

I was also unable to be present to cast my vote on the THRIVE Act (H.R. 5735). Had I been present for Roll Call No. 266, I would have voted "NAY."

SUBSTANCE USE-DISORDER PREVENTION THAT PROMOTES OPIOID RECOVERY AND TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 6) to provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes:

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the bipartisan legislation, SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6). This legislation includes several provisions which would improve access to health care and treatment services for low-income and at-risk Minnesotans.

In particular, I support allowing nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe treatment for opioid use disorder, and increasing providers who can prescribe buprenorphine. These policies are particularly important for those living with addiction in Greater Minnesota and urban areas facing shortages or lack in treatment facilities and physicians. The legislation also includes provisions that ensure foster and incarcerated youth are covered under Medicaid and do not experience gaps in coverage and care.

I am committed to ensuring prevention and substance use treatment programs are properly funded, and all Americans have access to the services they need to live a sustainable and healthy life. We need solutions to these problems facing some of the most vulnerable Americans, and although H.R. 6 doesn't address all the issues we face in this crisis, it is a step in the right direction. However, Congress must continue to fund programs to support all communities impacted by the opioid epidemic.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING JON TAITANO ON BEING CHOSEN AS ONE OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE'S TWELVE OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senior Airman Jon Taitano, a combat communications specialist and client systems technician at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam. Senior Airman Taitano was recognized this weekend as one of the U.S. Air Force's Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

Airman Taitano was nominated by his unit, the 644th Combat Communications Squadron, for his superior leadership, job performance,

and personal achievements. The 644th CCS is part of the 36th Contingency Response Group in Andersen Air Force Base's 36th Wing and is positioned to rapidly deploy combat ready Airmen and communications in support of Pacific Theater contingencies.

Senior Airman Taitano's work maintaining and troubleshooting classified and unclassified combat communications systems is critical to our national defense and the protection of Guam and the strategic military assets based there. I speak on behalf of the people of Guam when I say we are immensely proud to see a University of Guam graduate like Senior Airman Taitano recognized as one of the top performers in the U.S. Air Force.

TRIBUTE TO GARRET CALTRIDER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Garret Caltrider of West Central Valley High School. Garret was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Sixteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on April 29, 2018.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Garret Caltrider in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to reach his goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Garret on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

HONORING RIGBY ZENTNER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rigby Zentner on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah, and for her dedication to public service. Recent events in our nation have highlighted the need for comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Ms. Zentner, delivered on the day of her Bat Mitzvah. As she has written, we have a moral duty to welcome those in need.

Mr. Speaker, this speech should serve as a reminder that we must work to improve our society for our children and grandchildren, and that our society is truly made richer and stronger by immigrants.

WELCOMING THE STRANGER
(Rigby Maya Zentner)

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The

wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" Emma Lazarus

Thank you for coming. I really appreciate everyone being here today. Over the past year I have been researching Jewish values on welcoming the stranger, and how it relates to immigration in the past and today. I explored lessons from the Torah; the Jewish experience during their migrations; and my personal experience with helping to welcome a newcomer to America.

At the time I was choosing my Bat Mitzvah topic, there was a political uproar about immigration. The Trump Administration was working to:

Limit the rights of immigrants in the US
Put a travel ban on Muslim countries, and
Build a wall on the Mexican border.

I couldn't believe this was happening in our homeland and my core values and beliefs led me to want to do more research on how people are treated and welcomed in this country. I also wanted to find a way to help a stranger to America adjust to life in the United States.

All of us in this room have been a stranger before, whether it was being new to a country, school or activity. We all know what it is like when you are somewhere where everybody knows each other and you don't know any of them and, most importantly, we all know how we would like to be treated and welcomed in those situations.

I am fortunate because I have almost always been surrounded by my friends and family. The times in my life when I have felt like a stranger are nothing compared to what some people have gone through in their lives as immigrants or refugees . . . but even some of my experiences have made me feel nervous and afraid.

For example, there was a time when my family and I used to go to my neighbors Super Bowl parties. My neighbor, who was around my age, would invite all her friends to the party as well. I only knew my neighbor and one of her friends. I would try to get myself included but it was really hard because all of them knew each other and went to the same school so they would talk about things that were happening at their school, or play games I didn't know how to play. They were not trying to be mean and I doubt the even noticed, but I felt really excluded and upset. After this experience I tried imagining what it would have been like to come to a new country and not know anybody or speak a different language, and I couldn't.

