

protection at home and in other countries.

In fact, small business firms with IP rights earned 32 percent more in revenue on average per employee when compared to their counterparts without IP rights.

Without those protections, our economy may not be what it is today.

H.R. 2655 offers necessary education and training to sustain America's competitive edge and drive continued economic growth.

As such, I once again urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation strengthens the partnership between two important Federal agencies that help small businesses protect what they have created: the SBA and the USPTO.

It is important that small firms across the Nation have access to all the tools that they need to protect their creations from intellectual property theft.

Therefore, I would urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2655.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOE'S BARBEQUE OF ALVIN, TEXAS, IS A GIFT

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, Alvin, Texas, is known nationally for two things: 42 inches of rain in 24 hours, our gift from Tropical Storm Claudette; and baseball strikeout king Nolan Ryan, our gift from the gods of baseball.

But those gifts are in our past. Our now greatest gift has been going strong since 1976: Joe's Barbeque.

Owner Joe Saladino is a walking, Texan-talking American dream.

Joe opened with four tables, one barbecue pit, and three employees. He served eight potatoes per day; four at lunch and four at dinner.

I was at Joe's a few weeks ago, and man, oh, man, has that world changed. 1,200 Texans eat at Joe's every single day. They enjoy 100 pounds of sausage, 80 briskets, and endless potatoes.

THE SUPREME COURT IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOVE POLITICS

(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, the Supreme Court is supposed to be above politics. Justice is supposed to be blind.

But rather than nominate a fair and balanced jurist to the Supreme Court, the man in the White House has nominated a right-wing operative to replace Justice Kennedy.

Not only that, the nominee is someone who apparently believes that the President is above the law.

Make no mistake. Judge Brett Kavanaugh is no Justice Kennedy.

Whether we are talking about the disgraceful Starr Commission or Bush vs. Gore or the scandalous George W. Bush administration, Judge Kavanaugh has been there. His hands are covered in right-wing muck.

This nomination threatens the rights and liberties the people of this Nation have died for. Confirming Judge Kavanaugh would destroy Roe vs. Wade. It would put ObamaCare at risk, and it would threaten the rights of same-sex couples to marry.

The American people demand justice, and justice is fair, not a justice who is full of hot air.

CONCERNS ABOUT JUDGE KAVANAUGH

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey my strong concerns about President Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

If confirmed, Judge Kavanaugh will be in a crucial position to reshape the laws around a woman's right to make her own medical decisions, but also he will be in a position to affect the right to access quality and affordable healthcare for millions of Americans, and legal protections for LGBTQ citizens.

I am disturbed by Judge Kavanaugh's record on these issues and many others.

Millions of Americans rely on the Supreme Court to uphold these hard-won rights, and they are increasingly imperiled.

My colleagues in the Senate must be sure that Judge Kavanaugh continues to do what the Supreme Court has done for years: preserve, protect, and uphold these constitutional rights for all Americans.

If they cannot be sure that Judge Kavanaugh will do so, they must reject his nomination.

NO COURT SHOULD BE TO THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, headlines of the New York Times:

"Conservatives Close in on Three-Decade Dream: Tipping Court to the Right."

Mr. Speaker, no court should be to the right or to the left. It should be for the American people.

I ask the Senate, and I commit to my constituents, to fight for a thorough and long review of the nominee's record, and to determine whether we are now appointing to the court a political biased aficionado; a person who has worked in politics and as well has shown his bias by way of his extensive and detailed and over-the-top report in the Starr report.

It will be interesting to find whether Mr. Kavanaugh has concern about all of America, because the Supreme Court holds in his hands that responsibility.

The USA Today says, "Family Separation Combines Cruelty and Incompetence."

I ask for the Secretary of Homeland Security to immediately come to the House of Representatives, and I ask the Speaker to provide that opportunity for him to be able to speak to us about why he has lost children and why they are separated from their families.

We need to stop the shooting of babies by those who leave guns for 2-year-olds to shoot themselves.

THE 2018 NATO SUMMIT

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this week, America's closest allies have come together to discuss issues critical to our common security at the 2018 NATO Summit.

In these challenging times, with serious global threats, we must affirm our commitment to NATO. Liberty's defense requires strong bonds with proven allies.

Sadly and needlessly, our President's wishy-washy statements regarding the transatlantic alliance have already led to uncertainty and discomfort among our allies. How counterproductive.

Instead of strengthening bridges among freedom-loving nations, our President has derided our closest allies. He has cozied up to Vladimir Putin and North Korea's dictator, even inviting Russia back into the G7 Group.

Putin's murderous regime is waging an illegal war in Ukraine, killing over 10,000 Ukrainians already, displacing millions, and actively seeks to undermine our democratic institutions and alliances.

This President's dangerous behavior is weakening U.S. leadership and global security. NATO has brought peace and security to liberty-loving nations. We must be clearly resolute in our defense of liberty, and to that end, NATO.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LAURA SHIPP

(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 Laura Shipp.

Laura attended the Route 91 festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

Laura was a single mother to her son, Corey, who is a Marine Corps reservist.

Laura and her son had a strong relationship, and she had even moved from California to Las Vegas so she could be closer to him.

