

seepage in unlined portions of the canal and prevent further losses from evaporation. Preventing water loss will ensure that additional water is delivered to national wildlife refuges in California.

Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this legislation. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6040, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### REMEMBERING THE ATTACK ON BENGHAZI

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because it has been 6 years since the attack on the American consulate in Benghazi and ask that we reflect on the four patriotic Americans who lost their lives:

Petty Officer First Class Glen Doherty and Senior Chief Petty Officer Tyrone Woods were Navy SEALs, doing what they loved, serving as security personnel in Libya and working to protect United States diplomats.

Ambassador Chris Stevens and Staff Sergeant Sean Smith served for a combined 31 years with the U.S. State Department.

In honor of their memory, I am asking that our colleagues cosponsor the Gold Medal Act, H.R. 2315, to formally recognize these four men with the Congressional Gold Medal for their heroism and dedication to our country.

I am asking that every Member of the House think about their 12 grueling hours of close-quarters combat, the crack of those AK-47s firing at them and next to each one of them, the indirect fire that their compound was taking, the fires that burned their bodies, the unanswered calls for help. Think about their lifesaving actions on behalf of others and the fact that it cost them their own lives.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5895) "An Act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 46. Concurrent Resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 5895.

#### DHS TRANSFER OF \$10 MILLION FROM FEMA TO ICE

(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, Hurricane Florence is possibly the most devastating hurricane to hit the Carolinas in a lifetime. Let us prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

As global climate change makes extreme weather events more likely and more dangerous, the Trump administration is burying its head in the sand. A month ago, FEMA released an internal review of its response to Hurricane Maria, admitting that, among other things, when Hurricane Maria struck, FEMA's warehouses in Puerto Rico were basically empty.

Then yesterday we find out that the Trump administration diverted \$10 million from FEMA to ICE in order to boost its detention program and lock up children in cages away from their parents and babies from their mothers.

This is outrageous. It is just another example of how callous the Trump administration is and how misplaced its priorities are.

I hope that FEMA and the Trump administration do better in the Carolinas because Hurricane Florence is going to be devastating.

#### RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH FLORIDA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to thank Honor Flight South Florida for its work to recognize outstanding veterans of our Armed Forces. This Saturday, September 15, Honor Flight South Florida, in conjunction with the Miami International Airport, will again lead a group of these brave veterans on their visit to our Nation's capital.

Since its inception in 2005, the mission of Honor Flight has been to welcome our heroes to Washington so that these patriots may visit their memorials.

Today, the Honor Flight network has 140 regional hubs across the United States, each working tirelessly to pay tribute to these amazing Americans.

Mr. Speaker, as the wife of a combat-wounded Vietnam veteran and step-mother and mother-in-law to Marine Corps aviators, I am familiar with the courage and the resolve that is required to dedicate one's life to the

service of others. I am so thankful for all the veterans' devotion to our Nation, as well as the great work of organizations like Honor Flight.

We must never forget the contributions these brave men and women have made to our country, and I wish Honor Flight and the vets they serve the utmost success in the years to come.

#### PREEXISTING CONDITIONS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn the efforts by the Trump administration and this Republican Congress to strip health insurance coverage from millions of Americans.

Before the Affordable Care Act, greedy insurance companies locked out people with preexisting conditions like it was nothing.

A Federal court is hearing a case, *Texas v. United States*, which could dismantle several key health protections, one of which is protections for individuals with preexisting conditions.

Trump's Justice Department refuses to defend existing law, which is unprecedented, and shirks its responsibility to defend the laws Congress has passed. This could hurt millions of people.

In the United States, there are 130 million people with preexisting conditions. In Ohio alone, 42 percent of the population has preexisting conditions. In a recent poll, 75 percent of the public, regardless of party affiliation, said protections for people with preexisting conditions are very important.

This is what the American people want and need. As a Congress, we are charged to represent the interests of the people; to be for the people, not the big insurance companies, not the big pharmaceutical companies that would profit even more from a lopsided healthcare system.

Every American life matters. Every single one of them.

#### IMPENDING CRISIS IN SYRIA

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to again bring attention to the impending crisis in Idlib province, Syria.

Last week I spoke in the well of the House about the great work our Kansans and Americans are doing in support of the innocent Syrian people, many of them with no connection to Syria other than seeing years of pointless death and mayhem and wanting to help the Syrian people cope with their country's destruction and return to their families, their villages, their work.

I learned today that many of those Syrians that my fellow Americans support are now only a few kilometers away from the frontlines of the Assad-backed war machine.

The U.S. must continue to support Turkey's push to achieve a diplomatic solution to at least delay an assault on Idlib.

I believe the use of chemical weapons should not be the only trigger for an American response, but that we can no longer stand by as scores of innocents are massacred by the brutal dictator and his Russian agents.