To get started on my research, and because this is my Bat Mitzvah, I wanted to explore my Jewish culture. I decided to understand what the Torah, The five books of Moses, says about how to treat foreigners. I know that it is important to explore our history and culture because it shapes our morals and values.

My research led me to believe that Jewish people have welcomed foreigners with open arms. The Torah gives instructions on how to welcome strangers as many as 36 times. Exodus 22:20 says "you shall not wrong nor oppress a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." In other words, since Jews have been strangers we should feel empathy toward others and not harm them.

Leviticus 19:33-34 tells us, "When strangers reside with you in your land, you shall not wrong them. The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Nevertheless, as I learned more about the history of these original Torah passages, it became clear that not everybody interpreted the Torah in this way.

Rabbi Jeremy told me that in these verses the Hebrew word *ger* is used, which can

translate to “immigrant” OR “convert”. In the middle ages Rabbis interpreted ger as convert, so the Torah might be saying that you should treat converts to Judaism nicely INSTEAD of saying that Jews should treat all strangers well.

Because today the messages of the Torah are not always clear, I prefer to assume that my religion is instructing me to be kind to ALL strangers, and not just to Jews. It is important to always review our history and reflect on our actions so that we can learn from our mistakes.

In the past, Jews were not always welcomed to new communities in a kind way. And, it is this history that influenced Jewish culture and our ethics on welcoming strangers and helping others.

Around the world the treatment of Jews was frequently terrible. For example, . . .

In Spain, in 1492, the inquisition forced Jews to convert or be killed;

In 1508 German people were allowed to confiscate and destroy all Jewish books

In 1547 Jews weren't allowed to live in Russia at all;

In France, in 1615, King Louis XIII declared that all Jews had to leave or be killed;

Between 1622 and 1629 Persian Jews were forced to convert to Islam

In 1654 Jews were expelled from Brazil.

The treatment of Jews became so bad, that, in 1848, a German newspaper said that killing a Jew should be treated as a misdemeanor instead of a serious crime.

In the early 1900s there were Pogroms in Russia where they rounded up all the Jews and either killed them, beat them, and made them leave. My great great grandfather fled these Pogroms and spent 7 years traveling across China and Asia Koshering meat for Jewish communities. When he finally got to America he sent for the rest of his family, including my great grandma, Yetta Greenberg.

America is known as a country of immigrants. Today, according to the Pew Research Center, the U.S. has more immigrants than any other country in the world. In the past 25 years, the U.S. immigrant population doubled from 23 million to 46 million foreign born people. Our country hasn't always been perfect, and our current situation is very upsetting, but America has a pretty great culture around letting in strangers and being welcoming to everybody.

Nevertheless, it is more complicated than that.

Jews came to America to escape the harsh treatment they received in Europe, Russia, Brazil and other places, in hopes that their lives would improve. Some things were better when they arrived, but it wasn't perfect.

Books, school, and, yes, even schoolhouse rock, taught me that American is the land of opportunity and in most instances it is . . . but not always.

In 1654, the first Jews arrived in America from Recife, Brazil to what is now New York City.

Initially, some parts of America tolerated different religions, but other places didn't. For example, for years Jews were banned from living in places like Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire. Furthermore, Jewish tradition made it hard to live in the colonies. There were laws against working on Sunday, the Christian Sabbath, so if Jews didn't work on Saturdays, the Jewish Sabbath, they could only work a five day week, making it harder for them to support their families.

In spite of these challenges, the early Jewish settlers to America were more able to worship freely and generally had more rights than they did in Europe. And, with the First Amendment protecting religion and free speech, America became one for the safest places in the world for Jews to settle.

Still, as I looked closer back in our history I found the treatment of immigrants and refugees in America to be inconsistent. One of our best presidents, Franklin D. Roosevelt, made a terrible decision about Jewish refugees. During the Holocaust when many Jews needed a safe place, FDR and Congress turned them away. Congress turned down a bill that would have allowed 20,000 Jewish children from Germany to find safe haven in the U.S. Furthermore, when a ship with about 1,000 Jewish people trying to escape persecution tried to enter the United States it was turned away. After the ship was turned away TWICE it sailed back to Europe where many of the Jews were caught and sent to Nazi concentration camps.

Unfortunately, today we are experiencing a lot of anti-immigrant feelings. President Trump and his administration have repeatedly tried to place a travel ban on immigrants from several Muslim-majority countries.

