

□ 1100

No veteran deserves to be denied care, and this law brings needed accountability to the VA.

Healthcare is another issue I hear frequently about when I speak with families and businesses across my district, especially ensuring our rural communities have the access they need.

In September, I introduced the CHIME Act, a bipartisan bill to extend the Community Health Center Fund for 5 years. Federally Qualified Health Centers like Hudson Headwaters, North Country Family Health, and the Community Health Center of the North Country provide over 95,000 people in my district with critical healthcare and preventative services.

I am pleased that this bill has over 200 cosponsors. The overwhelming bipartisan support for the CHIME Act was instrumental in the House passing legislation to extend the Community Health Center Fund for 2 years.

I have also been a strong supporter of CHIP and I voted to pass a 5-year reauthorization in the House in November.

While we work to have long-term solutions for these two programs signed into law, I was pleased to pass a critical extension for them in December.

Mr. Speaker, last year was busy working hard to grow our North Country economy, increase access to education, serve our brave veterans, and much more. I am honored every day to serve New York's 21st District in Congress and I look forward to continuing to work my hardest in 2018.

SUPPORTING THOSE LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the story of Philip Gutis.

Mr. Gutis is from New Hope, Pennsylvania. At the age of 56, he has been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. Early-onset Alzheimer's currently affects hundreds of thousands of Americans who are under the age of 65. Diagnoses for this debilitating neurological disease in its early stages can be arduous and frustrating, as many of the symptoms resemble less serious issues like stress.

Mr. Gutis recently visited my district office to discuss living with this disease. He detailed the pain, stress, and confusion that he felt when first diagnosed. He described how simple tasks can become challenging when dealing with memory loss. But his message was not to complain about his ailment, it was to be a voice for other individuals who live with Alzheimer's, those who are unable to have their voices be heard.

Alzheimer's is a serious neurological disease. Though there is no cure, treat-

ment for symptoms can help slow the progressive effects of dementia.

I stand in support of Mr. Gutis and all those living with Alzheimer's.

DOYLESTOWN HEALTH FOUNDATION

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the Doylestown Health Foundation is a healthcare network that has provided critical care to the Bucks County community for over 90 years. In recognition of its continued work, Doylestown Health recently received \$10 million in gifts, the largest amount in their history.

The pair of \$5 million donations were given by two families with close ties to the Doylestown Health Foundation. Richard and Angela Clark have had four generations of family cared for at Doylestown Hospital, while Alex Gorsky, the CEO of Johnson & Johnson, and his wife, Patricia, have served on the hospital board and board of directors, respectively.

Supporting institutions in our community through charitable donations are crucial to community prosperity. The generous gifts of the Clark and Gorsky families are earmarked for vital projects like a new heart and vascular center.

With contributions like these, the Doylestown Health Foundation will be able to continue providing optimal care to those in our Bucks County community.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3759. An act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1425. An act to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, and for other purposes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHERIFF'S DEPUTY ZACKARI PARRISH

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

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism and bravery of Douglas County Sheriff's Deputy Zackari Parrish.

I attended Deputy Parrish's funeral this past Friday and heard what a great husband, father, son, and law enforcement officer he was. He was a father of two young daughters; a husband to his wife, Gracie; a son to his loving parents; and a colleague to many of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office.

Zackari lost his life 10 days ago, responding to a domestic disturbance call in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Sergeant David Buyers spoke of Zackari's

bravery that day, saying that he didn't flinch, he didn't back down, he didn't hesitate. But he also did everything in his power, according to the sheriff, to talk down the gunman.

Sadly, we can't always win the battles against evil, and on that day, Zackari lost. But a lost battle is not a lost war. Zackari knew he fought in a war to defend the innocent and to stand up for good.

It is an honor to speak about a hero. We have the chance to honor one of those people who devoted their life to others. People like Zackari remind us that our world is not lost, evil will not win the day, and we can give more to this world than we take from it.

Zackari is a hero for the people of Douglas County, Colorado, his fellow sheriff's deputies, and the State of Colorado. I pray for his family, friends, and fellow deputies as they charge ahead in life without their loved one. I pray that God will give them peace in this time and that God will be glorified even in the midst of this horrible trial. I pray for the other law enforcement members, the other heroes wounded that day, as well: Michael Doyle, Taylor Davis, Jeff Pelle, and Thomas O'Donnell.

We can never repay their sacrifices for our community. We can only commit ourselves to never forget the cost they willingly paid for us.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord our God, we give You thanks for giving us another year.

At the beginning of this new session, surround us with Your Holy Spirit. Encompass with Your power all the walls and the dome of this building, truly a symbol to the world of inalienable rights and the freedom of people.

Guide and protect Your elected servants in government and all who work in this place. May all who visit here be treated with respect and kindness.

