

□ 1943

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

□ 1945

TAX REFORM DELIVERING FOR AMERICANS

(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, earlier today, I had the honor of being in Pittsburgh with President Trump to hear him speak about how tax reform is putting America back to work. We were at H&K Equipment, a company that is investing in itself at a rate of 50 percent higher than last year thanks to tax reform.

H&K credits the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act for providing them with the ability to expense 100 percent of the investments they make in new construction and demolition equipment. That is tax reform right at work in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Of course, this is in addition to State College's AccuWeather giving year-end bonuses; Malvern's Meridian Bancorp increasing its minimum wage to \$15 per hour, with an additional 20 percent added to the 2017 bonuses; Allentown's American Bank giving employees \$1,000 bonuses; and Pittsburgh's PNC Financial Services giving \$1,000 bonuses to 47,500 of its nationwide employees, while increasing base wages, retirement program contributions, and its charitable giving.

These are just a few stories. Tax reform is working, fair and simple.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GENERAL EDWARD L. ROWNY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the persevering and prescient life of American General Edward L. Rowny, who passed away on December 18 of last year at the age of 100.

Proud of his Polish-American heritage, he attained a century of life in the Polish tradition of *Sto lat*, dear gen-

eral. This valiant soul served our Nation under five Presidents, of both parties.

He served under the command of General Douglas MacArthur and rose to be a shining general in his own right, a brave guardian of liberty through courage, sacrifice, expertise, and wisdom.

General Rowny was born the son of a Polish immigrant and a Polish-American mother on April 3, 1917. A West Point graduate, he served in World War II and led a battalion with the 92nd Army Infantry Division, driving up the west coast of Italy.

He remained a dogged ally of then-occupied Poland and the Polish people and advanced the return of the remains of Ignacy Jan Paderewski to Poland in 1992 after the fall of the Berlin Wall 3 years earlier.

He later founded the Rowny Paderewski Scholarship Fund to bring Polish students to the United States to study American democracy. He continued to raise funds for it until his dying day.

General Rowny lived to see solidarity bring freedom to Poland and helped usher Poland into the NATO security alliance.

He was an esteemed arms control adviser under every President from Richard Nixon to George H.W. Bush.

After being a chief negotiator in the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with the former Soviet Union, he was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal.

General Rowny's life and being was imbued with his long history of fighting for freedom, justice, and democracy, including helping free his ancestral land of Poland. His accomplishments will not be forgotten.

Thank you, General Edward Rowny, for your service to liberty. You have been one of a kind, unceasing in your utter dedication to liberty at its cutting edge.

"Dziękuję bardzo. Bardzo. Bardzo." Thank you very much.

AMERICA'S ANGELS ABROAD

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Peace Corps volunteers represent what is best about America. They are our angels abroad. They give years of their lives to help other people. They build goodwill across the globe for the United States. But many Peace Corps volunteers don't receive the care that they need both in-country and when they get home.

Peace Corps volunteers struggle to access quality medical treatment when they are abroad in remote areas of the world. When they return to America, they face a red tape bureaucratic nightmare.

Congressman KENNEDY and I have sponsored the Sam Farr Peace Corps Enhancement Act. This act will improve and strengthen the health, safe-

ty, and well-being of current and returning Peace Corps volunteers. It requires that Peace Corps volunteers have access to a qualified Peace Corps medical officer overseas. It extends their Peace Corps medical coverage when they return home to America.

America must protect our Peace Corps ambassadors abroad. They are some of America's best.

And that is just the way it is.

WHAT WE DIDN'T DO FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you what we did not do today for the American people's enhancement.

What we did not do today is provide for enlisted men and women. We need to increase compensation for their families who are on food stamps. We did nothing for them today.

We did nothing for Rose Escobar and her husband. Her husband was departed to El Salvador, a place where he has never been. They have two children and live in Houston, Texas. We have been pleading for his case to be reviewed. He is a DREAMER. He is DACA-eligible. He was managing a paint store. He was buying a house. We did nothing for him today.

Who else did we not do anything for?

The millions of people who use community health clinics and whose funding will expire. For 25 years, Central Care has been the facility that has served African Americans, Hispanics, and others for fee-for-service and Medicaid. We did absolutely nothing for them.

So we should not be afraid of stopping this government, if we have to do it, because we need to do something for the DREAMERS. We need to do something for people who don't have healthcare and have to use federally qualified health centers.

My God, we need to do something for the enlisted men and women whose families are on food stamps and whose salaries are not commensurate with the sacrifice they make.

I am standing, Mr. Speaker, with each and every one of them.

NEW WITHHOLDING TABLES

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the immediate benefits that H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, is already delivering for American families.

On January 11, the Treasury Department released its updated withholding tables for 2018. These tables work to implement the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the tax reform package passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump just before Christmas.

