

Jewish Congress on the 100th anniversary of their founding in 1918. The American Jewish Congress has been instrumental in fighting for civil rights and liberties by participating in the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, working to save Jewish lives during the Holocaust, coordinating the critical effort to create a Jewish state with United States recognition, and defending civil rights of all Americans and individuals throughout the world regardless of race, religion, or national ancestry.

AJC actively engages with the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch as well as the United Nations and the Israeli government to educate on Jewish affairs, combat anti-Semitism to include fighting the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement that attacks Israel, convey the threat of a nuclear Iran, and reinforce the AJC commitment to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Congratulations to Jack Rosen, President of the AJC and Board Members Munn Kazmir, Daniel Rosen, Ben Chouake, Vivien Weissman-Howard, Jordan Rosen, John Kruger, Michael Melnicke, Alan Pines, Mark Appel, and Morty Davis for their leadership.

The security of Israeli families is vital for the security of American families.

PASSING OF DR. MICHAEL GARY
EHRlich

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Michael Gary Ehrlich.

An accomplished orthopedic surgeon, husband, father, and grandfather, Dr. Ehrlich will be sorely missed by his loved ones and the many patients whose lives were forever improved by his skilled practice of medicine.

He paved the way to advances and innovation in skeletal health after graduating from Dartmouth College and Columbia University.

And throughout a distinguished career at Massachusetts General Hospital, Brown University, and Rhode Island and Miriam Hospitals, Dr. Ehrlich demonstrated a genuine affinity for improving the human condition through his service as a practitioner.

The people of Rhode Island have lost more than a surgeon—we have lost a friend. Yet, I know that his work ethic and positive contribution to the community will live on through the students he mentored, the research he poured countless hours into, and the thousands of patients he helped.

THE REPUBLICAN TAX SCAM AND
THE WAR ON WORKING AND MID-
DLE-CLASS AMERICANS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address Americans' concerns over increasing income inequality that has been exasperated by the Republican Tax Scam bill. The so-called Tax Cuts and Jobs

Act passed by Republicans last fall not only fails to provide a significant tax cut for working class and middle Americans, but it also increases the national deficit by \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years. Moreover, any marginal income tax reduction that it affords everyday Americans will disappear within the next few years.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, 76 percent of Americans will actually experience an overall tax increase between now and 2027. It is my strong belief that providing tax relief to small business owners, entrepreneurs, and working-class families is key to creating a strong economy that works for everyone. But requiring working families to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy and powerful will not promote real, sustainable economic growth.

Here is what the Republican tax law will do: By 2027, Americans in the first, second, and third quintiles will have their taxes increased, while 83 percent of tax breaks will go to the top one percent. By 2027, 86 million households (more than half of America's middle class) will see a tax increase. In Alabama, the richest 1 percent will see a \$4,450 tax cut, where the bottom 80 percent will see a \$117 tax increase.

We do not have to look back far into history to learn that these types of tax cuts hurt the American people. Ronald Reagan's 1981 tax cuts were followed by only 3.5 percent average growth between 1982 and 1985, and required base broadening tax increases. Deficits from the Reagan tax cuts led to tax increases by George H.W. Bush in 1990. George W. Bush's tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 were followed by a precipitous decline in growth from 3.8 percent growth in 2004 down to -0.3 percent in 2008. The Bush tax cuts were also a major driver of the growing deficit, and widened income disparities.

We also saw what happened in the state of Kansas when Republicans promised that dramatic cuts to business taxes would bring a new wave of economic growth and thousands of new jobs. Unsurprisingly, the economic growth was never realized and the state was forced to close schools, cut funding to public universities, cut funding to public services, and delay contributions to state pension funds.

Columbia University Law professor Michael Graetz said, "the historical record is pretty clear that tax cuts don't pay for themselves through economic growth." Despite this evidence, Republicans on the Ways and Means Committee rammed through a partisan tax scam bill, passed it through the House of Representatives without a single Democratic vote, and passed it through the Senate in the same fashion.

As the Trump Administration calls for another round of tax cuts for the wealthy, I urge the President and my Republican colleagues to fulfill their promise to work together on bipartisan legislation that will truly benefit all Americans. We need bipartisan legislation that works to uphold America's strong middle class and provides underserved families with the assistance they deserve to escape the cycle of poverty and enter the workforce.

