

TUESDAY'S CHILDREN

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize three amazing kids: Arianna, Julius, and Kaydin, who join me today on the floor. All three are taking part in Take Our Children to Work Today hosted by Tuesday's Children. This is my second year participating in this wonderful event, and both times it has brightened my day.

Tuesday's Children provides support to children whose parents passed away in the military or due to terrorism. More than 15,000 individuals directly impacted by the events of September 11 have been supported by Tuesday's Children, and more than 6,000 individuals are currently served by Tuesday's Children's First Responder Alliance program today.

In my 30 years in the Air Force, I was able to meet with the families of loved ones who passed. I know how important organizations like Tuesday's Children are for our Nation's youth.

Today, it is about kids like Arianna, Julius, and Kaydin. They are shadowing me this morning and seeing what life is like in Congress. Julius is 9 years old. He is from Maryland and enjoys robotics and LEGOs. Kaydin, from Pennsylvania, is 10 years old, and is a big New York Giants fan. I tried to make him a Chicago Bears fan, but I couldn't do it. Finally, Arianna is from Maryland. She is 7 years old, and loves to play tennis.

I hope they enjoy their time in Washington and remember this day as a very special one, because they are special. I look forward to spending more time with them this afternoon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all Members to refrain from references to guests on the floor.

BIPARTISANSHIP

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

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, bipartisanship is often applauded in Congress, but seldom rewarded. Let me repeat that. Bipartisanship is often applauded, but seldom rewarded, which is an important part of why we have been unable to pass any meaningful immigration reform in this body for years.

I have worked with good men and women on the other side of the aisle on many occasions to advance immigration reform, but none of those efforts forced the Speaker of the House, whoever he or she was at the time, to allow a vote, except for the time the House passed the DREAM Act in 2010.

I continue to work with partners on the other side, because I know if a vote is allowed, those who see immigrants and immigration as important assets to this country will prevail. It will

take Democrats and Republicans working together to enact commonsense immigration reform.

Just this week, the gentleman from Colorado, Republican MIKE COFFMAN, and I worked together to demand statistics from the Department of Homeland Security to determine if the Trump administration is complying with Federal court orders on the renewal of DACA applications, and to get more information on the DACA processing backlogs.

Working with Republicans doesn't win me many friends among Democrats, who spend their days trying to defeat people like Mr. COFFMAN. They would probably prefer I stop working with him. As I said, bipartisanship is often praised, but seldom rewarded.

Secondly, bipartisanship is more than just signing your name.

JEFF DENHAM of California and some other Republicans are promoting an idea that has a great deal of merit: the so-called "Queen of the Hill" rule, which has almost 50 Republican cosponsors and all the Democrats, myself included.

This rule calls for a debate and votes in the House on a series of immigration reform bills, some of which would address the vulnerability of Dreamers and their families to deportation. It is an unprecedented bipartisan action to demand an immigration vote, and I support it wholeheartedly. But so far, all the Republicans have had to do is sign their names as cosponsors. The next step should be that we demand that Speaker RYAN bring the rule and related bills to the floor for a vote through a discharge petition.

You see, working with people from the other side of the aisle is just one aspect of bipartisanship. When the rubber meets the road is when you take on the leaders of your own party in order to achieve a bipartisan goal.

When I got arrested protesting President Obama's treatment of Dreamers and migrants, I didn't win any popularity contest with the Democratic Caucus. My colleagues were quick to defend the President and the Democratic Speaker at the time. I was shunned and passed over many times by my own team.

Later, when I and other Democrats worked with Judge CARTER, SAM JOHNSON, and RAUL LABRADOR to find bipartisan immigration solutions in the 113th Congress, Members of my own party told me to stay away. Right here on this floor they told me: "Don't help Republicans solve their immigration problem."

But I didn't stay away. I kept working with the Republicans, until they walked away. They were unwilling to take on their own party in the end. Speaker Boehner backed away when the chips were down.

