

of the world's ocean waters, remain prime habitat for lobster? Will ocean acidification harm the lobster population and shellfish in ways we don't already know about yet?

Do we really need to add the potential of an oil spill to the list of things that already keep them up at night?

In Maine, we know the risk because we have seen the consequences. In 1996, a tanker named the *Julie N.* spilled about 200,000 gallons of heating oil in Maine's Casco Bay. It cost over \$40 million to clean up and it caused lobster prices to plummet.

About 200,000 gallons of spilled oil is a drop in the bucket when you talk about the spilled oil from the Deep-water Horizon, which spilled 200 million gallons into the Gulf of Mexico. The result on the marine environment was devastating. Shrimp, crab, oyster, and other fisheries in those States may never fully recover.

The risks of this proposal to my State and others are simply too great. And for what? Our Nation is already the top producer of oil and gas in the world, and with fuel prices currently low, this proposal would not boost the economy.

If this administration is really worried about remaining internationally competitive in the energy market, it should throw its support behind developing alternative energy sources instead of abandoning them.

This proposal is unacceptable and irresponsible. I will continue to fight back against the environmental and economic harm it threatens for Maine and the Nation. I am proud to cosponsor legislation with my colleagues in New England to prohibit drilling off our States, and another bill to keep the drilling ban in place entirely along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. I encourage all my colleagues to do the same and to stop this terrible plan before it is too late.

HOPE FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, roughly 4 years ago, Steve Mayfield was a respected high school football coach at Central High School in Lauderdale County, Alabama, who, in October 2014, was diagnosed with ALS.

Steve Mayfield bravely fought his terminal disease and kept a smile on his face throughout his lengthy 3-year battle and ordeal.

In a land of freedom and liberty, Steve Mayfield would have had two choices. On the one hand, he could abide by Food and Drug Administration regulations and recommendations and die; or on the other hand, Steve Mayfield could try experimental treatments that gave some hope of beating ALS and extending Steve Mayfield's life.

Unfortunately, when it comes to terminal illnesses in America, there is no

freedom or liberty. Steve Mayfield not only had to fight ALS, he also had to fight the Food and Drug Administration before he could try experimental but potentially lifesaving treatments.

Sadly, Steve Mayfield lost both fights. Steve Mayfield was barred by the Federal Government from trying possibly lifesaving treatments and, not long ago, passed away. Steve Mayfield's son, Brooks Mayfield, from Florence, Alabama, was with his father when he passed away.

It is in that vein, Mr. Speaker, that I call on the House to have a floor vote on Senate bill S. 204, the Right to Try Act, which passed the Senate last year, that restores the right of terminally ill patients to try experimental treatments that may save their lives. Brooks Mayfield's father might be alive today if the Right to Try Act had been the law of the land.

Mr. Speaker, we must remember who we are as Americans. Our ancestors fought the Revolutionary War over liberty and freedom, yet, today in America, patients who are 100 percent certain to die are denied the freedom, the liberty, the right to decide for themselves whether to try experimental treatments that may save their lives. Every day in America, terminally ill patients and their families are told there are no options but death.

By way of background, fewer than 3 percent of terminally ill patients in America have access to investigational treatments through clinical trials. While the Food and Drug Administration grants compassionate use waivers meant to allow terminal patients access to experimental drugs, only about 1,500 waivers were granted in 2016.

What are other terminally ill Americans to do? Nothing? Just waste away and die without a fight?

Patients shouldn't have to give up their liberty, their freedom, their fight against terminal illness merely because the Food and Drug Administration says so. Terminally ill patients shouldn't have to beg the FDA for a waiver, forcing patients to fight the Federal bureaucracy, when they are already fighting for their lives.

The Right to Try Act gives terminally ill patients access to treatments that have successfully completed the FDA's phase one approval requirement but not yet completed the FDA's lengthy and complex full approval process that can take decades.

Sadly, sometimes when treatments and drugs reach final approval, it is too late for too many patients and their families because the terminally ill patient has already died.

Mr. Speaker, given the stark contrasts between life and death, between freedom and Federal dictates, between hope and hopelessness, the House should take up and pass the Right to Try Act, thereby giving a chance for life to terminally ill patients and their families.

The United States Senate overwhelmingly passed Right to Try legis-

lation last year. It is time for the House to do the same, thereby restoring freedom, liberty, and hope, and giving terminally ill patients across America a better chance to live.

DACA

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

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, DACA must be fixed for the good of these young immigrants and for the good of our Nation.

In September, Leaders Pelosi and Schumer and President Trump agreed to protect DACA recipients and improve border security. Since that time, I have worked in the 48-Member, bipartisan House Problem Solvers Caucus to come up with a plan that would do just that.

I thank Senators DURBIN, GRAHAM, BENNET, GARDNER, MENENDEZ, and FLAKE, who have put together a compromise bill in the Senate, which is gaining momentum. After working on this for 5 months, I know just how hard it is to come up with a compromise, so I just want to thank these Senators for what they have done.

The Problem Solvers Caucus continues to work on a plan, and I am hopeful that we will have one imminently because time is running short.

I was very happy to hear Congressman GUTIERREZ right here from this podium a few minutes ago endorse the idea of a compromise even though it is not what he wants, but we need to protect these DACA recipients.

We have to break the status quo in Washington—the bickering and the gridlock—which gets in the way of good solutions for our country. This solution on DACA can and should get done if only we can get away from the rhetoric and use some common sense.

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Unfortunately, common sense is not common in Washington. I call on my colleagues to get past the bickering and the rhetoric. Do what is right for the American people. Fix DACA, and let's move on and do great things together for our Nation.