RECOGNIZING EMMA ANDERSON

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor an amazing young child whose compassion for others and giving nature touches the lives of thousands in need of comfort.

In 2012, Emma Anderson from Kalispell, founded Emma's Cuddle Bears after seeing family friends undergo cancer treatment. An adult friend described the challenges she faced while battling cancer and said her heart went out to the young children fighting cancer in the treatment center.

Emma, only 5 years old at the time, asked if the children ever got scared, to which the friend replied that they probably did. Emma thought for a moment and said, "I have an idea."

Emma used her own allowance money to purchase 20 teddy bears. She carefully examined each one to make sure it passed her cuddle test. She then gave each one a name and wrote a little note for the person receiving a bear. The bears arrived at the University of Washington Cancer Center, where the Andersons' friend was receiving treatment. The bears immediately warmed the hearts of children who needed the special comfort a cuddle bear can provide.

Since then, the young humanitarian has sent over 3,000 Cuddle Bears to those suffering from cancer, debilitating diseases, and other difficult circumstances. Emma has a special gift for picking just the right bear to encourage and comfort young and old alike. She still insists on naming all the cuddle bears.

Emma continues to answer her calling to help others. She joined Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child at her local church as an assistant project coordinator. Emma's bold and affectionate personality inspires others to give.

There's a saying on display in the Anderson household: "From small beginnings come great things." It was on the nursery wall when Emma's adoptive mother, Jeri Anderson, brought her home from China as an infant.

Starting from small beginnings, Emma and her cuddle bears continue to accomplish great things. All those who know her believe the best is yet to come.

Mr. Speaker, for her compassion, generosity, and willingness to reach out to those in need, I recognize Emma Anderson for her spirit of Montana.

HONORING COLONEL BRENT E.
FRENCH

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Brent E. French from Westborough, Massachusetts, who will be retiring from the United States Air Force after 27 years of active-duty and reserve service in August.

Most recently, Colonel French served as the Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Director of Security Forces within Air Force

Headquarters. Colonel French advises on the training and organization of 40,000 United States Air Force Security Forces who protect our national security every day.

Colonel French was commissioned through the University of Connecticut Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, where he was a distinguished graduate. He has commanded an Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron in Oman and the International Military Police at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel French has had a remarkable record of success in the Air Force—but don't take my word for it. He has received the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, as well as the Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and two oak leaf clusters.

Closer to home, Colonel French has played a key role at Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Foiese Business School—where he manages an \$8,000,000 budget and operations for the 40 faculty and staff assigned to the school. He also serves as an adjunct teaching professor.

Mr. Speaker, in every city and town across America, there are people who know that public service is more than just a career—it is a calling. People who see problems and want to fix them; people who know that through hard work, they can truly make a difference for their country. Throughout his life, it's clear that Colonel French is one of those people—and for that we are grateful.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I offer my most sincere thanks to Colonel French for his service to our nation, and a very heartfelt congratulations on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING FORMER AMBASSADOR THANDEKA LUTHULI GCABASHE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an inspiring activist, dedicated servant for mankind, and former South African Ambassador to the Caribbean, Thandeka (Thandi) Luthuli Gcabashe. Ambassador Gcabashe will be in Albany, Georgia this week and it is my honor and pleasure to welcome her to the Second Congressional District of Georgia where she will be visiting her friend of longstanding, Dougherty County Commissioner, Gloria Gaines.

Thandeka, also known as Thandi, is one of two daughters born to Chief Albert Luthuli and Nokukhanya Bhengu. Chief Luthuli was Nelson Mandela's predecessor in the African National Congress where he served as President from 1952–1967. He was also the second black man to win the Nobel Peace Prize for his nonviolent approach to fighting South Africa's Apartheid.

Throughout her life, Ambassador Gcabashe continued to uphold her father's dedication to peace and human rights through her work in South Africa and the United States of America. While in South Africa, she coordinated

South Africa's Peace Education Program and lectured to civic, cultural, and educational institutions on the pressing issues surrounding Apartheid. In 1970, shortly after the death of her father, she fled South Africa with her husband and four children, and they settled in Atlanta, Georgia with the help of the American Embassy and the late activist, Mrs. Coretta Scott-King. While in the U.S., she continued to condemn the Apartheid and played a pivotal role in coordinating the American response. She returned to South Africa in 1996, following the end of Apartheid. She went on to join South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs in 1998 and in 1999 was appointed Ambassador to Venezuela, Latin America, and the West Indies (the Caribbean).