Speaker RYAN came to my district in Chicago and talked about moving forward on immigration, with me standing by his side. We are still waiting for him to put skin in the game. That is

what it will take: taking a courageous position, even in the face of opposition from your own party.

So the 48 Republicans who joined Mr. DENHAM's "Queen of the Hill" rule calling for immigration votes should not declare mission accomplished just yet. Your country needs you right now, today. We need your courage, in addition to your signature. Sign a discharge petition to bring about the vote on immigration solutions for Dreamers. That puts your skin in the game. You may not get invited to the next state dinner or fly on Air Force One, but you will have done a service to your Nation.

A discharge petition on the Denham bill says you are willing to expend your personal reputation and political capital to do what is right and what is necessary in a time of great hatred and divisiveness at the highest levels over immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.

Will you be praised for your bipartisan courage? I hope so.

Will you be rewarded by other politicians or activists in your own party, or voters in mine? Probably not.

Which is exactly my point. It is hard, it is thankless, but your country needs help that only Republicans in Congress can provide: put pressure on your own Republican leadership. I, and a lot of my colleagues, will work with you, stand by you, support you, but we need you to lead the way.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICK ANTLE

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

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I sadly rise today with fellow colleagues because we lost a friend way too soon.

Rick Antle was an ag visionary, community leader, family man, and to Sonia and I, a mentor and a friend. His passion and dedication made him not only a leader in California's Salinas Valley, but in the entire ag industry nationwide.

At the age of 26, he became the president and CEO of Tanimura & Antle, one of the largest ag companies in the entire country. He would grow this to become the largest leafy greens and vegetable producer in the region. He set it up as an ESOP, making it an employee-owned business. This is now a four-generation legacy that farms over 35,000 acres, distributing to North America, Europe, and Asia.

Rick worked right alongside his sons, Brian and Jeffrey. He constantly pushed different innovations, even ideas that were against conventional practice, things that were sometimes mocked or said that they would never work, but are now the important innovations that lead the rest of the industry.

Rick emphasized the importance of support and investing in employees, whom he always saw as the backbone

of his company. His company's 800-person Spreckels Crossing housing complex has since become a blueprint for other farmworker housing projects across the country.

On a personal note, I would just say that Sonia and Tonya—Sonia and Tonya, as they were known to most in the industry—worked side by side. Rick and I worked side by side as well.

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Not only was Tonya a mentor to Sonia, Rick was a mentor to me. I learned a lot about business. I learned a lot about friendship. I saw the pride in his generational family. He is going to be missed by many here in Washington, D.C.; in the Salinas Valley; around the country; and certainly as a family man. Brian and Jeffrey, I know that they are going through tremendous pain, as are Anthony and Natalie. He thought the world of his family and certainly thought the world of his employees.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for any remarks he may have.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I join with Congressman JEFF DENHAM and Congressman JIMMY PANETTA to celebrate a life well lived.

Rick Antle was truly an icon in not only California agriculture but American agriculture. He was a leader. Rick and Tonya always put their family first, and what a family it was. To be a part with them, with their children and with his father, Bob, I have fond, fond memories over the years of working together on public policy affecting California agriculture.

They farmed not just in the Salad Bowl but in the San Joaquin Valley. Their efforts to bring value added and innovation is legendary in terms of the incredible food products that we enjoy today at home. His efforts with employees set the gold standard, creating housing initiatives so that the 800 employees at Tanimura & Antle would have the kind of housing that farm workers deserve to have.

The list goes on and on and on, but I just wanted to join today and pay my respects to our friend Rick, and to his family. Tonya, we know this is a very difficult time for all of you, but we just want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. We thank you for all of the contributions you have made over the years. Rick was a leader in California agriculture. And I just personally want to say thank you for all the good advice you have given me over the years. We will miss Rick Antle.

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA).

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my good friends and colleagues Mr. DENHAM and Mr. COSTA, to recognize somebody, as you can tell, who clearly impacted not just the lives of the three of us but the lives of many

people on the Central Coast of California, the Central Valley of California, and across this Nation.

