it is going to be a very tough session—is to help the new President understand how a democracy actually works. It is not a big business; it is a business of the people. The 435 Members of this House take the money that comes in in taxes, and they appropriate it out as they see fit for the country. The President doesn't do that. When the Congress is done, it passes the bill to him, and then he spends the money as the Congress has decided it should be spent.

If you look at the Constitution—I am sure the President-elect has looked at the Constitution—the first Article is the Congress. We are the preeminent body in this government because we are elected by the people, and we have the power.

Stop tweeting, Mr. President-elect.

21ST CENTURY CURES

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

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the 21st Century Cures Act, a bill that recently passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support.

I am proud that the package includes provisions for robust medical research, funding to combat opioid abuse, and support for individuals who struggle with mental illness and who are trapped in the criminal justice system. Reforming and modernizing our Nation's mental health system has been one of my top priorities. It is imperative that we help those who are struggling with mental illness get the help they need. Many tragedies can be prevented if the proper support structure is in place.

As part of the reform efforts, I was proud that legislation authored by Representative TIM MURPHY, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act, which I strongly supported, was incorporated into 21st Century Cures. I had the opportunity to host a roundtable earlier this year in south Florida, with my friend from Pennsylvania and local stakeholders, to discuss mental health and the benefits of this important legislation.

The passage of 21st Century Cures also represents an important step toward the discovery and development of new treatments for many diseases, like cancer and Alzheimer's, in addition to empowering individuals, families, and employers across the country with more healthcare options.

I was proud to have supported this pioneering legislation, and I look forward to its swiftly being signed into law.

WIIN AND CEPP

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, or the WIIN Act. Included in this package, which is expected to be considered in the House later in the week, is the Central Everglades Planning Project, which is of critical importance to the ecological health of the State of Florida. This project will significantly increase freshwater flows from Lake Okeechobee through the Everglades and down into Florida Bay, providing critical relief to our water reservoirs and to a stressed ecosystem in the bay.

The health of Florida Bay is a moral and an environmental cause. It is also vital to south Florida's multibillion-dollar tourism industry, making Everglades restoration an important local issue as well as a major national priority. Long-term restoration will be achieved primarily by constructing projects for the conveyance, treatment, and storage of water and, ultimately, the restoration of freshwater flow from north to south. CEPP contributes to all of these goals.

I thank Chairman SHUSTER for working with me to include \$1.9 billion for the Everglades Restoration Program in the WIIN Act. I am proud that, through bipartisan efforts, we were able to include this much-needed funding for Everglades restoration, and I look forward to getting this bill signed into law.

FY 2017 NDAA AND SPOC ACT

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the House's passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2017.

This bipartisan legislation strongly supports our servicemembers by providing a much-deserved 2.1 percent pay raise and improves access to health care for them and for their families. It prohibits the administration from transferring our naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the Castro dictatorship. It also protects victims who report sexual assault from personal and professional retaliation by making "retaliation" a separate offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

In addition, I am grateful that my bill, the Service Provider Opportunity Clarification Act, was included in the final package. Any large business that receives a contract for more than \$650,000 must show the Federal Government how it will use small businesses as subcontractors.

Subcontracting is an important entry point for new Federal contrac-

tors. Without a robust and wide base of subcontractors, we will have fewer prime contractors tomorrow—meaning fewer suppliers, manufacturers, and innovators—and this will all result in increased costs to American taxpayers.

I thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Chairman CHABOT for including my bill and for their hard work in moving the NDAA forward. Their efforts serve as an excellent example of Congress' working together on behalf of the brave men and women who are tasked with keeping our country safe. I look forward to the legislation being signed into law.

CONGRATULATING SOUTHRIDGE SPARTANS
FOOTBALL

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Southridge Spartans football team on their first trip to the State finals since 1999.

After a 2-2 start to the season, the Spartans' defense stepped up and shut out all future opponents from scoring a touchdown. The Spartans outscored their final five opponents by a whopping 151-0, finishing the season with a 7-2 record and earning a spot in the Florida State playoffs.

After defeating Coral Gables in the quarterfinals, Southridge faced off against Deerfield Beach in the semifinals. The Spartans overcame six turnovers, five of which came in their own territory, to defeat Deerfield Beach 26-7 and to clinch their rightful place in the championship game this Saturday in Orlando v. Dr. Phillips High School.

I congratulate head coach Billy Rolle and principal Miret, along with the players, students, faculty, and alumni of Miami Southridge High School, for their amazing season thus far.

Good luck. Bring the championship home.

VIETNAM VETERANS

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Veterans Day last month, I introduce Louisiana House Concurrent Resolution 43 into the United States CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This resolution recognizes November 13, 2013, through November 11, 2025, as the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. It is important that we recognize our Nation's heroes who served with valor and honor through this long war, which in many ways defined an entire generation of Americans. By the end of the Vietnam war, nearly 3 million American servicemen and servicewomen had served within the borders of Vietnam in some capacity in that conflict. We would like to take this time to honor all Vietnam veterans and, especially, the more than 58,000 patriots who paid the ultimate sacrifice during this difficult and painful period of war.

Of the millions of Vietnam veterans who served our country, over 106,000 reside in my home State of Louisiana. Though we remain thankful for all of those who served our great Nation, we would like to take this time to remember the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. It is important that we honor our veterans while they are still alive so that they can take honor for the sacrifices and know that they do not go unnoticed.

HELP AND HOPE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of joy, and it was, indeed, a long time in coming, but here we are.

My time in Congress was redefined 4 years ago, on December 14, 2012, when 26 innocent lives were taken at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Now, it is neither my district nor my State, but when it comes to children, all of us represent all children. Afterwards, when I met with the families, they gave me pictures of their children and spouses whom they lost that day, and I made a promise—the promise that we would not continue to watch passively or just offer moments of silence as these tragedies continue, that we should deliver, instead, treatment before tragedy.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I say thanks to the Members of Congress who changed the course with me—who teamed up to finally change the way the United States treats the mentally ill. We set our eyes on one goal: to fix our Nation's broken mental health system. Since then, we have come together to work towards protecting millions of Americans who suffer from mental illness. We traveled to every corner of this Nation and listened to doctors, psychologists and psychiatrists, experts and advocates—most importantly, to patients, consumers, and their families.

Through congressional hearings and investigations, we have discovered the abhorrent and sometimes fatal disconnect between the 112 Federal agencies that were assigned to treat the mentally ill. We exposed \$130 billion spending in a system that has done little but to watch the rates of homelessness, incarceration, suicide, and drug overdose deaths soar. We came together across party lines and went to work. We passed legislation that will save lives.

I thank FRED UPTON for his leadership on our Committee on Energy and Commerce with regard to H.R. 2646, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act, and for his tremendous medical innovation bill, the 21st Century Cures Act.