Former Ambassador Gcabashe's work has earned her numerous awards and accolades such as the ONI Award from the International Black Women's Congress, the Civil Liberation Award from the Civil Liberties Union of Georgia, and an honorary Doctorate from Haverford College.

Nelson Mandela said, "A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination." Ambassador Gcabashe undoubtedly possesses this combination and the evidence is noted in her distinguished service to her country, devotion to her work, and the compassion she has shown for the people of the Caribbean.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing former South African Ambassador, Thandeka (Thandi) Luthuli Gcabashe. The Second Congressional District of Georgia welcomes this outstanding woman and applauds her dedication and service to the betterment of mankind.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE UNIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join my colleagues in condemning the President's cruel and inhumane family separation policy and its failure to reunite children with their families.

Over two months ago, the Attorney General of the United States announced this administration's inhumane and cruel child separation policy.

This policy was the function of hasty political considerations and incomplete calculations of the ramifications of what such an abhorrent policy would do to the children implicated, the parents who brought them to our country in the hopes of a better life, a nation that has watched in horror, and a global community aghast at the measures being taken pursuant to this "zero tolerance" policy.

I have returned from my second trip to the Southern border in as many months.

I was there to conduct effective oversight to reexamine whether families are being reunited and to determine what due process is available to these individuals in the United States Courts and where these individuals can seek corrective action for that which confronts them.

When I visited the border last month and the federal detention facilities that housed parents and children quarantined from one another, what I witnessed was horrific and unforgettable.

One baby, 9-month-old Roger, had been taken from his 19-year-old sister after she was prosecuted for crossing the border illegally.

Their mother is dead, and they were coming here to find family.

Little Leah, just one year old, was taken from a grandmother and a sister.

The pain was no less visceral when speaking with mothers wondering where their children have gone.

In South Texas I met Gabby, from Honduras, who had a 45 day-old baby taken from her, and while housed at the facility had not yet been treated or given medical attention.

To be sure, these children are not alone.

To date, thousands of children remain separated from their parents.

In fact, once this administration realized that the optics of this child separation policy were not favorable, the administration attempted to disperse the quarantined children to faraway corners from where they were separated—South Texas—and away from their parents.

Indeed, one of the locations proposed to house these children was a shelter in my congressional district—the 18th District of Texas—ironically, on Emancipation Avenue.

The goodness and decency of the residents of my district, gleaned from their opposition to this policy, was immediately and abundantly clear.

Citizens organized throughout our community to make their opposition to this plan known loud and clear.

Congressional action must reflect the passionate activism of our fellow Americans.

Upon returning to the Congress, together with my colleagues on the House Judiciary Committee, and its Ranking Member JERRY NADLER, we introduced H.R. 6135, "Keep Families Together Act."

This bill promotes family unity by prioritizing keeping families together.

It would prohibit the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") from separating children from their parents except in extraordinary circumstances.

The bill requires an independent child welfare agent official to review any such separation and return the child if no harm to the child is present.

Thereafter I wrote to the President and was joined by 57 of my colleagues, asking him to end this policy, but also additionally to: Order the immediate cessation of the zero-tolerance policy for criminal illegal entry;

Reinstate the highly successful family case management program, which avoids the cascading ills associated with the President's child separation policy, while accounting for the law enforcement concerns at the heart of border enforcement;

Conduct a census of all accompanied immigrant children as well as a count of all unaccompanied immigrant or refugee children housed at facilities unknown to Congress;

Restore eligibility for asylum status for those fleeing gang violence or domestic violence;

And prohibit federal agencies from assisting any State from terminating the parental rights of any person whose child was removed.

To date, the President has not responded to this letter.

Indeed, it appears as if the President's lack of response to the letter I led is indicative of the administration's overall tact towards legitimate inquiries for oversight, like that which is prescribed by Article I of the Constitution.