

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE CONOR LAMB, OF PENNSYLVANIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect LAMB and the members of the Pennsylvania delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. LAMB appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 115th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE CONOR LAMB TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to welcome our newest colleague.

CONOR LAMB is a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh, where, incidentally, his family has been active in civic life for generations, and he comes to the House after service to his country as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and an assistant U.S. attorney in the Justice Department.

After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, he was commissioned as a judge advocate general officer in the Marine Corps, where he spent several years prosecuting cases in the military justice system.

Upon completing his Active-Duty service in 2013, Conor clerked for a Federal district court judge and then was appointed assistant U.S. attorney in the Western District of Pennsylvania, where he successfully prosecuted a number of major drug dealers and gun traffickers.

He also continues to serve his country in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to welcome the newest member of the Pennsylvania delegation. He is a lifelong resident. And, incidentally, his family is up in the gallery, and I am sure he is going to be introducing them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the dean of the Republican delegation, for his comments.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Republican delegation, I rise today to wel-

come the newest member of the Pennsylvania delegation, representing the 18th District, CONOR LAMB. As MIKE mentioned, he continues the Lamb family tradition of public service and politics.

Again, as a prosecutor and as a marine, we thank him for his service to his nation.

I would also like to point out that CONOR and I share a unique bond. Obviously, both of our families have been involved in public service and politics for a number of years. We both hail from western Pennsylvania, the Lambs from the South Hills, the Shusters from the Mon Valley; we share counties in our districts; we were both elected in a special election; but most importantly—most importantly—we come from the same side of the aisle: Steelers fans, not Eagles.

Western Pennsylvania is in our blood, and we like to think the importance of family, understanding the value of hard work, and, of course, rooting for the black and gold are what we share with our constituents back home.

CONOR, I look forward to working with you, and on behalf of all the Republicans in the House of Representatives, I welcome you to the House of Representatives. Welcome, Congressman LAMB.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. LAMB).

Mr. LAMB. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take this oath and to join this House.

The founding creed of our country holds that we are endowed by our Creator, that our rights do not come from the State, but from the hand of God. We have always believed that government is established to secure those rights, and the oath we have taken binds us to that cause. I believe in that cause.

When we started our campaign, we heard a lot of talk about how nothing could get done in the government anymore. Wise commentators worried that we were too divided, our institutions too old and too slow to respond, and our people's ancient faith in our democratic process was disappearing, but that is not what we found.

At Legion posts, at union halls, and on people's doorsteps, we found a faith in America and a fierce determination to make our institutions work again, as they have so often in our history. The people of western Pennsylvania picked me up every day.

The essential truth of our situation is we are all in this together. We need solidarity with each other; we need universal programs and aspirations; and we need to honor the service of our fellow citizens.

I will do my level best to reach out, to find common ground, and to help this great American institution deliver the results we need and deserve.

It may be difficult to acknowledge everyone, but I will start with my

grandmother, Barbara Lamb, who is in the House. My parents, Tom and Katie, are with her, along with my uncles, my aunt, and my brother. I also have a brother and sister watching from far away. My fiancée is in the House as well, and I hope everybody gives her a round of applause.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, the whole number of the House is 430.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 3336

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor of H.R. 3336, the Employ Young Americans Now Act, a bill originally introduced by Representative Conyers of Michigan, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GALLAGHER). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1745

HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE AIR FORCE RESERVE ON ITS 70TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Saturday marks the 70th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve.

Since President Harry S. Truman called for the formation of the Air Force Reserve in 1948, it has been a critical part of our Nation's defense. Its mission is to provide combat-ready forces to fly, fight, and win.

Operating in various locations around the world, the Air Force Reserve has evolved from a "stand by" force for emergencies into a major command of the Active Duty Air Force.

The Air Force Reserve currently performs about 20 percent of the work of the Air Force, including traditional

flyng missions and other more specialized missions, such as weather reconnaissance, modular aerial firefighting, and personnel recovery.

The Air Force Reserve is part of every Air Force core mission function and performs the same missions as the Active Duty partners. On Saturday, we will remember where the Air Force Reserve has been, where it is now, and where it is going.

Great men and women have sacrificed to give all Americans a better tomorrow. On Saturday, we honor their legacy. Happy birthday to the Air Force Reserve.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BISHOP CLEVELAND BLASH, JR.

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor Bishop Cleveland Blash, Jr., on the occasion of his 44th year of serving God and the people of Newark.

