

ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK

(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 in honor of Arts in Education Week and the power of art to improve student learning, inspire creativity, and boost academic achievement at all ages.

The arts speak to all of us in different ways. I am inspired by the performing arts, while others are drawn to design and, still, others express themselves through music. The exposure to and participation in creative disciplines empowers us to courageously innovate, a key to success in school and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, in my home State of Rhode Island, music education is encouraged, actually, in State law. Unfortunately, Congress has not demonstrated the same commitment. I am extremely disappointed that the Republican appropriations package for fiscal year 2018 eliminates the Arts in Education program, a vital source of funding for arts programs across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, we must invest in the arts, not cut funding, and empower the next generation to realize their potential to create.

SAN ANTONIO RESIDENTS' EFFORTS IN WAKE OF HURRICANE HARVEY

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

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary and selfless acts that have been demonstrated in my home State of Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

The good folks in Houston, Rockport, and the rest of the Gulf Coast did not face this devastating storm alone. Among the many helping hands that were lent to the rescue and assistance of fellow Texans were those from my hometown of San Antonio. The San Antonio Emergency Operations Center worked to prepare for the storm and shifted to disaster response along the Gulf Coast.

Given San Antonio's geographic location within the State, the EOC has become a crucial disaster response point for the State of Texas. They provided critical, round-the-clock support to local and statewide efforts in the days and weeks following the hurricane. These efforts, along with other private companies and nonprofit partners, have been nothing short of remarkable.

Through donations of clothing, water, food, funds, and blood drives, San Antonians came out to show their solidarity with the folks in the impacted towns. I was humbled to witness a few of these selfless acts firsthand.

I am proud of my hometown's swift response to our fellow Texans in need.

I commend the organizations, businesses, and neighbors who have touched the lives of the thousands of hurricane survivors. They are the reason that we are Texas Strong.

FIGHTING TO REINSTATE DACA

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

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, straight from the train, I had the opportunity to join fellow Delawarians for a rally in support of DREAMers in our State and across our country. These are young adults who were brought to America as children. This is the only home they know.

I have had the opportunity to hear from some of the 75 DREAMers at Delaware State University. Every single one of them is excelling. They are part of our future.

Ending DACA will cost Delaware's GDP \$88 million, and create a loss of nearly \$460 billion for our country.

America thrives on our diversity. We have a moral obligation to stand up for these young Americans, and I will continue to join my colleagues in fighting to reinstate DACA.

PEDIATRIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, since I spoke on this floor last September in honor of Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month, more than 10,000 children have been diagnosed with cancer and approximately 1,200 have died due to this deadly disease.

Pediatric cancer remains the leading cause of disease-related deaths for children in the United States. In our country alone, nearly 1 out of every 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer. For those who survive the disease, the vast majority experience health complications related to the cancer diagnosis for the rest of their lives.

Despite these startling statistics, progress has been made. The 21st Century Cures Act and the RACE for Children Act have been signed into law. These bills incentivize innovation and will help us move closer to cures.

Even with these advances, the fact remains that only 4 percent of the National Cancer Institute's budget supports childhood cancer research. Before he lost his battle with cancer, 7-year-old Jonny Wade from Jerseyville told me that 4 percent is not enough. I agree with my friend Jonny; 4 percent is not enough.

We must continue to fund research and support innovation to ensure a future where no child—no child—ever has cancer.

WILDFIRE IN OUR NATIONAL FORESTS

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

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, as our country reels from the devastation of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, another disaster ravages our Pacific Northwest. I rise today to once again bring attention to the problem that is decades in the making: wildfire in our national forests.

The mismanagement of these forests over the last 30 years has destroyed the health of our beautiful national forests. Our land management agencies are paralyzed by litigation. Radical groups dictate the policy. As a result, our forests have never been in worse condition.

Fuel loads in our forest are now so great, once a fire begins, there is little hope of being able to contain it.

With 193 million acres in the National Forest System, nearly 40 percent is vulnerable to wildfire, insects, disease, and in need of treatment; yet harvest levels on Federal lands remain low, with tree growth and mortality rates far exceeding removal.

We need to change this, or this will happen. This is the Eagle Creek fire right outside the city of Portland by the Bridge of the Gods.

Every year we don't act, the problem gets worse. We need to reform our forest management practices, and we need to do it now. Enough is enough.

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PRESIDENT TRUMP THREATENS THE ESTABLISHMENT

(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, President Trump doesn't have many fans in the political, media, or academic establishment. The definition of "establishment" is a ruling class or a controlling group.

They oppose the President because he is not one of them. They hold different views of immigration, trade, regulations, political correctness, and media bias. Their beliefs are threatened by his world view, so they are relentlessly trying to discredit his Presidency.

