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Now, I want to thank my colleague, Congressman KRISHNAMOORTHY, for traveling to Pennsylvania to see this program in action. I want to thank the staff of CPI for not only hosting us on the first day of school, but for working to educate students in their chosen fields.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Senate to act on this bipartisan bill without delay because it is critically important to closing the skills gap in this country, and above all else, it is a win for the American worker and American families. Let's help all Americans learn to earn.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST MATTHEW TURCOTTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, on August 23, Army Specialist Matthew Turcotte was killed during a live ammunition exercise at Fort Carson in Colorado.

Specialist Turcotte was a lifelong resident of North Smithfield, Rhode Island. He joined the Army 2 years ago and was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division.

He died a hero, having earned numerous medals for his service to our Nation, including the Army Achievement Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Last Saturday, hundreds gathered in Providence to give Specialist Turcotte a hero's farewell at his funeral mass.

All of us know, who serve in this Chamber, that our country owes an enormous debt of gratitude to all who have served, and especially to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice on the altar of freedom.

My thoughts and prayers are with Specialist Turcotte's family today, especially his wife, Megan, and his parents, Raymond and Liza.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S DECISION TO TERMINATE
THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD AR-
RIVALS PROGRAM

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I also want to spend a moment to speak about President Trump's decision to terminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. It is one of the cruelest in Presidential actions in recent memory. This was a shameful moment for our country. America has always stood as a beacon of freedom and opportunity, but not right now.

The DACA program has allowed nearly 800,000 DREAMers to work, study, and serve their communities and Nation. That includes nearly 1,300 DREAMers in my home State of Rhode Island.

The DREAMers are workers and taxpayers. They pay \$3 billion in taxes each year, including \$2.6 billion in my home State. They contribute \$2 billion each year to Social Security and another \$470 million to Medicare.

They didn't choose to come here. They were brought here by their parents as very young children. They love this country. They share our values. They are contributing to their communities every single day.

They are young men and women like Lesdin Salazar, a 22-year-old Rhode Islander who came here from Guatemala with her parents when she was 7 years old. Lesdin was a high school junior when President Obama signed an executive order to establish DACA. She was later accepted to Rhode Island College, where she is paying out of pocket today to pursue a degree in teaching. Lesdin also works at Calcutt Middle School in Central Falls, Rhode Island, where she helps kids who need behavioral and emotional support, but she will have to give up this dream unless Congress acts.

The same is true of Ana Abigail Molina, a 27-year-old Rhode Islander who came to the United States when she was just 6 years old. Today Ana works at Thundermist Health Center and has dreams of going back to school to become a surgical technologist. And like so many DREAMers, Ana doesn't really remember much of the country where she was born. She considers herself an American.

Javier Juarez also considers himself an American, a young man who just graduated from Rhode Island College and is planning to attend graduate school on an academic scholarship at Brown University starting this fall. His dream is to one day attend Harvard Law School.

Javier has been living in Rhode Island for 18 years. Before DACA, he couldn't drive, get a good job, or go to college, but now he is the first member of his family to graduate from a 4-year university. He, too, will have to give up his American Dream unless Congress acts.

And finally, Maribel Rivera Sosa, who came to Rhode Island from Mexico at the age of 9. When she graduated high school 5 years ago, Maribel didn't think she would be able to attend college, but just days later, when President Obama established DACA, Maribel's opportunities became limitless. She was able to attend the Community College of Rhode Island while working three separate jobs. After earning an associate's degree, Maribel enrolled at Johnson & Wales University, and her dream is to earn a master's degree in health administration.

Who among us thinks that someone who works three jobs shouldn't be able to follow their dreams?

This is just cruel. President Trump is ripping apart hundreds of thousands of families and injecting chaos and uncertainty into the lives of members of our community who know no other home than America. If Congress doesn't replace DACA with the Dream Act, it will result in \$460 billion in lost economic activity over the next decade, including \$61 million in Rhode Island.