Laura loved the Los Angeles Dodgers and country music. She was protective of those that she loved and had a big heart.

Laura is remembered as being a smart woman who would always make sure to buy her son and nephew a toy or a snack, even when she didn't have a lot of money.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my condolences to Laura Shipp's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

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PULLING OUT OF IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the topic of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, throughout the next hour, we will discuss the President's correct decision to pull out of the Iran nuclear agreement, otherwise known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, as well as the urgent need to eliminate Iran's problematic nuclear and nonnuclear activities.

Joining me tonight are Members of Congress from across our great country who are deeply passionate about America's best interests and supportive of the President's decision to withdraw from the Iran deal.

Mr. Speaker, this first speaker who we will hear from tonight is someone who I was elected with in 2014, who I have had many conversations with about the importance of ensuring that America's foreign policy is strong, consistent, and effective. He has been a strong, consistent, and effective voice for the need to pursue a better path forward with regard to the United States' relationship with Iran and the need to combat their nuclear and non-nuclear activities.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) for his leadership in this House on this important topic and for his voice that carries across all freedom-loving people about the relationship that we are trying to have with Iran; on the failures of the Iranian nuclear deal and why it is a bad deal for America and for our allies; why it has put the American people at risk and our security at risk, particularly for not only our country, but our allies, and, particularly, our ally Israel.

This deal has major flaws that have been noted over the past couple of years, including the sunset provisions, which never should have been included, and zero monitoring of the Iranian military or the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps sites.

It allowed continued research and development on advanced centrifuges for the Iranian nuclear program, and it didn't prohibit, Mr. Speaker, any ballistic missile technology. In fact, when Secretary Kerry was negotiating this deal, Iranian representatives traveled to Moscow, no doubt to attempt to acquire ballistic missile technology.

My concerns are shared, Mr. Speaker, by a large bipartisan group in the House, and I recall the votes in the Senate to disapprove this deal. These procedural votes in the Senate demonstrated that the nuclear deal negotiated by Mr. Kerry and Mr. Obama was well short of the treaty approval level—that is, two-thirds of the Senate—which would have been necessary had the Obama administration actually attempted to submit the JCPOA as a treaty.

Without decertification, this deal allowed Iran to head in the same direction as North Korea, and I support the President in his decision to decertify the Iran nuclear deal.

Mr. Speaker, I pledge to work with my colleagues in the House like Mr. BARR from Kentucky, who chairs our Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade on sanctions; my colleague Mr. ZELDIN on the Financial Services Committee; as well as our colleagues on the Foreign Affairs Committee who will support policies that will target Iran's terror financing, its missile technology, its violations of human rights, and, certainly, the topic of the night, its nuclear program.

It is well documented by the U.S. Department of State in multiple administrations that Iran is the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism. They have a history of arresting American citizens and citizens of other Western countries with no chance of a fair trial.

We must not forget the people of Iran who are living under the oppression of this extremist Islamic regime that is a persistent violator of human rights and religious freedom. Recently, just in May, the regime arrested a 19-year-old Iranian girl for posting on Instagram a video of herself dancing in her own room. Dancing.

I stand here tonight with the people of Iran and support their peaceful protests against the oppressive and corrupt mullahs in Tehran. The House took an important step earlier this year by passing a resolution in support of the Iranian people.

Today, Iran's economy is on the brink of collapse.

What happened to the \$150 billion in freed financial assets that was unfrozen on day one in the Iranian deal? There was no quid pro quo on that. Those funds were freed, Mr. Speaker, on day one, whether Iran complied with the long-term aspects of the agreement or not.

What happened to the \$1.7 billion, pallets of currency that were delivered to the mullahs by the Obama administration in the middle of the night at the Geneva airport? Where is that money for the Iranian people? It is not hard to guess where it went or who has it, which is why we passed Congressman BRUCE POLIQUIN's bill, the Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act, a commonsense measure that will let the people of Iran see what the regime is doing with those billions, and what has happened to them since Iran got the money back.

I call on the Senate to pass this bill so that we can show the world how corrupt the regime is. Today, Mr. Speaker, the Iranian currency compared to the U.S. dollar is over 40,000 to 1. On the eve of the Islam Republic, it was 70 to 1.

The Iranian people have borne the brunt of 35 years of corruption and terror, and I stand with them tonight, and I stand against the failures of the deal that we are talking about.

At this critical moment in Iran's history, I stand on the floor of the American people's House, and the Iranian people are in the streets, not chanting "death to America," Mr. Speaker, but marching for the same endowed freedoms that we enjoy here every day: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ZELDIN for hosting this Special Order and for giving Members the opportunity to participate and highlight the flaws of this failed nuclear deal, the importance of why decertification works, and the corruption and the brutality of the Iranian mullahs.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his comments. The people of Arkansas who listened to his remarks this evening, people back in my district who are listening to Congressman HILL, and people from all around America, can tell that he gets it.

Unfortunately, as we were negotiating the Iran nuclear deal, we had people who were negotiating from weaker and weaker positions, and, unfortunately, ended up accepting a deal that crossed many of their own red lines that were set. I think we would have been in much better shape if we had more people like the gentleman