

was also invited by President Trump to attend the 2018 State of the Union Address.

In his position in the Sixth District office, he has earned the respect of all of his coworkers and all of the constituents with whom he has interacted. He leaves a lasting legacy as a servant leader.

I am honored to call Matthew a loyal and trusted friend. I wish him all the best as he moves on to other interests.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Corporal Bradford for his friendship, for his tireless work on behalf of the people of the Sixth District, and his outstanding service to the country.

TWO-STATE SOLUTION

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the United States most important strategic ally in the Middle East, the nation of Israel.

Last week, the House voted on and nearly passed, along mostly partisan lines, a nonbinding resolution reinforcing the failed two-state policy that has been pushed on both the Israeli and Palestinian people since the signing of the failed Oslo Accords. I opposed that resolution.

The truth is we need a new way of thinking about the path toward a lasting peace between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East. The idea that politicians from outside of Israel can impose a top-down forced division of Arabs and Israelis is nonsense.

Rhetoric about a negotiated two-state resolution is not credible when it is promoted by those who criticize Israel's settlements within the Biblical homeland of the Jewish people. Current Israeli settlements established through peaceful means extend the reach of freedom and democracy, while the proposed ejection of Jews from settlements has a record incongruent with peace.

The 2005 Israeli withdrawal from Gaza has been a disaster for Palestinians, allowing terrorist groups like Hamas and PIJ to take over and terrorize that strip of land and its citizens.

I have personally been to Judea and Samaria, and I have witnessed Jews and Arabs working together, side by side, in private enterprise, seeing that peace is possible.

When stability exists under the rule of law, under the freedom and security offered by the State of Israel, businesses thrive, families earn a living, and freedom and democracy expand—all things that I encourage my colleagues to consider.

IN MEMORY OF SECOND LIEUTENANT TRAVIS B. WILKIE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Second Lieutenant Travis B. Wilkie, a veteran and San Diego native who lost his life while training at Vance Air Force Base

in Oklahoma. Lieutenant Wilkie was a model citizen who exuded the values of service and sacrifice to his country.

A San Diego native, Lieutenant Wilkie worked diligently as both a student and as a member of his community, and his accomplishments earned him a spot at the prestigious Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

On November 21 of this year, Lieutenant Wilkie was training with a fellow pilot, Lieutenant Colonel John Kinkade, when Travis' plane crashed during a landing formation. Both Lieutenant Wilkie and Colonel Kinkade tragically lost their lives that day.

Lieutenant Wilkie's loss is felt in our community in San Diego, by his colleagues at the Air Force Academy, by his fellow servicemembers at Vance Air Force Base, and by his family. In a text to me yesterday, his mom, Carlene, said: "'Devastated' is not a strong enough word. Travis was a brilliant, hardworking 23-year-old who just married the love of his life on October 14. I don't believe any young pilot should die in a training mission. Unbearable."

Please join me in remembering and honoring Second Lieutenant Wilkie and Lieutenant Colonel Kinkade, their families, and the communities they touched during their lives and their service.

IN HONOR OF ALBERT J. HICKMAN

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the San Diego hero, the late Ensign Albert J. Hickman, a decorated veteran who gave his life to save many others.

Ensign Hickman was 21 years old when the F3H Demon, the jet he was piloting, malfunctioned. He was on a routine training mission over San Diego, California, when he lost control of the aircraft and began plummeting toward the ground.

At the time of the engine malfunction, Hickman's jet was directly over a neighborhood and an elementary school playground crowded with children on their noontime recess. Instead of simply ejecting from the jet, he stayed with the aircraft and steered it into a remote canyon in order to avoid the playground.

Ensign Hickman sacrificed his life to save the lives of 750 children. He was posthumously awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the highest non-combat medal awarded for heroism. Hickman Elementary School in Mira Mesa was also named in his honor, as was Hickman Field in Kearny Mesa.

At a ceremony at the school, 11-year-old Hawthorne student body president Kay Schade gave a speech that was quoted in the San Diego Union Tribune: "Ensign Hickman not only saved our lives but left us an ideal by which to live. Let us strive to be as brave and courageous ourselves as he was."

December 4 marked the 60th anniversary of his death. In September, his heroism was remembered at Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial.

Please join me in honoring Ensign Albert Hickman for his dedication and

sacrifice as we seek to continue his legacy of heroism.

IN HONOR OF SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER KENTON STACY

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Senior Chief Petty Officer Kenton Stacy, a decorated veteran who sustained injuries in the line of duty while on tour in Syria.

Senior Chief Stacy was on his final tour in Syria after having already completed one tour in Iraq and two in Afghanistan. He specialized in explosive ordnance disposal, meaning that every assignment he undertook was a matter of life and death for himself and members of his team.

