

It is an honor to commemorate the outstanding achievement of Winterset Middle School. I have great respect and admiration for our educators and am particularly thankful for the strong foundation they are giving our kids. As the mother of two boys, I know that a quality education is crucial to success. I hope the well-rounded training and techniques they found successful in the classroom become a model for the district and the country.

I applaud Winterset Middle School for their hard work and dedication, and I congratulate them on their success.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DRUG DISCOUNTS AND REAL-TIME BENEFICIARY DRUG COST ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2115, the “Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act.”

H.R. 2115 will require the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to publish certain payment information regarding pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and prescription drugs.

H.R. 2115 also requires the CMS to publish certain information, as reported by PBMs, relating to generic dispensing rates, drug discounts and rebates, and payments between PBMs, health plans, and pharmacies, in accordance with specified confidentiality requirements.

In Harris County, 17.7 percent of the population is on Medicaid and 7.5 percent of the population is on Medicare.

H.R. 2115 will increase transparency within the aggregate rebates, discounts, and price concessions that pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) negotiate with drug manufacturers.

This bill will also implement an electronic, real-time benefit tool that can integrate with at least one prescriber’s electronic prescribing system or electronic record so beneficiaries can have better information about their drug plan at the point of prescribing.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 2115 to help federal agencies streamline information collection to beneficiaries of Medicare and Medicaid.

HONORING INDIANA FARM BUREAU DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR STEVE MAPLE

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steve Maple on his 12-year career as Indiana Farm Bureau District 4 Director.

For many years, Steve has been dedicated to serving Hoosier family farmers, but his passion for agriculture began long before his time at the Farm Bureau. He has contributed a great deal to the strength of the Hoosier farming community, and his invaluable perspective

and leadership skills have helped farmers in north central Indiana build an incredible foundation for growth and innovation. His spirit, commitment, and expertise will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely be carried on.

Steve has been an excellent educator, advocate, mentor, and leader. With his term as District 4 Director coming to an end, I want to thank him for all he has done to make sure our farmers have what they need to thrive. He is an inspiration to us all and an outstanding role model to future generations.

Farmers are the backbone of our economy, and having people like Steve in these leadership roles truly puts Indiana in a strong position to continue leading the nation in agricultural innovation and production and feeding the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Steve the best as he embarks on this next chapter in life.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate and recognize the 150th Anniversary of the first college football game and the importance of college football to our country.

That first game, played on November 6, 1869, featured Rutgers College (now Rutgers University) defeating the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) by a score of 6–4. Since then, more than five million Americans have participated in college football, a game that is now woven into the very fabric of our country. American Football has become the most popular sport in our great nation, and without the developmental landscape provided by the college competitive format, that would never have been possible.

Thanks to the influence of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, the college game instituted the single most influential rule change in the history of American Football: the introduction of the forward pass. Notre Dame players Gus Dorais and Knute Rockne perfected the forward pass from a gimmick into a unique and defining feature of the game. On November 1, 1913, in a game against Army, the Notre Dame Fighting Irish unleashed one of the first sophisticated passing attacks to win in an upset by a score of 35–13. Later, in 1914, legendary University of Illinois Head Coach Robert Zuppke used an early version of the “T formation”, which became the blueprint for modern college and professional football offenses.

Since then, college football has grown in scope and spectacle over the years. It has served as a proving ground for innovation in the game and on the field, and has produced U.S. Presidents, Rhodes Scholars, actors, chief executives of businesses, entrepreneurs, academics, and elected officials off the field.

Watching or playing college football allows us—even if just for the span of a few short hours—to put our differences aside and celebrate a game that in many ways embodies the spirit of what makes us great as a country. As

Americans we believe in having the will to succeed; we believe in teamwork; we value grit and determination; we embrace our individual roles as we work to advance an idea, concept, or organization bigger than ourselves. College football has drawn participants from every corner of America, and we see the diversity of our nation in the faces of the players and coaches on the field every Saturday.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the schools, teams, coaches, players, and fans who participate in college football on the celebration of this incredible milestone. I hope that the next 150 years of college football bring all of us just as much passion, joy, and fulfillment as the last 150 years have.

CONGRATULATING THE WAYNESBORO LIONS CLUB

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate the Waynesboro Lions Club of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania on its 90th anniversary.

Chartered on November 6, 1929, the Waynesboro Lions Club has faithfully executed its mission to serve the residents of the Waynesboro community by providing support to charitable organizations such as the Waynesboro Fire Department, the Alexander Hamilton Free Library, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, and the YMCA.

