

skills and creativity in designing and building their apps.

Because of STEM education, students are not only learning critical technological skills that will serve them in the future, but they are creating the next generation of apps, software programs, and more—possibly, the next IT company.

Supporting STEM education gives our students an opportunity to become leaders in the field that positively impacts America and the world alike.

IMPEACH PRESIDENT TRUMP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, once again, I enjoy the preeminent privilege of standing in the well of the Congress of the United States of America. I do not take lightly the opportunity that the people of this country have afforded me.

Mr. Speaker, the topic that I will address today is not the one that I had in mind when contemplating this moment.

Mr. Speaker, I have been moved by the words of a father—a father who spoke this morning on national television; a father who talked about his daughter and how his daughter had been a victim of bigotry; a father who talked about how his daughter had been spoken of in terms that were untrue; and a father who had been led to believe, he himself, that his daughter could be changed.

He went to various professionals to try to seek help because his daughter was a lesbian, and they discovered that this was who she was, Mr. Speaker. This was not some charade, not some facade, not some disease, this was who she was. This is who God created, Mr. Speaker.

And the saddest part of this story, Mr. Speaker, is that it doesn't have a happy ending. Because of bigotry and the way people have been misled, this daughter took her life.

I literally had tears well up in my eyes as I heard the story. I am saddened by what happened, and I am saddened to know that a person associated with that bigotry may find his way to the Senate of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, people ask: What harm does it do to allow bigotry to emanate from the highest offices in this country?

There is some of your evidence, Mr. Bigotry, and those who perpetrate it. There is some of your evidence of how it can be harmful.

But there is more evidence.

When you speak ill of people who are exercising their constitutional right to protest, and you call their mothers dogs when you call them SOBs, you are creating harm to society, especially when it emanates from the highest office in the land.

What harm does it cause to society when you associate the majesty and

the dignity of the Presidency with those who would go to Charlottesville screaming “blood and soil,” proclaiming, “Jews will not replace us.” When you associate the majesty and the dignity of the Presidency with these people, you are doing harm to society, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, I will answer the question that has been posed. It is a question that I think is a fair one and ought to be answered. Here is the answer. You will surmise what the question is by virtue of my giving the answer. The answer is: there will be another vote to impeach this President. There will be another vote because I will not stand by and watch this country, the country I love, be brought into shame and disrepute because of a person who is unfit to hold the office of President.

Mr. Speaker, history will judge us all. For those who find that this is unacceptable and unbearable, I am sorry, but the country is greater than we are. Government of the people, by the people, is greater than we are. Maintaining and saving the Republic is greater than we are, in one sense, but, in another sense, it really is who we are.

I have a tie on that says: We, the people. We, the people, we are the ones who can make a difference. There will be another vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it reads like a page out of George Orwell's “1984;” spies, secret courts, and searches of Americans without a warrant. It is clear: Big Brother is watching us.

Most Americans may not be fully aware of what is taking place behind closed doors of government spy agencies, but the reality is our government is spying on ordinary, everyday Americans.

How?

Through an old piece of legislation, originally signed into law by President Carter in 1978, called the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or FISA.

FISA allows our government to spy on foreign agents, including terrorists, primarily overseas. The government collects all of this information and puts it into a database. If they want to use or search the database, they go to a secret court, and that court issues a secret warrant to search the database.

This court operates behind closed doors and issues those secret warrants to go after—remember—bad guys overseas.

As the subcommittee chairman of terrorism, I have no problem with our government going after terrorists who seek to harm Americans.

What I do have a problem with, Mr. Speaker, is the government uses these databases that they seize and then looks in those databases about Americans and their activities, violating their Fourth Amendment rights because they don't have a warrant to go into these databases to look for Americans. Remember, they are searching for terrorists.

Here is what happens: While seizing the communications of a suspected foreign agent—maybe an al-Qaeda terrorist talking to another al-Qaeda terrorist—the government, incidentally, picks up communications of American citizens. These communications may not have anything to do with terrorism.

This data is kept. The government puts it in their database, and they say it is legal. This information on Americans was seized based on this secret warrant of foreigners issued by a FISA judge.

Occasionally, the government then decides to go into this database that was inadvertently seized—as they call it—without a Fourth Amendment warrant on Americans, and checks to see how many times an American name, or other identifying information, comes up. If they find something, they use this data on the American citizen.

Now, Mr. Speaker, they still don't have a warrant to search Americans' information, even if it was incidentally collected.

They search this database to see, for example, if Bobby Oglethorpe is committing a crime in the United States, maybe having nothing to do with terrorism. Maybe it is a robbery, maybe it is an IRS fraud, maybe it violates other laws of the United States. But, remember, they are looking for that without a warrant.

They seize the information, and, quite frankly, we don't know how many times they seize this information on Americans.

Our Judiciary Committee has continually asked the intelligence community: How many times have you searched? They refuse to tell us how many searches and seizures there are on Americans in that database.

Very suspicious, isn't it, Mr. Speaker?

According to The Washington Post, 90 percent of the account holders, whose communications were collected, were not targets. The bad guys overseas, they were Americans: 90 percent of them.

Nearly half of the surveillance files contained names, email addresses, and other details that the NSA marked as belonging to American citizens or residents.

So, what information are they getting?

They get communications, texts, and emails.

Without a warrant, remember, secret courts issuing secret warrants, and they don't tell anybody about it.

Under section 702 of the FISA legislation, this warrantless search of Americans is legal. But this, in my opinion, violates the U.S. Constitution.

As a former judge, I am very concerned about the loss of our Fourth Amendment right of privacy in the United States, based on this unconstitutional law. The Fourth Amendment is sacred to this country and to the Founders who drafted it. It is up to Congress to uphold Americans' Fourth Amendment rights.

