

The bill provides Peace Corps volunteers critical information regarding the country that they are going to serve in. It also requires the Peace Corps to provide volunteers with access to medical doctors while they are overseas. And it makes the Sexual Assault Advisory Council and Office of Victims' Advocacy permanent. It also extends volunteers' medical benefits upon their return home until their coverage kicks in from the Department of Labor.

Mr. Speaker, we must not continue to send our volunteers out into the world without adequate protections against harm. Give them a qualified medical doctor, and we must have an effective healthcare system to take care of them when they return. Our government should fight for our Peace Corps volunteers, not fight against them.

And that is just the way it is.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BANKS of Indiana) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of this people's House with wisdom and the courage to address the pressing difficulties of our time. You know each one personally, through and through, and how they relate with one another.

Help them to know You. Impel them by Your spirit to act justly and walk humbly with You. May their actions and those of our government be marked by kindness and decency, especially toward those who are most vulnerable among us.

Inspire all of our citizens, as well, to look first to their blessings, and then charitably, to the work of this people's House. Each Member chooses to serve another day; may each serve with honor and merit the appreciation of those whom they serve.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

NATO: BELLY UP TO THE BAR

(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, this week President Trump will join our allies for the important NATO summit. At the top of this list must be countering Russia's aggression and imperialism against our allies and the U.S.

But to achieve this, everyone must contribute to the cause. Of the 29 nations within NATO, only 8 members—including the United States—are meeting the 2 percent of GDP pledge for defense spending.

For years, there has been a historical problem of excuses made for non-compliance by some of our NATO allies. President Trump is right to bluntly encourage our friends to meet their obligations to deter Czar Putin.

Neighbors in Texas ask me: Why does the United States spend more money defending some European countries than the countries do themselves?

Fair question.

Mr. Speaker, I support NATO, but our NATO allies would do well to stop criticizing the U.S. commitment to NATO and, rather, fully fulfill their commitment to our mutual defense. It is time to belly up to the bar and pay their share.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the 29 countries and whether they are meeting their 2 percent guideline or not.

NATO MEMBERS MEETING 2% GUIDELINE

1. United States
2. United Kingdom
3. Greece
4. Estonia
5. Poland
6. Lithuania
7. Latvia
8. Romania

NATO MEMBERS NOT MEETING THE 2% GUIDELINE

1. Albania
2. Belgium
3. Bulgaria
4. Canada
5. Croatia
6. Czech Republic
7. Denmark
8. France
9. Germany
10. Hungary
11. Italy
12. Luxembourg

13. Montenegro
14. Netherlands
15. Norway
16. Portugal
17. Slovak Republic
18. Slovenia
19. Spain
20. Turkey

REUNITE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, a Federal court has ordered the Trump administration to reunite every child under 5 years old who is separated from his or her family by today. Unfortunately, the Trump administration has no plan for family reunifications and will fail to reunite as many as half of those children who were taken from their parents. This is completely unacceptable.

Last week I visited some of those young children, one who looked about 6 months old and many who were 3 and 4. At the facility I visited, caseworkers there were calling detention facilities around the country to locate those parents. They had to call the facilities to try to find the parents. Many of them did.

But it is clear that the administration had no plan other than to separate these kids from their parents as a tactic to try to dissuade people who are seeking shelter from violence from coming to the United States. Shame on them.

This will be a dark period in our history. It is a sad day.

RECOGNIZING BETTY WALKER

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Betty Walker of Roaring Gap, North Carolina. This remarkable and talented woman has been the coordinator for the Alleghany Memorial Hospital Thrift Shop for 15 years.

Betty began volunteering at the Thrift Shop in 2000 and became coordinator in 2003. During her time as coordinator, Betty has expanded and renovated the Thrift Shop in addition to managing its volunteers.

The Alleghany Memorial Hospital Thrift Shop opened in 1991 and has raised nearly \$1 million for Alleghany Memorial Hospital. Those funds are extremely important in this small county.