May the comings and goings of Your people be under the seal of Your loving care, and may all our work be done for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BABIN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 3, 2018.

Speaker PAUL RYAN,
The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write to inform you that I will resign from the office of U.S. Representative, effective 5:00 PM EST, Monday, January 15, 2018. For the past seventeen years, it has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Ohio as a Member of Congress.

I thank you for your leadership as Speaker and wish you all the best in future success.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,
Representative to Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 3, 2018.

Hon. JOHN R. KASICH,
Riffe Center,
Columbus, OH.

DEAR GOVERNOR KASICH: I am writing to inform you that I will resign from my seat effective 5:00 PM EST, Monday, January 15, 2018.

It has been an unimaginable privilege to serve the people of the 12th district of Ohio for the past seventeen years. Throughout this time, I have been honored to have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to strengthen our nation and improve people's lives. However, I am equally proud of the outstanding constituent services my office has provided to help countless central Ohioans solve myriad problems with the federal government. Public service is a sacred trust with those we represent, and I hope I have been able to make a difference in people's lives.

It was a distinct honor to succeed you in Congress, and thank you for your leadership as governor to make Ohio an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family. I wish you all the best in continued success.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,
Representative to Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REPUBLICAN REFORMS CREATE JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, I had the opportunity to visit every county in the district I represent on an annual agenda day tour. I shared with local media and constituents the legislative agenda for 2018, as well as my appreciation for the Republican tax reform bill, which has already created jobs.

While walking through Walgreens 2 weeks ago, the owner of Mooneyhan's Auto Service, Bill Mooneyhan, told me that, as a direct result of Republican tax cuts, he is adding a new bay to his shop.

Nephron Pharmaceuticals of Cayce, led by Lou and Bill Kennedy, announced an annual \$1,000 pay increase and is adding 125 jobs in Lexington County.

American Airlines and Aflac are adding jobs, while countless other businesses are providing pay increases and bonuses for their employees.

I am grateful for the leadership of President Donald Trump, Speaker PAUL RYAN, Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Whip STEVE SCALISE, and Chairman KEVIN BRADY. I thank them for providing much-needed tax relief for citizens to create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Best wishes to Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ED and Marie Royce on their decision to conclude service in Congress.

URGING THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION TO ENFORCE THE FLIGHT SAFETY LAW

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, each year we are reminded of the day that Continental Flight 3407 crashed in western New York. This tragedy forever changed our community and stole the lives of husbands, wives, sons, daughters, sisters, and brothers.

In their grief, the families of Flight 3407 bravely turned their loss into a powerful force for change. With their leadership, Congress enacted strong and landmark aviation safety reform legislation. That reform exactly aligned with what the National Transportation Safety Board concluded: that the crash was avoidable, and that pilot error and failed training procedures were the causes.

We have new leadership at the Federal Aviation Administration, and I strongly urge him to swiftly enforce the flight safety law. We, the members of the western New York delegation and the families of Flight 3407, will be watching closely.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this Friday, January 12, marks the eighth anniversary of the devastating earthquake that took the lives of 250,000 Haitians and left unimaginable destruction. Local south Florida organizations, led by Haitian Women of Miami, will hold a silent march at 4 p.m. this Friday to mark the occasion, walking from Northwest 62nd Street to North Miami Avenue to the Little Haiti Cultural Center.

These past 8 years, the people of Haiti have shown incredible resolve, even after being hit by Hurricanes Matthew and Irma recently, and, sadly, there is still much work to be done, Mr. Speaker.

Many Haitians came to the United States after these natural disasters seeking safety and security. Sadly, the administration terminated the Temporary Protected Status, TPS, to these individuals, forcing them to return to a devastated Haiti that is still struggling to rebuild.

As we mark this sad anniversary, we must reaffirm our commitment to helping Haiti move forward, and that must start by calling upon the administration to reverse its decision to terminate TPS for Haiti.

OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING IS A RISKY PROPOSITION

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

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Trump administration proposed opening up all of the coast of the United States of America to offshore oil drilling. This is a very risky proposition for my home State of Florida. Our economy depends on tourism, clean water, a strong fishing economy, and we have a military mission line off of the West Coast of Florida that has to be protected from drilling.

We are not that far removed from the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster that caused loss of life, billions of dollars in economic damage, and significant environmental damage as well. Why would we put our economy, our environment, our military missions at risk for such a risky proposition?

There may be appropriate places to drill for oil, but it is not off of the coast of the State of Florida.

My Republican colleague FRANCIS ROONEY and I have cosponsored a bipartisan bill, the Florida Coastal Protection Act, H.R. 2002. I urge the support of the Congress in turning back this very risky proposal for offshore oil drilling by the Trump administration.