

Senators have proposed changes to this bill, but they cannot change the underlying fact that it would be unconscionable to rip healthcare away from more than 32 million Americans. I implore the Senate to reject this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to work in a bipartisan manner to reduce costs and expand coverage.

#### TEXAS COACHES FIGHT HURRICANE HARVEY

(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. Madam Speaker, undaunted by the massive 50 inches of hammering rains and devastation of Hurricane Harvey, Texans quickly volunteered to help other water-soaked neighbors.

Bay City High School Secretary Linda Leissner was manning the city's emergency operations call center when she realized the city needed school buses and drivers to help in the rescue because of Harvey's quickly rising floodwaters, so she called the coaches. The coaches quickly manned the high school's buses, and in the torrential rain they began rescuing and evacuating residents of the town, including some of their very own students.

One of the coaches, Nathan Janak, put it best: "It was just people helping people. It was one of the greatest displays of human kindness I have ever seen."

Madam Speaker, stories like this make us Texas Proud and give us the determination to recover from one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history. Harvey will not defeat us. As we say, "Don't mess with Texas."

And that is just the way it is.

#### VIRGINIA INSTITUTE FOR PASTORAL CARE

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

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Virginia Institute for Pastoral Care, also known as VIPCare.

In 1967, 12 concerned citizens founded VIPCare and built a unique, unprecedented organization that continues to serve our community, and several Virginians, today.

VIPCare is a not-for-profit, interfaith institution that provides marriage, family, and substance abuse counseling, as well as training and support for the clergy. They are the oldest pastoral counseling center in the United States.

VIPCare proudly serves more than 900 children, teenagers, adults, older Americans, families, and couples every year at their two locations in Richmond and the six other locations throughout Virginia. VIPCare does not turn people away, regardless of the cost. For 50 years, they have provided

thousands with a community space for compassion, hope, and comfort.

Madam Speaker, today, and every day, I am so proud of VIPCare and the work they do to care for Virginians.

#### RECOGNIZING ELLIOTT ROOT

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

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent from the 22nd District of New York, Elliott Root.

Elliott was born with a single left ventricle and has prevailed over tremendous odds in his short life. At the young age of 10 years old, Elliott will undergo his fifth open-heart surgery this week.

Today, I wear the Red Balloon pin in honor of Elliott's courage and strength. Throughout the Red Balloon Campaign, Elliott and his mother, Amy, have worked tirelessly to raise awareness and create an atmosphere of connectivity for all impacted by heart defects.

Congenital heart defects are the most prevalent birth defect, affecting 1 in 100 newborns, leading to the death of more children each year than all forms of pediatric cancer combined. Despite these staggering statistics, congenital heart defects continue to be underrecognized and underfunded.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Elliott and his entire family as he undergoes his fifth open-heart surgery. Elliott's enduring spirit and bravery are an inspiration to all of us. Please join me in celebrating the life of this courageous young man.

#### REPUBLICANS SHOULD WORK WITH DEMOCRATS TO CREATE BETTER HEALTHCARE

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to express my opposition to the newest TrumpCare bill that will result in 21 million fewer Americans having healthcare insurance.

Once again, Senate Republicans, like House Republicans, are rushing to pass a hurtful bill that every major healthcare group, from the American Medical Association to Kaiser, is opposing.

The latest heartless version of TrumpCare is no different than the previous plans because it still leaves many in the cold. As the old saying goes, it is like putting lipstick on a pig, as the bill still allows States to eliminate essential healthcare benefits like ER visits, preventative screenings, and prescription drug coverage.

This misguided plan also guts Medicaid, at a loss of \$4 billion in Federal funds to Ohio—my State—and allows insurers to charge seniors and people

with preexisting health conditions more money for less coverage.

Now it is time to stand together and hold strong with Senator JOHN McCAIN and the Governors of Ohio, Nevada, and other States. Republicans should work with Democrats to create a better deal, better jobs, better healthcare, and a better future for all Americans.

#### CONGRATULATING ABBOTT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to recognize and congratulate the Abbott High School baseball team on being this year's Division 1A State champions.

Located in Abbott, Texas, this small town high school has defied the odds. Since opening its doors in 1886, this is the first time the baseball program has earned the title of State champions.

Just last week, I visited the Panthers, as well as Principal Pustejovsky and Head Coach Crawford. It was an honor to meet them and these young Americans and be able to congratulate them on a hard-earned victory.

As a former baseball player myself, it is inspiring to watch a new wave of students become interested in America's favorite pastime. These boys are bright and eager to do their best by giving 110 percent at all times, and that is the kind of spirit we need in this country.

In a time when we are finally recovering from the last 8 years of turmoil, kids like these are exactly the driving force behind what will make this country great again.

Madam Speaker, as long as I am up here in Washington, I am committed to continuing to fight for our Nation's future generations.

I am proud to represent the black and gold in the 25th Congressional District of Texas, and I look forward to watching their baseball careers unfold.

And, remember, keep your head over the plate, swing as hard as you can, and always look fastball.

In God we trust.

□ 1915

#### HELEN HUYNH FIGHTING LEUKEMIA

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, last week, people across the Nation and around the world heard the heart-wrenching story of my constituent, Helen Huynh.

Helen is bravely fighting leukemia. She desperately needs a stem cell transplant, which requires a compatible match. Helen's sister, Thuy, is a 100 percent match, but she lives in Vietnam. She has been denied a visa to come to the United States for this potentially lifesaving procedure. She has been denied now three times.