I call on the President to strengthen his resolve against Assad's barbarous acts and to continue to support the innocent Syrian people.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER ELIJAH HARNUM

(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 recognize the life of Christopher Elijah Harnum.

On November 13, 2010, Chris was a victim of gun violence, a 14-year-old boy shot through the stomach as he played with his friends.

Chris spent over a year in the hospital recovering from his injuries. As he recovered, Chris devoted his life to serving others. Chris worked to become an EMT so that he could help those in need.

In the aftermath of the October 1 shooting in Las Vegas, Chris formed Vegas Out of Ashes, a nonprofit devoted to helping those victims. Chris personally collected donations, purchased water and goods, promoted blood drives, and visited local hospitals.

Through it all, Chris struggled with PTSD and depression from his own trauma. The events of October 1 reopened Chris' wounds, and as he worked tirelessly to help those suffering around him, Chris suffered himself.

On August 19, 2018, Chris lost his battle against depression.

Today, I honor Chris as a fighter, who rose from his own ashes to put the needs of others above his own, who exuded love through his own pain and who embodied the best of what it means to be a Nevadan, a Las Vegan, and an American.

□ 1945

#### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, more than a century ago, one of the most horrific genocides in history took place as the world was fixated on the Great War raging in Europe.

The Ottoman Empire and its successor state, the modern Republic of Turkey, have always denied the atrocities they committed against the Armenian people.

For too long, our own government has played along with Turkey. We have

allowed politics to blind us from the mass murder of 1½ million innocent Armenians by the Ottoman Turks. We must officially recognize this horrific crime to prevent similar events from occurring again. This also means pressuring the Turks to acknowledge their past sins.

Turkey, under dictator Erdogan, has proven to be an oppressor of his own people. Today, we see him adopt similar brutality against the Kurds that was applied to the Armenians more than a century ago.

This behavior is unacceptable by a NATO member and a supposed American ally.

And that is just the way it is.

#### HONORING VEL R. PHILLIPS

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

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, the House is going to take up and, hopefully, pass legislation that I have introduced to honor a Wisconsin hero and one of my she-roes, Vel R. Phillips. The bill would designate a post office in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in her honor.

Vel was the first of so many things: the first African American and the first woman to become an alderman in the city of Milwaukee; the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School; the first African American judge in Milwaukee County; the first and only African American to win election statewide in Wisconsin.

But her life and contributions cannot simply be summed up by merely adding up her many firsts. Such an approach gives short shrift of her local and national impact. For you see, Mr. Speaker, she was a soldier for social justice in the national movement for desegregation in housing in the open housing movement.

I first met Vel when I was 16 years old, and she was the judge in an oratorical contest. That encounter has made a lifelong impact on me.

Vel passed away earlier this year in her 90s, but her legacy of love, service, and commitment lives on.

#### SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the tragic epidemic that impacts too many Montanans and Americans.

Suicide rates are increasing across the country. On average, a Montanan dies by suicide every 33 hours. Suicide is now the eighth leading cause of death in Montana. The Centers for Disease Control recently reported a 30 percent increase in suicide rates in the last 20 years, with nearly 45,000 Americans taking their own lives in 2016.

Veterans account for almost 20 percent of all suicides in the United

States. Suicide rates amongst farmers have been increasing.

We, however, can reverse the trajectory of one of the leading causes of death in this country.

There is good news coming out of Montana. The Billings Clinic, which I recently toured, announced it will launch Montana's first psychiatric residency program. This will expand access to mental healthcare for our more rural areas.

I speak out today during Suicide Prevention Week because suicide is preventable. Access to crisis resources saves lives. Mental and behavioral health research saves lives. Ending the stigma surrounding suicide saves lives.

#### HONORING SERGEANT GERALD TIMMANN

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero, Sergeant Gerald Timmann.

Sergeant Timmann is a Vietnam combat veteran from Leetonia, Ohio, who served in the 101st Airborne from 1967 to 1969. He spent 13 grueling months in Vietnam's jungles and was exposed to some of the worst battles in the conflict.

Ten days prior to the end of his tour, Sergeant Timmann was hit by a grenade during combat, causing him to lose both legs. Sergeant Timmann says he is forever grateful to the brave medevac helicopter crews that, under heavy fire, rescued him.

In honor of his profound bravery, Sergeant Timmann has deservedly received a number of awards, including the Purple Heart, Infantry Combat Medal, and National Defense Service Medal.

Sergeant Timmann exemplifies the selfless courage of our military, and I am honored to share his story with the Nation today.

#### PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LAND AND WATER CON- SERVATION FUND

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues, Democrat and Republican alike, and House leadership to support permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This vital program benefits millions of Americans in innumerable ways, from promoting recreational activity to contributing to our Nation's robust economy, along with furthering environmental protection.

As we rapidly approach the deadline for this crucial program, which affects 98 percent of counties here in the United States and contributes to an