RECOGNIZING DR. TIMOTHY M. BLOCK

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Dr. Timothy M. Block, president of the Hepatitis B Foundation, Baruch S. Blumberg Institute of Living Science, and the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center in my district in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Block was recently named as a fellow of the U.S. National Academy of Inventors. Being elected as a NAI fellow is the highest professional recognition for academic inventors who have

shown a lifelong commitment to innovation, specifically by facilitating or creating inventions that make a measurable impact on quality of life, economic development, or the welfare of society.

Dr. Block is being recognized for his contributions to therapeutic drug and biomarker of disease screening and discovery. He also holds numerous patents and has been involved in more than 30 years in viral hepatitis research.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Dr. Block for the work that he has done in this field, which has undoubtedly impacted the people in my district, throughout our country, and around the world.

RECOGNIZING ARCHBISHOP WOOD FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the players, staff, and coaches of the Archbishop Wood football team and congratulate them on winning the PIAA Class 5A State championship. With their discipline and hard work, the young men of this football team have continued a tradition of excellence for the Vikings. The dominance they displayed in their championship win in December is an excellent example of what teamwork and tenacity can achieve. They have made our community very proud.

To the coaching staff, we say congratulations and thank you for leading and teaching these young men. It is my hope that the lessons of determination and perseverance that these student athletes have learned will help guide them off the field as well.

To the fans, friends, and family that have supported Archbishop Wood, we say congratulations. To all those who work with and support organized youth sports in our district, we say thank you.

SUPPORT FOR THE 2018 XXIII OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES BEING HOSTED IN SOUTH KOREA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the 2018 XXIII Olympic Winter Games being hosted in Pyeongchang, South Korea, next month. I am proud of the many Korean Americans in the Ninth Congressional District who make the USA a better place to live.

The Olympic Games serve as a forum for the international community to come together to build a peaceful world. In order to be a competitor in the Olympic Games, nations across the globe have to embody the values and ideals of friendship, solidarity, and fair play. It is no different in the diplomatic arena.

Without these core values, the spirit of fair competition is eroded. The common bond that brings nations from all over the world to compete and build friendships serves as a forum to promote tolerance and understanding.

Promoting these ideals is critical to these increasingly troubled times, and I believe the results can make our world a more peaceful place.

The upcoming Winter Olympic Games presents a significant opportunity for the United States of America to lead the fight against international conflicts and to promote peace. This is our legacy.

Our Nation can use this opportunity to work with the international community in a way that shows that we can come together in the spirit of healthy competition, regardless of our differences.

With the long shadow being cast by the provocations of Pyongyang and rhetoric from our own administration, the Olympic Winter Games came at the right time. They are an opportunity for the United States to speak out in support of resolving the current conflicts on the Korean Peninsula.

While there are many issues facing the international community, all can agree the growing threat of nuclear conflict presents the most immediate danger. In order to deescalate the growing threat, and in the spirit of the Olympic Games themselves, I hope that our athletes' presence in South Korea will serve as a symbolic representation that our differences can be worked out on a neutral field.

Further, it is reassuring that North Korea will participate in the upcoming Winter Olympics. If the reports are true, it will be encouraging to watch the two countries' athletes march together at the opening ceremony under a unification flag. That surpasses the consequences of empty rhetorical threats. We can do better than that.

It took the Winter Olympics to thaw the ice between the two nations, who have not met in 2 years. This is a welcome sign of easing tensions after months of alarm over North Korea's nuclear program.

As a result, this year's Olympic Games are already off to a great start. The Games will continue to be a reminder that, regardless of where someone is from, we can still set our differences aside for a better world, just like the first athletes who came together to start the Olympic tradition.

It is my expectation that the Republic of Korea will host a successful 2018 XXIII Olympic Winter Games and that the hard work and dedication of the Korean people to this endeavor will be remembered by the international community.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to watching the men and women representing the United States of America bring home the gold.

RECOGNIZING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the nonprofit Youth

Entrepreneurs for their commitment to preparing our students to meet the demands of today's workforce. This program provides a taste of the workforce in a variety of career paths for our emerging leaders.

Youth Entrepreneurs was started in 1991, in Wichita, Kansas, with the goal to give young adults a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values for today's workplace. High school students who participate in the Youth Entrepreneurship Program receive a preparation course that covers the ins-and-outs of a variety of career fields and business etiquette.

After students complete the class, they are sent to work at a business that matches their interest. The students are able to apply their learning from the classroom at the company they are paired with.

For 26 years, this nonprofit has been dedicated to education and the success of our youth. Today, I want to make sure they know that their hard work has not gone unnoticed. Personally, I have seen and heard the success stories from these young adults, including my own godson, Patrick, who has participated in this organization.

The program has expanded to 10 other States and graduated thousands of students. More than 80 percent of the participants say they want to attend college, and 60 percent of the students who have completed the requirements have either started their own business or desire to one day.

I am proud of programs like Youth Entrepreneurs that are working to give our young adults a pathway for success. Even with unemployment at an all-time record low in Kansas, there are still 50,000 open jobs in our State. It is important that our students have access to organizations like Youth Entrepreneurs so that we can prepare Kansans to meet these high employment demands.

KANSAS MEETING STEM DEMANDS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an industry that presents endless opportunities for America's workforce. As our Nation continues to advance technologically, it is imperative that our youth have the skills necessary to remain competitive in the workforce.

Kansas is experiencing record employment across the State; however, one industry faces an increasingly high demand for skilled workers. Today, Kansas has more than 2,500 open computer science jobs, which is two times higher than the average State's demand. This year alone, the United States Department of Labor predicts employers will be unable to fill nearly 2.5 million job openings in STEM-related—or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math—professions.

Last week, I met with the students from the North Central Kansas Technical College. NCKTC is ranked third in the Nation in job placement in tech-related fields. I am so proud to see colleges throughout my district working