In addition to serving its local community, Waynesboro Lions Club has supported the Lion Club network in neighboring communities by sponsoring the Chambersburg Evening Lions Club, Penn National Lions Club, Waynesboro Area Lioness Lions Club, and Waynesboro Area Middle School LEO Club.

Please join me in congratulating the Waynesboro Lions Club as it celebrates nine decades of dedication to our region.

RECOGNIZING THE INVESTITURE OF GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT, DR. KYLE MARRERO

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the investiture of Georgia Southern University’s 14th President, Dr. Kyle Marrero.

I am grateful for Dr. Marrero’s commitment to higher education, and specifically to Georgia’s students. With Georgia Southern offering 141 degree programs to 26,400 students across three campuses, serving at the helm is no easy task—but Dr. Marrero is certainly up to the challenge.

Prior to serving Georgia Southern, Dr. Marrero served other academic institutions including the University of West Georgia and the University of West Florida. His track record for innovation and building data-informed strategic plans will benefit our community for years to come.

As a member of the House Education and Labor Committee, I am particularly excited about Dr. Marrero's previous partnerships between local educators and community leaders to establish a common vision for PreK–16 student success.

Dr. Marrero's past successes building university-wide efforts to create a collaborative culture of high performance, evidence-based leadership, and employee engagement will keep Georgia Southern at the forefront of higher education.

On behalf of Georgia's 12th Congressional District, I want to thank Dr. Marrero for his leadership and congratulate him on his investiture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding my absence from the House on Monday, October 21, 2019. Had I been present for Roll Call No. 568, I would have voted “nay” on the motion to table consideration of H. Res. 647, a resolution to condemn and censure Congressman ADAM SCHIFF for making false statements at the House Intelligence Committee hearing on September 26, 2019.

As a co-sponsor of the censuring resolution, I strongly support efforts to bring it to a vote on the House floor. Unfortunately, as my colleagues across the aisle continue to conduct an impeachment inquiry in secret, this is yet another example of their refusal to be transparent with the American people. Just as they have refused to go on record and vote on impeachment, my colleagues across the aisle are refusing to hold one of our colleagues accountable for making false and disparaging representations of the President of the United States. Congress has a Constitutional responsibility to be fair and transparent, and refusing to do so has very grave consequences for the future of our country.

We were all elected to the people's house to work on behalf of the American people. Refusing to have a fair and open debate, as well as a recorded vote on H. Res. 647, is a severe disservice to the American people, and an affront to the democracy upon which our country was founded.

FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2440, the “Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act.”

H.R. 2440 creates a discretionary spending limit adjustment for full utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to ensure that funds are used to support navigation and maintain federally authorized harbors.

This bill makes certain amounts in the trust fund available, without appropriation, to pay 100 percent of the eligible operations and maintenance costs of specified portions of the Saint Lawrence Seaway and up to 100% of the eligible operations and maintenance costs assigned to commercial navigation of all U.S. harbors and inland harbors.

The Harbor Maintenance Tax and the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund were established in 1986 to fund the operation and maintenance of Federal ports and harbors.

The Harbor Maintenance Tax is charged against the value of imports and domestic cargo arriving at U.S. ports that have federally-maintained harbors and channels and deposited into the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

Appropriations from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are primarily used for maintenance dredging, dredged material disposal areas, jetties, and breakwaters.

Since 2002, there has been a growing gap between the annual amount of Harbor Mainte-

nance Tax collected and the annual amount of appropriations from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

According to the Department of Commerce in 2012, Texas exports totaled \$265 billion.

In Houston, one of the greatest engines the local and national economy is the port.

The Port of Houston is a 25-mile-long complex of diversified public and private facilities located just a few hours' sailing time from the Gulf of Mexico.

As a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, and the former chair of the Transportation Security Subcommittee, I understand that the challenge of protecting our nation's vital assets such as transportation infrastructure requires the finest technology and the highest levels of intelligence.

With the nation's largest petrochemical complex supplying over 40 percent of the nation's base petrochemical manufacturing capacity, what happens at the Port of Houston affects the entire nation.

The Port Commissioners and the Port Authority staff are keenly aware of their role in ensuring that this investment in human ingenuity and economic power receives the protection it needs.

We have the best emergency response vessel available to Houston to protect this national asset and treasure.

While the Port of Houston generates between \$70–\$100 million per year in HMT revenues and needs \$50–\$60 million for maintenance dredging per year, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is typically allocated only \$30 million for dredging in the Houston Ship Channel, causing severe draft restrictions which greatly effects ship traffic negatively in the Ship Channel.

It is critical for the United States Congress to address this issue and ensure that funds are spent to support navigation and maintain federally authorized harbors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2440 to ensure that monies collected into the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are able to be spent for our critical port and harbor needs.