

saying that non-White people are somehow somebody else's children and not our children—the children of a nation that believes all men are created equal—well, that is not normal, and the American people will not accept the silence of the majority party when one of their own speaks out in this way.

I am waiting for the censure, the denunciations, and the rebukes. But I suspect I will be waiting a long time.

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI EMBASSY BOMBING IN ARGENTINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will, sadly, commemorate the 25-year anniversary of the terrorist bombing against the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which occurred on March 17, 1992. The terror attack also destroyed a Catholic church and a nearby school.

Twenty-nine people lost their lives in this horrific attack, including Israeli diplomats and their spouses, a Catholic priest, and Argentinian citizens, many of whom were children; and nearly 250 others were wounded.

Two years later, on July 18, 1994, over 80 people were murdered in a similar terrorist bombing at the building of the Jewish community organization, also known as AMIA, in Buenos Aires.

These two attacks had many similarities, Mr. Speaker: many innocent people lost their lives or were severely injured; Israelis and Jews were the main target for these horrific attacks; and, unsurprisingly, Iran, the world's foremost state sponsor of terror and its terror proxy group, Hezbollah, were responsible for these attacks.

Yet here we are, 25 years after the Israeli Embassy bombing and 23 years after the AMIA attack, and those responsible for those cowardly acts have yet to be brought to justice.

It hasn't been for lack of evidence, Mr. Speaker. In fact, the Supreme Court of Argentina found that the Iranian-backed—U.S.-, Israel-, and Arab League-designated—Lebanese-based terror group Hezbollah was responsible for the embassy bombing. A preponderance of evidence shows that Iran directed, financed, and assisted Hezbollah in the commission of the terror attack.

Buenos Aires also called for a special prosecutor to investigate the AMIA bombing and appointed special investigator Alberto Nisman to the case. As a result, Argentina issued international arrest warrants for nine Iranian officials in connection with the AMIA bombing after Nisman determined that Iranian proxy Hezbollah was responsible for this heinous act.

Mr. Nisman's commitment to the rule of law and the fight against corruption and terror was unwavering. I had the honor and privilege to call

Alberto a friend and speak with him frequently to discuss the case and Iran's role in these barbaric attacks.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, Alberto was found dead in his apartment in Argentina on January 19, 2015, under mysterious and suspicious circumstances. In December 2015, President Macri made a bold statement, a decision, to create a special prosecutor to investigate Nisman's death, which hopefully will not only uncover the truth surrounding his death, but also could vindicate the work for which Alberto dedicated and maybe even gave his life.

We can honor Alberto's legacy by continuing his work to hold those responsible for the terrorist bombings 25 years ago against the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires and the AMIA bombing in 1994. That is why I am introducing a resolution today alongside Chairman ROYCE, Ranking Member ENGEL, TED DEUTCH, JEFF DUNCAN, and ALBIO SIRES, all of whom lead the way in holding Iran accountable for its cowardly acts of terror.

This resolution, Mr. Speaker, expresses support to the Government of Argentina for its investigation into the terrorist bombing of the Israeli Embassy on March 17, 1992, as well as the AMIA bombing on July 18, 1994. The resolution also commends President Macri for appointing a special investigator in December of last year to examine the 1994 AMIA terrorist attacks.

We are calling on our own government to assist Argentina in any way possible to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. We also urge responsible nations to work together to fight and defeat international terrorism and its state sponsors like Iran.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution, to take a moment today to remember those who suffered in Hezbollah's barbaric terrorist attack, and to continue to press those responsible to be brought to justice.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge and personally thank the Argentine Ambassador to the U.S., Martin Lousteau, for being here in the gallery this morning. The Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., Ron Dermer, is represented by Reuven Azar, Deputy Head of Mission at the Israeli Embassy, who was actually born in Argentina. I thank them for being here this morning.

I urge this investigation to go forward with U.S. support as well. I thank them so much, and let us remember the victims of these dastardly attacks today.

#### SPEAKING AGAINST THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the November election, it has been exciting to watch the

unprecedented outpouring of citizen concern, activism, and, in some cases, outrage. America is finding its voice so Congress can find its spine.

Most recently, the people are demanding Congress be held accountable for the outrageous efforts on behalf of Republicans to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, forcing more expensive coverage for insurance plans that will not be as good and breaking the Trump promise of better, more affordable health care.

It has become clear that the Republican plan would force older Americans between the ages of 50 and 64 to pay 60 percent more for their health insurance coverage.

The Republican plan also seeks to unwind the life-changing expansion under Medicaid that has provided care for the poor, disabled, and lower income and helps people with mental illness and opioid addiction.

Wildly increasing the ranks of the uninsured and lowering the quality of care and affordability is so unacceptable to the American public that it is exposing deep divisions within the Republican ranks.

The wrecking crew is being slowed as public awareness and citizen action spread across the country. This morning, the American public has drawn a new assignment: to resist the Trump budget. It is shocking in its reckless cuts to programs that Americans hold dear.

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What does it say that the cuts proposed to the Environmental Protection Agency are so extreme that even the EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, who has made a career out of attacking the EPA, found it too brutal even for him?

The unnecessary expansion of some defense spending, especially the trillion-dollar spending spree that we are embarking on for new nuclear weapons, is completely out of sync with our real defense needs and slashing vital State Department programs that enhance our security.

Trump would not just impose shocking reductions on peacekeeping and humanitarian action, but he would deny the State Department the ability to exercise soft power. This compromises our national security interests and leaves us less safe.

Critical and widely supported life-saving medical research efforts will be slashed, reversing years of bipartisan effort to enhance medical research to fight disease, illness, and disability.

At a time of housing crisis across the country, some of the few Federal tools to increase affordability and combat homelessness are being cut away.