With the implementation of these new withholding tables, the Treasury Department has estimated that 90 percent of wage earners will experience an increase in their take-home pay. A married couple with two children, making \$75,000 a year, would see a \$1,350 wage increase per year.

I am thrilled to see what closing unfair loopholes, simplifying the Tax Code, and getting the Federal Government out of the way does to boost the financial stability of American families.

IMPENDING SHUTDOWN AND DACA

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

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the midst of yet another looming government shutdown and an impending nightmare for DREAMers created by those who run Washington.

Republicans control the House, the Senate, and elected the great negotiator in the White House, yet here we are again. It is time they come to the table in good faith to provide our Nation fiscal certainty and lay down their threats against DREAMers in this country, those who were brought here as children and live as upstanding members of communities across our Nation. Our priority should be strengthening American families, not ripping them apart.

Just this week, as we have all seen on the news, ICE officials forcefully deported Jorge Garcia, a 39-year-old man from Michigan with a wife and kids. He has lived in this country almost his entire life and made an honest living after being brought here as a child. He has hardly a parking ticket on his record.

I call on the President and my Republican colleagues to work across the aisle in good faith and lead for the good of our Nation rather than their political base.

CR IMPACTS THE MILITARY

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, last summer, the House passed all 12 appropriations bills before the fiscal year started on October 1.

We appropriated nearly \$650 billion to provide our servicemembers with the resources they need to defend this country in the face of threats from North Korea, China, Russia, al-Qaida, ISIS, and Iran. The House funded other Federal programs at nearly \$550 billion.

For the past 3½ months, however, our military and servicemembers have been operating under continuing resolutions, also known as CRs, which means they are stuck at the funding levels they had last year. That is be-

cause Senate Democrats are holding back the full funding of our defenses so they can add billions of dollars more in other Federal spending.

The defense of this country, Mr. Speaker, is not some bargaining chip, and preventing our servicemembers from getting the resources they need, especially after we have seen servicemember deaths resulting from the lack of training and proper equipment, is unconscionable.

As Secretary Mattis told us last year: "Long-term CRs impact the readiness of our forces and their equipment at a time when security threats are extraordinarily high. The longer the CR, the greater the consequences for our force."

It is way past time for Senate Democrats to end their filibustering of our Nation's defense and to start helping our servicemembers in harm's way.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DENISE BURDITUS

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Denise Burditus.

Denise was a mother of two and a grandmother of three. She was looking forward to the birth of her fourth grandchild. She had recently left her job, after 30 years of working at a bank, so she could return to school and spend more time with her grandchildren.

She went to the Route 91 Harvest music festival in Las Vegas with her high school sweetheart and husband of 32 years, Tony Burditus.

Denise is remembered by her friends and family for being full of life, for always being positive, and for her devotion to her family.

I extend my condolences to Denise Burditus' family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

□ 2000

HONORING KATHLEEN JIMINO ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to recognize and celebrate the career of Mrs. Kathleen Jimino on the occasion of her retirement as Rensselaer County executive. Kathy has retired after 16 years of dedicated service to the people of Rensselaer County.

Throughout her tenure as county executive, Kathy was a driving force for economic growth and fiscal solvency in Rensselaer County, actively responding

to the needs of her constituency in an effective and resourceful manner.

In addition to the time as county executive, I am grateful for the many years Kathy spent loyally serving the people of New York State and the city of Troy.

Kathy has been an esteemed leader of the community, and I thank her for her commitment to New York's 19th Congressional District. I wish Kathy and her husband, Vince, every happiness as they embark upon this new chapter in their lives.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN VIETNAM

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, my grandfather spent 4 years in jail during Gandhi's independence movement standing for human rights. One of his crimes was expressing unpopular views in a political newspaper.

Similar human rights abuses are occurring today in Vietnam. I speak out, today, for those who have been silenced. In many cases, the victims are the brother, the sister, the friend, or acquaintance of someone living in my district.

Over 100 activists and religious leaders are currently imprisoned in Vietnam for expressing their opinions and beliefs. For example, social activist and blogger Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Quynh was recently sentenced to 10 years in prison for highlighting social injustices on her blog.

In California's 17th District, I am proud of organizations like The Good Will Brother-Sister Group that stand in solidarity for their oppressed friends and family in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese Government must release every political prisoner, stop harassing religious groups, and have the confidence in allowing a free press. Until they do that, we must do no business deals with Vietnam and make it clear that we expect them to honor human rights.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN DOUG BARNARD

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a legend who represented the great people of Augusta, Georgia, for 16 years, in, yes, the United States House of Representatives.

Last week, former Congressman Doug Barnard, Jr., passed away at the age of 95 in his beloved hometown.

Although Congressman Barnard served at a very different time in our Nation's history, many of the issues discussed then are the same that we are talking about today, like tax reform, immigration reform, and financial regulatory reform.