Despite intense debate in the House Judiciary Committee, I am still concerned the House leadership is planning to reintroduce and reauthorize the FISA legislation and not have these reforms to protect Americans' privacy. A reauthorization of FISA with weak language only seeks to put Americans' privacy at stake and violates the U.S. Constitution.

Any 702 reauthorization should simply require that if you want to look at the data that was incidentally seized on Americans, get a search warrant or stay out of that data; otherwise, it violates the Constitution.

And that is just the way it is.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge Americans to sign up for their health insurance by this Friday, at midnight, if they haven't already done so for the 2018 year. This Friday, December 15, is the deadline to sign up for open enrollment for them and for their family.

□ 1045

If you don't do that, you won't have a chance, really, to buy that health insurance next year. If you haven't already bought your health insurance for 2018, to get details about available plans, please visit the website, healthcare.gov, or call 1-800-318-2596—that is healthcare.gov, or 1-800-318-2596. You will actually get to talk to a real person.

In order to get in touch with someone local who can help you sign up for insurance in your own area, you call that same number, 1-800-318-2596, or you can go to the website that is called localhelp.healthcare.gov—localhelp.healthcare.gov.

Health insurance is vital. It can protect us from astronomical cost when a serious accident or illness occurs, because the average cost of a 3-day hospital stay is \$30,000. A broken leg, on average, costs \$7,500. Having a baby, on average, in States like Ohio, costs \$6,000.

Health insurance is your lifeline. It helps protect you and your family from unexpected costs and, frankly, possible bankruptcy, because over two-thirds of people in our country that go bankrupt do so because of health bills they can't pay.

What happens is, if they have a house, they lose the house. It is confiscated to pay the medical bills. They lose their credit rating. It is a terrible thing that happens to people when they get sick, and it is just a roll of the dice on who is going to get cancer, who is going to get appendicitis, who is going to become ill, who is going to be hit in a hit-and-run accident around this country.

Coverage choices are affordable on these exchanges, and, in many cases, financial help is available. During last year's enrollment period, believe it or not, 8 in 10 people qualified for financial help. For most people, that meant they could find insurance premiums for as little as \$100 a month or less.

For example, CareNet, a provider network in Ohio, recently helped to enroll a gentleman who has cancer and was previously uninsured. Can you imagine that? Who can afford these infusions? This man spent an entire year without oncology treatment and certainly needs multiple surgeries now. Because of the Affordable Care Act and through the help of CareNet, he found a plan that costs \$100 a month. He thought he would have to pay much more, but he will now be able to begin treatment at the beginning of 2018. Thank God he got coverage.

Actually, many working people can qualify for Medicaid. For example, a family of four earning \$33,000 in Ohio can get coverage through Medicaid. Please know you can apply for and enroll in Medicaid at any time of the year. Even if you don't have health insurance, you should definitely look into that if you do not have health insurance.

Every American is required to have health insurance through their employer—but a lot of employers don't provide it—through Medicare, Medicaid, or through purchase of plans on the individual marketplace. Health insurance provides you and your family with health security and piece of mind, paying costs when you need medical care.

The marketplace provides access to quality and affordable health coverage, which requires insurers to cover certain benefits such as prescriptions, emergency care, mental healthcare, and preventive services. It is important to highlight that more than 68 million people rely on Medicaid, and 9 million children rely on the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Now, Republicans in Congress have let the children's program lapse. Unfortunately, Federal funding for that program helps over 220,000 children in Ohio, and 73 days ago, the Republican Congress said: Sorry, America's children, we are going to put you on hold for the moment.

Whether that program will be funded or not is all caught up in these end-of-year discussions that are occurring here at a very high level. America's children should be covered with insurance.

The Republican-led Congress has also let Federal funding for community health centers, a resource critical to millions of our families, lapse also since September 30. They best restore that. Why hurt the American people? Why would you do that?

Once again, please visit healthcare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596 to sign up for your health insurance for 2018. Do what is responsible, and do what is lifegiving.

MOUNT NITTANY VINEYARD AND WINERY WINS BEST OF CATEGORY AWARD

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 congratulate a great agribusiness, a successful part of our number one industry in Pennsylvania, which is agriculture.

One out of every seven Pennsylvanians owe their job directly or indirectly to agriculture, and today I rise to congratulate one of those agribusinesses, the Mount Nittany Vineyard and Winery, for winning a Best of Category award at this year's Atlantic Seaboard Wine Association competition. Mount Nittany Vineyards and Winery took home one gold, six silver, and two bronze awards in the mid-Atlantic competition.

Located just 6 miles from State College and Penn State University, Mount Nittany Vineyard and Winery is located above the historic village of Linden Hall. It boasts breathtaking views across Penns Valley to the Tussey Mountain range.

Mount Nittany Vineyard and Winery won Best of Category for its 2016 Geisenheim wine. Joe and Betty Carroll founded the winery, and it opened for business in 1990. Mount Nittany Vineyard and Winery now produces 16,000 gallons of wine each year and harvests anywhere from 12 to 15 tons of grapes annually.

It is now owned and managed by Joe and Betty's daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Steve Weaver. Linda and Steve continue to produce award-winning wines, including fruit wines out of locally sourced cherries, apples, blueberries, and raspberries.

Mr. Speaker, proudly, Linda and Steve Weaver will be on Capitol Hill tomorrow for the Atlantic Seaboard Wine Association awards ceremony. I wholeheartedly congratulate the Weavers on this outstanding recognition. I wish them the best as they continue to grow, make, and produce their fine wines in Centre County.

APPLAUDING CONTINE CORPORATION ON OSHA DESIGNATION

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional achievement of Contine Corporation in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Contine Corporation is a manufacturer of mechanical and