Additionally, the Trump Administration is also trying to cancel DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which will directly impact about 690,000 people.

The Trump administration has started separating parents from children to try to make people not want to immigrate illegally. One example of this comes from an El Salvadoran family whose father fled to America to escape gang violence. After the Dad left, the gang tried to kill his 16 year-old son. So the Mom took the 16 year old, as well as her 3 year old son and 11 year old daughter across the border into America where she thought they would be safe. They were caught and her kids were taken from her and placed in foster care while the mother went through a trial to consider her application for refuge. The kids spent months in foster where they weren't even allowed to hug each other. How is it acceptable for our country to punish a 3 year old by separating him from his Mom and family—for any reason—is beyond me.

Many Americans believe that immigrants come and take jobs and resources and bring crime and other evils. When I first learned about immigrants, I thought that most barely spoke English, worked at fast food restaurants, and lived in tiny one bedroom apartments. These beliefs including my own early impressions are based on inaccurate stereotypes.

In fact, America needs immigrants. They help our economy; they are often job-makers and entrepreneurs, taxpayers and consumers. “Compared with all Americans, U.S.-born children of immigrants are more likely to go to college, less likely to live in poverty, and equally likely to be homeowners.” Furthermore, immigrant-headed households who are close to the poverty line rely less on government help than U.S.-headed households in the same position.

The facts are clear—it is simply not true that most immigrants come over to America and sit around doing no work and relying on the social safety net.

Moreover, many undocumented immigrants in America are here because they are fleeing severe economic hardship, violence, or persecution. Because Jews have often been in a similar situation of fleeing to safety, I believe that we in particular need to welcome these strangers. Given the Jewish experience through the ages, and notably the Holocaust, the current situation in Syria should be especially meaningful to Jews.

We watch what is happening in Syria where hundreds of thousands of children and families have died since the start of the Syrian War. Yet, in the first three months of 2018, the U.S.—the richest, most powerful, greatest country in the world—has accepted only 11 Syrian refugees. You heard right—11 Syrian refugees in three months. This is un-

believable and I am speechless to as how our government is responding to this tragedy.

Still, there is room for hope. Individuals around the country are working tirelessly to assist Syrian refugees I am proud to say that my Machar congregation and people like Hannah in my B'nei Mitzvah class, are working to help Syrian refugees in the U.S.

REMEMBERING MAJOR CHRISTOPHER T. ZANETIS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a true American hero, Major Christopher “Tripp” Zanetis who gave his country the last full measure of devotion. On March 15, 2018, Major Zanetis and six other American soldiers were killed when their helicopter crashed during a mission in Iraq. Major Zanetis served with the 106th Rescue Wing, New York Air National Guard and was deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq. I, along with all Americans, stand in eternal gratitude for the dedication, service and sacrifice of this young man. As we celebrate our nation's 242nd birthday and our freedoms on July 4th I would like to take a moment to honor and recognize the service of Major Zanetis who gave his life to protect the liberties Americans hold dear.

A native of Carmel, Indiana, Tripp graduated from Carmel High School in 1999, where he was on the Greyhounds' diving team and a member of the Ambassador's show choir. His education led him to New York City, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Politics from New York University and graduated cum laude. Tripp quickly stood out as a leader serving on the student senate and as President of the student body. He was also a member of the NYU swimming and diving team.

On September 11, 2001, Tripp was living three blocks from the World Trade Center. In the midst of the terrorist attacks, Tripp volunteered at Ground Zero helping first responders aid victims. Tripp stayed at Ground Zero for hours assisting with the response. His experience on 9/11 inspired him to join the New York City Fire Department in 2004, where he ultimately became a Fire Marshal and was assigned to the Bureau of Fire Investigation's Citywide South in Brooklyn. In 2014, Tripp received a commendation for bravery for his role in the investigative unit.

Tripp joined the Air National Guard in 2008 and trained to fly the Air Force's combat search and rescue helicopter—the HH60G PaveHawk. He was later deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in 2011 and 2012 with Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. During his service with the Air National Guard, he flew search and rescue helicopters with the 106th Rescue Wing. Tripp received the Meritorious Service Medal and five Air Medals for combat missions. While still on active duty, Tripp enrolled at Stanford Law School. There, he served as co-president of the Stanford Law Veterans organization, co-produced the Stanford Law musical, and facilitated Stanford Law's inaugural OutLaw Conference on LGBTQ Advocacy in the workplace. Tripp was also a member of both the International Refugee Assistance Project and the Stanford