This budget disaster would even zero out Federal support for public broadcasting, even though it represents just a tiny sliver of Federal budget and supports a vital public service. Public broadcasting is supported by an overwhelming majority of Americans, even those who voted for Donald Trump. Appallingly, those cuts would punish

rural and small town America that are more dependent than anybody else on public broadcasting support to be able to maintain that service.

The people who are resisting this reckless administration have this new assignment: resist the budget; make clear to their representatives that it should be dead on arrival; that decades of bipartisan support for vital programs to protect the environment, human services, international humanitarian interest, medical research, even public broadcasting will not be tolerated.

People are making a difference, but America needs all of us to find our voice so that Congress does its job.

#### PENN STATE EXTENSION IS A VALUABLE SERVICE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of Penn State Extension, which is an educational network that gives the people in Pennsylvania's 67 counties access to the university's resources and expertise, especially its agricultural resources as a land-grant university.

Cooperative extension services began in 1914. The Smith-Lever Act established a system of cooperative extension services connected to the land-grant universities in order to inform people about the current developments in agriculture, home economics, public policy and government, leadership, 4-H, economic development, coastal issues, and many other related subjects. It helped farmers learn new agricultural techniques by the introduction of home instruction.

Since its inception, it has been focused on informal, noncredit adult continuing education. Thus, cooperative extension is not a service, but a scholarly content-driven educational mission of the university. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, State, and county governments. Through these county-based partnerships, Penn State Extension educators, faculty, and local volunteers work together to share unbiased, research-based information with local residents.

Penn State Extension can help you become a master gardener. It helps teach families how to prepare and preserve food safely. It can help you learn about how to start a home-based business or how to properly prepare tax forms. Penn State Extension helps individuals, families, businesses, and communities throughout Pennsylvania with information and a broad range of educational programs.

Everyone in the community can tap into the assets and information of our major research university, and there are numerous ways to learn. You can attend an educational event, take an

online course, read a publication, or speak face-to-face with an extension educator. There is no shortage of learning opportunities with Penn State Extension.

Mr. Speaker, this is just one way that Penn State is extending knowledge and improving the quality of life for all Pennsylvanians. The programs are very localized and touch every county in the State through 21 separate districts. Extension is particularly helpful to farmers and those involved in the agriculture industry, which is Pennsylvania's number one economic driver.

Whether you are a beginning farmer or you have a few years under your belt, it is good to know you are not in the farming world alone. Extension activities can help connect you with others to share ideas, trials, and tribulations. In fact, Federal cooperative extension programs have helped more than 137,000 farmers stay in business just since 1985. Without cooperative extension and the underlying research, researchers have estimated that the country would have lost 28 percent more farmers than those who actually left agriculture.

Who would feed us? Who would provide that food, fiber, building materials, even forms of energy that our farmers and farm families do today?

By design, extension is locally directed and responsive to the needs of local communities. I am grateful that Penn State is one of those land-grant universities and can offer this service to the public. It helps keep our local farmers abreast of the most up-to-date information that impacts the industry and impacts the lives of families. It helps promote lifelong learning and provides invaluable support and assistance to our communities. That is something for which we can all be very proud.

#### AN IMMIGRANT STORY

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a family that I have come to know. They came from a humble place, scraping by. Amidst instability in their native land, they could barely keep food on their table. For years, their government ignored their struggle and suffering. Like so many others, they dreamed of a better life in America.

Finally, they managed to cobble together enough money to make the dangerous journey to our shores. Yet, once here, they discovered that life wasn't so easy. They were resented for their accents, their faith, and their foreign ways. Doors were slammed in their faces when they sought work.

So they worked harder. They leaned on each other and those who came before. They forged a community and they organized. They built churches,

businesses, and schools. Slowly but surely, they began to enjoy some measure of success and stability.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that there are Garcias or Asgaris or Rodriguezes that share that same story, but the one I tell is not theirs.

This family's name is Kennedy. Struggling immigrants whose quest for a better life took them from Ireland's potato famine to Boston's immigrant barrios. It is the ageless story of a young man looking for a better future, of a family in search of a safe place to settle down, of the sacrifice that any parent would make for the benefit of their children. And it has been repeated millions of times in every corner of our world in the over 150 years since my ancestors fled their home to find a new one.

My father has a memory of my great-grandmother, Rose, that he shared with me once. He was playing outside with friends one day when she called him in. As he fidgeted around and impatiently tried to sit still, she pulled out a big scrapbook and flipped to a stack of carefully folded newspapers in the back. One after another, she opened them up to the help wanted section. There, she pointed to ad after ad marked in big block letters: No Irish need apply.

My great-grandmother's message was clear: Don't forget where you came from, don't forget the blood and the sweat and the tears that generations before you have shed so that you would never feel the sting of prejudice.

For my family and so many others, this became a deeply personal fight. In July of 1964, a young Attorney General named Robert Kennedy sat in front of the House Judiciary Committee. There, my grandfather urged Congress to act on immigration reform. Our system, he said, "is a source of embarrassment to us around the world, it is a source of anguish to many of our own citizens, it is a source of loss to the economic and creative strength of our nation as a whole, it is inconsistent with our principles and out of step with our history."

The opposition that he and other advocates have faced half a century ago sounds eerily familiar to so many of us today: Immigrants will flood our cities and towns. They will take American jobs. They will poison American culture. They aren't from here. They aren't like us. They are somebody else's babies.

Fifty years later, the opposition still hasn't updated their talking points. Fifty years later, our broken immigration system is still a source of embarrassment, but worse, of anguish and of loss. Fifty years later, we face a threat unlike almost any we have seen in recent history: a President who has built an entire campaign—and now an administration—on the scapegoating of immigrant families.

We have watched President Trump threaten our most fundamental American values with border walls and bad