Republicans in Congress need to bring the Dream Act to the floor right

now. We need a permanent solution, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of the bipartisan Dream Act. We need to bring that bill to the floor. Every Republican who disagrees with President Trump's actions needs to tell Speaker RYAN to bring the Dream Act to the floor.

This Congress must act in a manner worthy of a country that has inspired these young DREAMers and pass the Dream Act without delay.

AFGHANISTAN: EMPIRE STOPPER

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on September 4, 4 days ago, The New York Times International Edition carried a story, entitled, "The Empire Stopper," which said foreign powers have tried to control Afghanistan since the 19th century. The story had a very interesting first paragraph: "When the American author James A. Michener went to Afghanistan to research his work of historical fiction 'Caravans,' it was 1955 and there were barely any roads in the country. Yet there were already Americans and Russians there jockeying for influence."

Continuing the Times' quote:

"Later, the book's Afghan protagonist would tell an American diplomat that one day both America and Russia would invade Afghanistan and that both would come to regret it."

Michener wrote that 62 years ago. Since then, Afghanistan has been described many times as the "Graveyard of Empires."

This 17-year war in Afghanistan has always been more about money than anything else, and it should have been ended long ago. Many people wonder why we keep sending so many soldiers and military contractors to Iraq and Afghanistan. Well, it has always been about money, increased appropriations for the Defense Department, and huge profits for the contractors who hire retired admirals and generals.

There have been so many examples of waste, fraud, and abuse in these Middle East wars that it is sickening. One recent example was reported this way by Newsweek:

"U.S.-based security firm Sallyport Global has been accused by two former internal investigators of smuggling alcohol, stealing, keeping two different account ledgers, and even human trafficking of prostitutes while executing an almost \$700 million contract to protect Balad Air Base in Iraq. The Associated Press reported Wednesday."

Military bases should be protected by military personnel, not highly paid contractors, but most Members of Congress are afraid to criticize anything the Defense Department does for fear of someone saying they are not "supporting the troops."

We now have over 11,000 troops in Afghanistan and probably that many or more contractors in addition to no telling how many Federal civilian employees. Then we are also paying more than

330,000 Afghan military and police personnel.

The international community is now providing 60 percent of the Afghan GDP, and almost all of these so-called peacekeeping—really, U.N. wars—the U.S. taxpayers are paying over 90 percent of the cost.

When the so-called coalition bombs go astray killing civilians and women and children, they are really seen by the locals as being U.S. bombs, creating even more hatred and resentment for our country.

We have now had almost 2,500 young American soldiers killed in Afghanistan and 20,000 wounded, many maimed for life. We have spent \$1 trillion directly on this war and even more indirectly.

Mr. Speaker, the American people don't want forever, permanent wars. This Afghanistan folly has lasted four times longer than World War II. We should have come home a long time ago.

PERSONAL STORIES OF DREAMERS IN PORTLAND

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was standing next to JOHN LEWIS as we joined our Democratic colleagues from the House and the Senate who delivered a spirited message of resolve to fight Donald Trump's cruelty towards almost 800,000 young Americans and, of course, several million other members of their families, their friends, their employers, who all had their lives turned upside down by Trump's senseless, unnecessary decision.

Strange for somebody who professes to love the DREAMers, Trump is caught in his own trap. He clearly didn't know what he was doing, trying to figure out ways to pass responsibility for his decision on to others. But, of course, that is sort of what we have come to expect from someone who appears to care only for himself. He was afraid, even, to deliver the message himself. Typical of Donald Trump, he outsourced the decision to Jeff Sessions, who Trump spent most of the summer demeaning.

Now, I think there is a simple solution: take it back. Donald Trump is famous for mulligans on the golf course, do-overs. If he didn't like the shot, he would just do it again. Well, let's declare a DACA mulligan. Take it back. Yes, it might look foolish, but that really hasn't stopped him before.