Today we obviously commemorate, we celebrate, Rick Antle and what he has done for the Salinas Valley agriculture industry and what he and his family at T&A did to claim that area as the Salad Bowl of the World. Let me tell you, he did it through innovation, and he did it through ingenuity, in dealing with the specialty crops and the technology and practices that are needed in order to grow those types of crops.

He was on the forefront of innovation when it came to precision farming, from growing hydroponic lettuce to plant tape, to a Robovator. The farming at T&A used less water and less pesticides, and that led to less harm to our environment. Yet they still continued to grow a vast amount of vegetables.

I can tell you it wasn't just his investments in innovation that set Rick apart; it was his ingenuity and foresight that inspired him to implement standards to protect our community, our environment, to invest in making his employees' lives better, and to strive to impact policies that would improve the agricultural industry.

Rick clearly was a steward of our environment, from T&A's packaging and energy use, to maintaining soil health, to monitoring water usage. T&A was dedicated to ensuring long-term sustainability to benefit our community, our planet, and yes, our next generation.

Rick was committed to making his employees' lives better, from providing that state-of-the-art housing that my colleagues mentioned to offering employees stock options so that they could be a part of that company, they could have a stake in that company.

Yes, Rick was always a tireless advocate for the agriculture industry. We definitely valued his voice and his advice. And I can tell you, like I said, it wasn't just us but clearly his family that he influenced. I will never forget his son Brian talking about the best piece of advice that he got from Rick. It was when he was in high school. Rick was getting him out in the fields. And Rick's advice to Brian was: Look, the best fertilizer a farmer can have is his farmer's own shadow. Being there, showing up. That is what Rick did.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Rick was and he is a legend, not just on the Central Coast, not just in the Central Valley, but in the agricultural community. Carrie and I will miss him, and we know that his spirit will continue to be felt, not just in the Salad Bowl of the World but in all of our worlds.

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, let me just, in closing, say my wife and I extend our condolences and prayers for Rick's loving wife, his mother, their children and grandchildren. On behalf of all who knew him and benefited from his tireless efforts, we thank them for graciously giving us some of their time

to spend with Rick and the many things that we all learned from him. Mr. Speaker, I will just say special prayers and condolences.

WHO WILL BE HARMED BY THE FARM BILL

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, last week after turning their backs on bipartisanship, Republicans on the Agriculture Committee advanced a highly partisan farm bill that hurts our most vulnerable constituents. The farm bill cuts the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP, by over \$23 billion. It eliminates State flexibility. It erects new barriers to assessing the program and creates a massive new untested and underfunded bureaucracy.

Most troubling, the bill reduces or eliminates benefits for nearly 2 million kids, veterans, working families, and other vulnerable adults. The bill was drafted in secret and is not reflective of the 23 hearings that our committee held on SNAP over the past 2½ years. In fact, I am having a difficult time determining where some of these controversial provisions originated.

Were they cooked up at some far-rightwing think tank? Did they come from some outlier in the Trump administration? Were they the creation of Speaker RYAN, who is desperate to pass his extreme welfare reform agenda before he retires at the end of this Congress? This secretive, closed process has left me with more questions than I have answers, Mr. Speaker. It is awful. And it is not the way the people's House should operate. It is not fair to our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, last week I came to the House floor and outlined some of the most troubling provisions Chairman CONAWAY and House Republicans insisted on including in this bill. Today I would like to take a few minutes to share with my colleagues who will be harmed if this reckless proposal is allowed to advance.

Provisions in the Republican farm bill specifically target millions of older adults, over the age of 50, who rely on SNAP to put food on the table when times are tough. While SNAP law already includes strict work requirements and time limits, House Republicans are now seeking to completely cut off assistance for people who are unable to find work or a suitable job training program, and they are doing this without a serious plan that would actually help them find work. It is a rotten thing to do.

To make matters worse, Republicans are extending these mandatory work requirements to people up to the age of 60. The AARP, our country's leading voice for those over 50, has cautioned Chairman CONAWAY and Republicans in Congress that it is particularly difficult for individuals over 50 to find