This is outrageous, and I am doing everything I can to make sure this wrong is corrected. Mark my words: it will be corrected. I am working with Helen's family, the State Department, and the Department of Homeland Security to make sure that we are successful in bringing Thuy to Helen as soon as possible.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL DANIEL FRANCIS KELLY

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Corporal Daniel Francis Kelly, who, after being listed as missing in action in Korea for 67 years, is finally home.

Danny was the youngest of nine boys of Irene and John Kelly from Pittsburgh's north side. Seven of his eight brothers served in World War II, one of whom was Medal of Honor recipient Chuck "Commando" Kelly. Danny idolized Chuck and wanted to be a war hero just like him.

With Chuck's help, Danny enlisted in the Army in 1950, at the age of 17. By November of that year, as part of the 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, he found himself at the Battle of Ch'ongch'on River, where he was captured on November 26. It is believed he died at the POW camp known as "Death Valley" in March 1951.

Corporal Kelly, this week, your country gives you the funeral with military honors you have long deserved. Like your brother Chuck, you are a hero. A grateful nation says "thank you."

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER FUNDING

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues that we have just 4 days to authorize mandatory funding for our Nation's Community Health Centers.

If Congress fails to act before September 30, the Community Health Center program will suffer a 70 percent cut to its funding. Our constituents and our economy will suffer the consequences.

Without this funding, an estimated 2,800 health center facilities will be forced to close, 51,000 medical professionals will lose their jobs, and 9 million patients will lose access to the care they rely on.

The critical role Community Health Centers have in serving patients is beyond dispute, and it should be beyond partisanship.

While our Senate colleagues are scrambling to meet a self-imposed deadline, they are ignoring real dead-

lines that we must meet. We must fund these health centers this week, or we will be responsible for the economic and human cost of our inaction.

#### THANKING THE SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

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

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank my home team, the Seattle Seahawks, for joining nearly 200 NFL players across the country who exercised their First Amendment right to protest during the national anthem. I fully support their right to do so.

These players used their platform to draw attention to the racial and social injustices of our time and to condemn the racism and divisive rhetoric coming from President Trump.

Athletes practice unity in a way that few others do, coming from every walk of life and pulling together to model unity every single game.

Let us be very clear: these protests are not about disrespecting the flag or our country's brave men and women in uniform. They are about the oppression of people of color, the number of black men gunned down by police, and the school-to-prison pipeline. These protests are about speaking out about unacceptable behavior and rhetoric and fighting for justice.

I thank our players and the Seahawks for addressing these issues with unity, compassion, and truth. I thank Colin Kaepernick for starting this important conversation.

#### STANDING WITH DACA RECIPIENTS

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, September 5, 2017: that is a day that will forever be ingrained in the minds of immigrants and DREAMers as the day that Donald Trump crossed a moral line.

The President is playing hot potato with a group of young people who, like me, came to this country "with heart," "con corazon;" "with humility," "con humildad;" and "with a desire to do more," "con el deseo de hacer mas."

DREAMers are "fighters," "luchadores." They are fighters, and so we will not rest until the Dream Act is the law of the land and until DREAMers and their parents can go to sleep without the fear of ICE knocking on their door and showing up in their place of worship, school, or at a hospital.

To my colleagues, we urge you to stand with us, stand with 800,000 DACA recipients, and stand with their parents in passing the Dream Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from en-

gaging in personalities toward the President.

#### HURRICANE-RIDDEN PLACES

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. In hurricane-riden places, DREAMers are extraordinarily scared for their families, for the ability to recover from damages; and I see it every day.

It is imperative that Republicans sign this bill to save and protect our DREAMers, who are, in fact, Americans. Do it for all of those who are suffering.

Then, Madam Speaker, let me explain to you that FEMA needs to address the poverty of my constituents, individuals who are calling me in their apartments when their 84-year-old mother and themselves have lost everything, and they cannot get a FEMA inspector to that apartment.

I will be addressing this with FEMA Director Brock Long, but we cannot go this route. People are still in uninhabitable housing. Over the weekend, seniors were evicted from their housing with no place to go.

I am engaged with our public housing authority, but we have got to have a system that is orderly for those who are living in uninhabitable housing. And, FEMA, you have got to enhance the inspectors. These people are waiting for over a month for you to come to their apartment or home to inspect, because they have no resources at all, and they are depending upon the FEMA dollars based upon your inspection for the loss of personal items.

The hurricane is still on for my friends in Puerto Rico and Florida and the Virgin Islands and Texas.

#### REPUBLICANS NEED TO JOIN DEMOCRATS IN BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION

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

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the concerns expressed by Congresswoman JACKSON LEE about those who have been affected by the hurricanes. They need not only our compassion but our help as soon as possible. I thank Congresswoman JACKSON LEE for her leadership.

I also associate myself with the remarks of others who have talked about the discharge petition here. This discharge petition will not only discharge a bill, it will discharge the realization of hopes and dreams and aspirations of so many hundreds of thousands of young people in our country.

Just to put it in historic perspective, we did pass a Dream Act in 2010, in the House of Representatives. We couldn't pass it in the Senate, because it required 60 votes, but it did receive a majority of the vote in the Senate.

President Obama, as people know, issued an executive order. President