Bishop Blash began his long service when he was ordained in the late 1970s. He faithfully served churches in Connecticut, Florida, and New York, before being assigned to St. Paul Sounds of Praise PFM Church in Newark, New Jersey.

Bishop Blash is truly a community leader. He is the founder of Operation CLEANN, which stands for Citizens Looking to Empower a New Neighborhood. He has given more than 10,000 hours of labor to the community around West Side Park in Newark, New Jersey.

Bishop Blash also created a scholarship committee, founded the annual U.S. Marines Toys for Tots Drive in his neighborhood, and created a communitywide Thanksgiving dinner, among other great deeds.

Last weekend, Bishop Blash celebrated his 68th birthday and 44th year in the ministry. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bishop Blash for his lifetime of service to his community.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

(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. Mr. Speaker, when Bianca Ramirez left her Massachusetts home one Sunday morning for a jog, she had no idea it would be the worst morning of her life. Shortly after she began running, she was blindsided by a strange man in broad daylight. He choked her into unconsciousness and dragged her into the bushes, brutally beating her.

When she came to nearly 30 minutes later, she realized the horror that had happened to her. With the help of coun-

seling and other victim resources, Bianca is a survivor, and the criminal went to prison.

Mr. Speaker, this is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. During this week, we remember the evil that victims like Bianca have endured. Victims like Bianca are the reason that Congressman JIM COSTA and I formed the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, with the goal of ending modern-day slavery and giving victims a voice on the national level.

In honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, I ask Members to join me to honor and be a voice for victims of crime in America.

And that is just the way it is.

WELCOME HOME, HECTOR BARAJAS

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome my constituent, Hector Barajas, home. Mr. Barajas enlisted in the Army in 1995, served nobly for 6 years, and was honorably discharged in 2001.

Hector was not a U.S. citizen. Despite being a veteran, he was deported in 2002 and separated from his family, despite his years of service and sacrifice for our country.

Soon after his deportation, Mr. Barajas became a leader and role model for other deported veterans, establishing a safe house in Tijuana, Mexico, called the Deported Veterans Support House, or "The Bunker," as they like to call it.

Meanwhile, he continued to pursue his dream of returning legally to the United States and becoming a U.S. citizen. His dream has finally come true. On April 13, Mr. Barajas will return to Compton, California, as a United States citizen. Upon his return, let's work together to bring home our veterans.

Welcome home, Hector, and thank you for your service.

RECOGNIZING SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

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

Mrs. LOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Salt Lake Community College, also known as SLCC, for its leadership in making it more affordable to residents in Utah to earn a degree or certificate.

Early this month opened Open Education Week, and I would like to highlight "Open SLCC," an initiative that started in 2014 and has grown to more than 600 open sections across a wide range of foundational courses online.

To date, Open SLCC has saved \$5.8 million for over 40,000 students by

using Open Educational Resources, or OER, as an alternative to costly textbooks. This is truly remarkable.

Combined with SLCC's promise, where the community college covers the tuition and fees for students with significant financial needs, SLCC is effectively addressing issues of access and affordability to help students complete college and compete in our workforce. I salute SLCC for this winning combination.

I also want to congratulate Mr. Jason Pickavance at SLCC for hosting the first "State of the OER Conference" in February. This is a great example of collaboration among education leaders in Utah and nationally to address college affordability and completion issues.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today is Holocaust Remembrance Day; remembrance of the horrors of 6 million Jews being killed in Nazi Germany, and others being killed as well: homosexuals, Communists, and other minorities that were objectionable, like Gypsies.

In recent polls, it shows millennials, over a third, don't realize what Auschwitz was, or that the Holocaust occurred. On this day, Yom HaShoah, we need to remind the world of what horrendous events occurred on this planet just 75 years ago.

Never again. Never again. Elie Wiesel said: "We may not be able to defeat injustice, but we should always protest it."

COMBATING ONLINE EXPLOITATION OF SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize an important new law, the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, or FOSTA. This landmark anti-trafficking legislation that I helped coauthor was just signed into law by the President this week, and it ushers in a new era of combating the online exploitation of trafficking victims.

Last month, half a dozen Minnesota men were rolled up in an online underage trafficking sting. They had met what they believed were young girls advertised for sex on backpage.com, one of the worst offenders when it comes to exploiting trafficking victims. But when each of them showed up to the designated meeting spot, instead of finding teenage girls, they found law enforcement waiting for them.

Sadly, there are more who are able to buy sex on websites like Backpage, but the new law will help us put a stop to