The President, I believe, sees himself as representing the working men and women of America; Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. This is the broad middle class and those who aspire to be part of it.

The establishment has linked arms and resists the President's reforms, but all true reform starts with the voice of the people, and they are on his side.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. 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 (Mr. FARENTHOLD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3697, CRIMINAL ALIEN GANG MEMBER REMOVAL ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2017, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22, 2017.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 513 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 513

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3697) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to aliens associated with criminal gangs, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. On any legislative day during the period from September 15, 2017, through September 22, 2017—

(a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and

(b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 3. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 2 of this resolution as though under clause 8(a) of rule I.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Resolution 513, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring forward this rule on behalf of the Rules Committee.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3697, the Criminal Alien Gang Member Removal Act. Before I discuss the rule, Mr. Speaker, I would first like to take this opportunity to thank all the first responders who have been working tirelessly in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and to send my thoughts and prayers to those who have suffered loss because of these storms.

Georgia saw much of Hurricane Irma's devastation firsthand, and I would like to thank the men and women who are responding to the people in need and rebuilding our communities. I am grateful to all of those who have played and are playing a part in these recovery efforts.

As someone who is still back home without power, I understand the need that is going on in Florida all the way up through northeast Georgia. This is truly a "from the beach to the highlands" kind of issue, and we are continuing to thank our law enforcement, our first responders, and especially those that work for the power companies and others getting the utilities back on that we take for granted so many days. I just want to say thank you to them.

Mr. Speaker, the rule before us today provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee. The rule also provides for a motion to recommit.

Yesterday, the Rules Committee had the opportunity to hear from two of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, Mr. JOHNSON from Louisiana and Ms. LOFGREN from California. Much of H.R. 3697 received consideration by the Judiciary Committee as part of a larger bill, the Michael Davis, Jr. and Danny Oliver in Honor of State and Local Law Enforcement Act.

After a lengthy and thorough debate, the Judiciary Committee marked up and reported favorably that legislation on May 24.

As a cosponsor and strong supporter of the Davis-Oliver Act, I hope to see that legislation pass before the full House. Today we have an opportunity to increase public safety by moving an important piece of that bill forward as H.R. 3697.

I want to recognize Representative BARBARA COMSTOCK, my colleague from Virginia, for introducing the Criminal Alien Gang Member Removal Act. I also want to thank Representative COMSTOCK and this bill's cosponsors—Chairman GOODLATTE, Chairman SESSIONS, Congressman PETER KING, and Congressman LABRADOR—for their work on this issue.

From fiscal years 2016 to 2017, ICE agents made over 8,000 gang-related criminal arrests, leading to over 2,600 convictions. America's families, friends, and neighbors are watching the

problem of transnational gang violence grow, and ICE reports that membership of these gangs is comprised largely of foreign-born nationals. Many of these gang members terrorizing our streets are here illegally.

MS-13, in particular, has experienced growth at the expense of American neighborhoods and public safety. In fact, the Department of Justice has said that MS-13, which originated in Central America, has 10,000 members in the United States, and 40,000 members worldwide. As if this wasn't a clear enough threat, the other transnational gangs are on the rise as well.

Sophisticated gang leaders have recognized that our immigration system is susceptible to exploitation and have taken advantage. MS-13 violence has hit communities in Boston, New York, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., particularly hard, but the problem is not limited to these areas.

In my home State of Georgia, ICE agents recently arrested an individual who played an active role in a murder in Virginia. In northern Virginia, at least eight murders have been attributed to MS-13 since last November. This is unacceptable.

While it is not the only step we can take, one major way we can help to address this problem is to make sure that transnational gang members who are seeking to bring their tactics to our soil do not exploit our immigration laws. We need to use all the tools in our toolbox to address this problem of gang violence, and the underlying bill we are considering today helps us do that. It recognizes that transnational gang members have taken advantage of our immigration laws while addressing existing flaws in our system.

This bill becomes clear that Congress will uphold its duty to protect the safety of the American people and provide critical tools to law enforcement.

Importantly, while this bill cracks down on criminal alien gang members and strengthens our system, it preserves due process and burden of proof protections. The Criminal Alien Gang Member Removal Act takes the commonsense step of ensuring that criminal gang members are ineligible for asylum, special immigration, juvenile status, and temporary protected status.

The bill also adds grounds of inadmissibility and deportability for criminal alien gang members, and it requires that criminal alien gang members are kept in custody prior to and during the immigration court proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, under New York City's sanctuary city policy, a criminal alien who was an admitted gang member was allowed to leave Rikers Island after serving time for another offense. This was a particularly egregious case of how flaws in the system are serving gangs, but it also highlights the clear challenge under existing statutes.

Under current law, the criminal alien's self-admission of gang affiliation is not reason enough to deport