In the meantime, the outrage builds: the community of faith, the business community, people across the country who are understanding the lunacy of this decision, its unfairness. But the most telling and powerful points are from the young DREAMers themselves.

My colleagues have delivered this message from people whom they have

heard from in their districts. I have countless ones that have been shared with us.

Jamie, a 31-year-old father of two, a DACA recipient, was 12 when his family fled to the United States to escape poverty and corruption. For 9 years, he has dedicated his life to helping young people cope with these challenges. He is working with young people impacted by the issue, concerned about their mental health and their well-being.

Eddie arrived from Mexico as a 1-year-old baby. He really didn't understand the impact of being undocumented until he applied for college and was not eligible for Federal assistance, but eventually he attended and graduated from Portland State University; and he has become the first undocumented student admitted to Oregon Health & Science University School of Dentistry. Scheduled to graduate next year, he wants to be able to serve the community that raised him.

Karla, arrived as a 4-year-old, is currently a student, but whose concern is the message that is being sent to others whom she works with. DACA recipients are not all young professionals or valedictorians. Some work in fast-food restaurants and are struggling to get through community college.

She makes the point that some may call her a DREAMer, but she felt that the real DREAMers were her parents, who had the dream for her. They fought to come to this country to raise her and give her the opportunity to work, attend school, and live without fear of deportation.

These are compelling stories, Mr. Speaker, but the one that stands out in my mind most clearly was one of my first meetings after the election. I was meeting with a number of the young DREAMers, listening to their concerns, their apprehensions. The conversation stopped with one young man who just said, "What country should I go to?" He had choices to go to Canada or Europe. He was an accomplished student, ambitious.

"What country should I go to?" I must admit, at the time, I counseled him to not give up on the United States too quickly. I wonder what he thinks today.

HONORING CLIFF GLOVER

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

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of the Third District's most upstanding citizens, Mr. Cliff Glover.

Mr. Glover passed away last month at the age of 104, but not before touching countless lives in our community. His community service began at a young age in the Boy Scouts, an organization that he would work with for the rest of his life, earning the rank of Life Scout and the Silver Antelope Award for his service to the organization.

Mr. Glover also served his Nation in the Civil Engineer Corps of the U.S. Naval Reserve during World War II, working on the U.S. Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Florida, now known as Cape Canaveral.

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In the private sector, Mr. Cliff successfully led the Batson-Cook Construction Company as it built many important buildings and developments throughout the southeast.

I consider myself blessed to have known Mr. Glover personally, and his commitment to serving others helped inspire my own public service.

I want to challenge all of my colleagues, friends, and neighbors to carry on his legacy of serving others.

A 21ST CENTURY AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, Mr. Speaker, I was just reading a message from Citizens for On Time Flights.

Now, I fly a lot and I would love to be on time more. They are talking about our aviation system here. Air traffic control is a World War II relic and saying that if we only would give it over to the private sector, i.e., the airlines, it would work better.

Well, let's see, a couple of things wrong with that statement. Number one, the greatest problem with air delays is weather. Now, actually, we are dealing with that technologically through a new system called Datacom, where, at our 55 busiest airports, the pilots and the air traffic controllers now can communicate by text and they don't have to repeat over and over on the radio the messages; many fewer misunderstandings, easier to reroute. This has been implemented by the FAA.

What is the number two cause?

Oh, it is airline operations and scheduling—the airlines themselves. They are the second greatest cause of delays, they, in themselves.

So it turns out that Citizens for On Time Flights is actually funded by a group of airlines.

Now, what is the bottom line here? Do we have a World War II relic, as Gary Cohn has said after he read some of this and heard this propaganda?

No, actually. We have the most advanced system in the world. We could fly planes today closer together using GPS technology called ADS-B and not use the older radar system, except—the system is up and running, except the airlines won't pay to put the equipment in their planes. They say it is too expensive.

So they are complaining about the FAA and saying they could do a better job, they could do it more efficiently, they could fly planes closer together, but they won't invest in the equipment.