In 2011, Betty and the shop's volunteers received the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service, which recognizes the top 20 volunteers in North Carolina.

Betty Walker is an extremely dedicated volunteer, a role model for us all, and a pillar in her community. Alleghany County is fortunate to call this hardworking citizen one of its own.

MAVNI AND COMBATING LEGAL IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pose a simple question: What is merit-based immigration? Because it would seem that we have a different interpretation from that of our President.

Panshu Zhao came to this country legally and joined the Army while pursuing a Ph.D. He came to our country to be an American and to contribute to the greatness of our Nation just like other generations before all of us. He is one of the more than 10,000 legal immigrants offered a chance to become a citizen through service and sacrifice.

These legal immigrants enlist in our Armed Forces with vital skills. They have education, they are meritorious, and they are needed. But this administration has now made going after legal immigrants one of its primary goals.

When they threaten to deport doctors in the Army, the administration is going after legal immigrants. When ICE arrests green card holders over minor charges in their distant past, they are going after legal immigrants.

If a soldier pursuing a Ph.D. does not qualify for merit-based immigration, then who does?

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE RON LOLLAR

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

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Tennessee State Representative Ron Lollar, who passed away on July 6, 2018, at the age of 69.

Ron valiantly served his country as a United States marine in the Vietnam war, receiving accolades, including the Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Good Conduct Medal.

Ron also served multiple terms on the Shelby County School Board and was a strong advocate for education and agriculture as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives.

To his wife, Brenda, and their three children: I hope you take comfort in the memories of Ron and the legacy he leaves behind. May his lifelong service to our local community, to Tennessee, and to the United States never be forgotten.

We will miss you.

SUPREME COURT NOMINEES

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I represent the Eighth Congressional District in Maryland, and I want to give you a tale of two of my constituents.

One is Merrick Garland of Bethesda, the chief judge of the D.C. Court of Ap-

peals, who was nominated to the Supreme Court in March of 2016. A celebrated judge who had more judicial experience under his belt than anyone ever nominated to the Supreme Court before, a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, Judge Garland was often described as the most qualified person ever nominated to the Court.

But Senator McConnell and the GOP in the Senate vowed they would have no hearings, no action, and no vote on his nomination because there was an election coming up in 9 months and the people should be heard. This was unprecedented, but, fair enough, if that is the new standard.

Now, I have another constituent, Brett Kavanaugh of Chevy Chase, who serves on the exact same court as Judge Garland does and who has been nominated to the Supreme Court only 4 months before a national election. He is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School. But the Senate now says that they are going to speed through hearings and a vote on Judge Kavanaugh's nomination.

Why? Is he better qualified?

Not even Judge Kavanaugh would say that.

Why is it?

We have one-party control of the House, the Senate, the White House, and the Supreme Court. This is nothing but a power play here in Washington. They are doing it simply because they can do it, and it is wrong.

We should have one standard that governs nominations from both parties.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore McHENRY on Friday, July 6, 2018:

H.R. 1496, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3585 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the "Marvin Gaye Post Office";

H.R. 2673, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the "Lance Corporal Jordan S. Bastean Post Office";

H.R. 3183, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the "U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office";

H.R. 4301, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the "J. Elliot Williams Post Office Building";

H.R. 4406, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the "Tuskegee Airmen Post Office Building";

H.R. 4463, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service lo-

cated at 6 Doyers Street in New York, New York, as the "Mabel Lee Memorial Post Office";

H.R. 4574, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomingdale, Illinois, as the "Bloomingdale Veterans Memorial Post Office Building";

H.R. 4646, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in Birmingham, Alabama, as the "Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. Post Office Building";

H.R. 4685, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the "First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office";

H.R. 4722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the "Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building";

H.R. 4840, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the "Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe Post Office Building".

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 10, 2018.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 10, 2018, at 12:12 p.m.:

Appointment:
Commission on Social Impact Partnerships.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1430

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BANKS of Indiana) at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair