

"SEC. 4. DISPLAY OF AWARD."

(5) In section 5(b) of division O, strike "Act" and insert "division".

(6) In section 6 of division O, strike "Act" and insert "division".

(7) In section 8 of division O, strike "Act" and insert "division".

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1645

PAKISTAN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for years, Pakistan has provided support for America's enemies with American blood on their hands. Pakistan has supported the Taliban providing them safe haven, cash, and weapons. It is no coincidence that the leader of the Taliban was living in Pakistan when a United States air strike took him out last year.

Pakistan harbored the number one enemy of the world, Osama bin Laden, until our SEALs brought him to justice. Pakistan's intelligence services has been dubbed the veritable arm of the terrorist group Haqqani Network. They have even cut off supply routes for our troops in Afghanistan.

The Ambassador to Afghanistan has said that Pakistan supports terrorist groups in Afghanistan, but still Pakistan is considered a major non-NATO ally of the U.S. This status means that they get priority for significant benefits in the areas of foreign aid and defense cooperation. I am introducing a bill that removes Pakistan from this list of trusted allies.

Pakistan is playing both sides. It is time to call it like it is. Pakistan should not be counted as a major non-NATO ally of the United States.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF GENERAL AMEDEO "ARMIE" MEROLLA

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of General Amedeo "Armie" Merolla—a dedicated patriot, a passionate legal mind, a community leader in Rhode Is-

land, and someone whom I was proud to call a dear friend.

Armie's distinguished military career spanned 36 years, during which time he served in the United States Marine Corps and the Rhode Island National Guard. He served as assistant adjutant general for the State and retired as the first brigadier general of Italian heritage in the history of the Rhode Island National Guard.

As an accomplished attorney for more than 60 years, he provided legal counsel and advice to several public officials—myself included—and maintained a very successful private practice.

As a tireless community leader, he served as chairman of the Warwick School Committee and held leadership positions in local branches of charities and children's organizations. Above all, he prioritized his family, whom he loved dearly and to whom he devoted his life's work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to remember Armie on the floor today, just as it was to consider him a trusted friend and adviser. Mr. Speaker, he made a difference, and he will be greatly missed.

ARE WE LOSING OUR DEMOCRACY?

(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, are we losing our democracy?

CNN has censored and refused to air an ad by Trump for President, claiming that it is inaccurate. Of course, that is their opinion and they are entitled to it. What they are not entitled to do is violate the Constitution's protection of free speech.

Where are all the editorial boards of the media who rightly advocate for free speech? Why are most silent?

To censor a political ad because CNN disagrees with it is to threaten our democratic form of government.

2017 CONTINUED APPROPRIATIONS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the continued appropriations for 2017 and to say: Say it isn't so.

When the Trump budget was presented—the skinny budget—\$600 billion was cut out of NIH, which would impact a major research in diseases that impact Americans. Thank goodness that we worked for a \$2 billion increase for the NIH in this appropriations bill.

And, equally so, how important it is that we can announce in Houston that the Houston Housing Authority will be able to reissue vouchers for homeless families because \$654 million-plus was put in the section 8 vouchers, \$40 million-plus was put in for veterans who

are homeless, and \$10 million was put in for the disabled.

In addition, we added to the Cops on the Beat program and, as well, provided additional dollars to enhance the Civil Rights Division some \$897.5 million.

The budget or the appropriations should be a road map for serving Americans, not a nickel-and-dime approach to undermine. I am glad the resistance remains strong, and that is why we have a budget or an appropriation that listens to the people and the healthcare subsidies are being paid for, so that people can have that health insurance.

ANTIQUITIES ACT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week in the Natural Resources Committee, we conducted an important hearing and review on the Antiquities Act. This is the process for which these days the President unilaterally can declare national monuments, thereby placing acres that are deemed to be preserved into a monument, which then cannot be touched by human hands as it is interpreted and enforced these days.

Under President Obama, twice as many acres were placed into that type of monument status as all other Presidents combined over the history of the country.

Now, what this means is that you can't have access for forestry, fire protection, and other things you need to do for human activity. Even access for hunting and fishing is oftentimes limited. What we need is to have a process where Congress can have approval of the Antiquities Act if one of these proposals comes into place. We need to have that so that the people will have access to their lands so they can be managed if need be.

The size of the monument, yes, we have areas we need to declare and protect. But the size of the monument is very important as well because it doesn't need to be always hundreds of thousands, even millions, of acres. Indeed, under the act, the idea is that it would be under the smallest possible size to preserve the object.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize this week as National Small Business Week and to applaud the vast contributions of small-business owners and entrepreneurs across my district—the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey.

National Small Business Week is the perfect opportunity to recognize the

importance of small businesses, entrepreneurs, and the diversity of businessowners.

In New Jersey, small businesses employ nearly 2 million people and make up 99.6 percent of all businesses in the State. Over the last decade, women-owned businesses have increased by 45 percent and generated over \$1.6 trillion in revenue. Minority-owned businesses have produced over \$1.3 trillion and created 7 million jobs.

Small businesses are truly the backbone of our Nation and economy. As Members of Congress, we must do our part to support all efforts to open the doors of opportunity for small business growth. Their success is our success.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH STONE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I rise to commemorate the precious life of Joseph Stone of Tucson, Arizona. The 36-year-old American was serving his part of an official international peace team monitoring the border conflict between Ukrainian Government troops and Russian-backed separatists who invaded Ukraine.

Mr. Stone was working with a German and a Czech peace monitor when an explosion—likely a mine—damaged their vehicle in Pryshyb, Ukraine. The two other monitors are hospitalized in stable condition. Stone is the first Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe monitor killed in that very important mission.

Stone's career in foreign assistance missions brought him to Afghanistan and Liberia before Ukraine. Before entering the aid community, Stone worked at American Medical Response in southern Arizona for 9 years, starting out as an EMT and rising to the level of paramedic. He graduated from Pima Community College. He is survived by his mother, two brothers, a longtime companion, and 13-year-old daughter.

Since its establishment in 2014, the OSCE has played a vital role in monitoring the Minsk agreements designed to bring peace to eastern Ukraine after Russia's brutal invasion of a sovereign neighbor. This fateful tragedy makes clear the absolute brutality of Vladimir Putin's threats to liberty and democracy in Ukraine.

It also instructs us about the unrecognized selfless heroes among us who define the meaning and cost of liberty. May our recognition of his selfless sacrifice bring comfort to those bearing this great loss, and may he be remembered always in the protracted struggle for a free Ukraine.

THE OMNIBUS BILL

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we found a solution to keep the government open through October and that this deal does not include funding for President Trump's border wall, nor does it eliminate money for sanctuary cities. These are several issues that I am proud to champion in addition to programs such as the NIH, Child Care and Development Block Grants, Pell grants, nutrition programs for seniors, Planned Parenthood, affordable housing, and Head Start.

However, the devil is in the details, and after further reviewing this total package, I cannot, in good conscience, support it. This bill will increase funding for homeland security and is essentially \$1.2 billion of President Trump's original proposed \$3 billion request for border security and interior enforcement. We fully know that any funding for homeland security and border security will be used to increase raids and detentions, essentially funding the President's mass deportation agenda.

In addition, this omnibus bill does not provide a long-term solution to Puerto Rico's economic crisis, leaving Puerto Rico's Medicaid funding with only one-third of the funding it needs.

Finally, the bill comes at the same time that Trump and House Republicans continue to push to eliminate ACA. The devil is in the detail, and that, too, will be a nightmare in hell for many of us.

CHANGES TO AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT DO NOT REMEDY BILL'S SHORTCOMINGS

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise because evidently, in the House of Representatives, we will be taking up the possible passage of a revised but, as yet, unseen American Health Care Act.

I rise to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote against this. The CBO has not scored it, so we don't know how much it will cost. We don't know how many Americans will be thrown off their health care.

I want to quote Dr. Andrew Gurman, who is the president of the American Medical Association, who said this today:

"Not only would the AHCA eliminate health insurance coverage for millions of Americans, the legislation would, in many cases, eliminate the ban against charging those with underlying medical conditions vastly more for their coverage."

This is a bad bill that has gotten worse with time. We haven't seen it. It hasn't been scored for money or how many patients will be thrown off their health care. It will hurt patients, it will hurt medical providers, it will hurt hospitals, and it will hurt this country.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this bill.

THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in opposition to this suddenly undead GOP plan to strip millions of Americans of their health insurance and Medicaid coverage and dramatically increase our monthly premiums. Just when you thought we had actually slain the zombie, the repeal-and-replace plan comes back again with no hearings, no witnesses, no budget score, and no policy coherence. It is like the bloody hand emerging from the grave in "Carrie," even as the credits are rolling and the people in the audience have already left for their cars.

Mr. Speaker, let's return this so-called American Health Care Act to its own preexisting legislative condition: dead on arrival.

What makes anyone think it improves the appeal of this plan to strip preexisting coverage from the American people?

The fact that you have a preexisting condition is why you need medical attention. It is not the reason to deny it to someone.

In the last round, I heard colleagues complain that, under the current system, healthy citizens have to pay for other citizens when they get sick. Yes, my friends, that is what insurance is. Any Member who believes that the currently healthy should not help insure the currently sick must believe no one in his or her family will ever get sick. That is magical thinking. But in America, as Bruce Springsteen says: We take care of our own.

MATH AND FACTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, we have a whole hour here, and we may actually use the whole hour. This is an opportunity to actually walk through three areas that I care an awful lot about.

One, I actually want to walk through something called math, and math in regards to health care. Some of this is actually to deal with—and I don't want to be mean, because I am going to try to do this in as nonpartisan a way as possible, but some of the things that we have just heard moments ago that lack just sort of basic roots in math and facts.