In 2017, Senior Chief Stacy and his unit were clearing a hospital in an area that had been recently occupied by ISIS. During their mission, an explosive device detonated, leaving Senior Chief Stacy badly wounded. While Senior Chief Stacy survived, the explosion ultimately left him paralyzed and unable to speak.

Senior Chief Stacy was honored this past Veterans Day with a plaque at the Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, the only memorial in the United States that honors veterans, both living and deceased, from the Revolutionary War until now. This will help ensure that his sacrifice is never forgotten.

Please join me in honoring Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent Stacy and his family and thanking them for all their courage and service to our country.

SOCIALIZED MEDICINE IS DEADLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, 106—nearly half—of House Democrats have cosponsored the socialists' Lower Drug Costs Now Act.

I will not mince words: Socialized medicine causes worse healthcare at higher costs with longer waits and more dead Americans.

America must learn from countries that have experimented with socialized medicine. Per Britain's Royal College of Surgeons, almost a quarter of a million people must wait more than 6 months—6 months—to receive planned medical treatment from the National Health Service. Worse yet, more than 3,600 Britons wait more than 9 months for medical care.

The photo next to me was taken by a British mother outraged by the healthcare her ill son received. As this photo shows, her son was treated on a hospital floor.

Do we want newborn babies kept in cardboard boxes like they are in socialist Venezuela? Is that really what we want in America?

I say no. But that is exactly what America will get if socialists have their way in this healthcare debate.

Canada's socialized medicine is no better. A 2016 survey by Canada's Fraser Institute found a median wait of 20

weeks, almost 5 months, for “medically necessary” treatments and procedures.

Britain’s National Health Service data reveals that almost 25 percent of cancer patients don’t start treatment on time, despite urgent referrals from their primary care doctors. Britain’s politicians whitewash this deadly statistic by claiming treatment is “on time,” if it is given within 62 days of referral—2 months of referral.

Such long wait periods for cancer treatment can be, and are, deadly. For example, 81 percent of British breast cancer patients live 5 years after diagnosis compared to 89 percent for American breast cancer patients. Stated differently, 8 of every 100 breast cancer patients who live in America would die in Britain’s socialized medicine system.

Americans with prostate cancer have a 97 percent 5-year survival rate. In Britain, it drops to 83 percent. Stated differently, 14 of every 100 prostate cancer patients who live in America would die in Britain’s socialized medicine system.

It is irresponsible and dangerous for America to copy socialized medicine, yet that is exactly what socialist Democrats want us to do.

The House soon votes on a socialist drug cost plan that gives the government control over drug pricing while suppressing the invention of lifesaving drugs. For example, the Congressional Budget Office warns this legislation results in 15 fewer drugs in the next 10 years. That is 15 drugs that help Americans live longer or more comfortably, gone, because of socialist Democrat wishful thinking.

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Mr. Speaker, socialized medicine is not the answer. Government price controls are not the answer.

The answer is more free enterprise competition that forces healthcare providers and drug companies to provide their best products at their lowest prices or go out of business.

I urge the American people to not fall prey to socialists who promise taxpayer-funded government healthcare.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this socialist drug pricing scheme.

Most importantly, I urge America to be wary of propaganda that claims socialized medicine lowers healthcare costs or saves lives. Socialized medicine does neither.

Remember that promise that ObamaCare will cut your health insurance premiums by \$2,500 per year? That was false propaganda.

Remember the promise that, under ObamaCare you can keep your doctor and health insurance plans if you want them? That was more false propaganda.

America, do your homework. Don’t fall for the lies again. Demand solutions that both lower costs and save lives.

Why? Because your very life is at risk.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, the number one concern that I continue to hear from my constituents is the high cost of healthcare, especially the skyrocketing prices of prescription drugs.

From Kendall to Key West, I have heard stories of patients that are forced to choose between putting food on the table or paying for lifesaving drugs. Meanwhile, Big Pharma continues to collect hundreds of billions of dollars in profits each year.

This cannot continue. We must pass H.R. 3, the Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019, which will save Floridians thousands in drug costs each year.

This bill would cut Medicare spending by over \$400 billion, and reinvest these savings to combat the opioid epidemic, fund research for new groundbreaking cures; it would expand Medicare benefits, and it would also be used to strengthen community health centers.

As the past Dean of the Medical School at Florida International University, I have worked directly with these centers and I have seen firsthand the impact that they have had on our community.

In my district, Community Health of South Florida, or CHI, plays a crucial role in providing care to the uninsured and underinsured.

In 2018 alone, CHI provided care for over 82,000 patients, including primary care services, behavioral health, OB/GYN procedures, and free HIV screenings.

These health centers serve everyone in the community, regardless of their ability to pay. They expand quality, affordable healthcare for everyone.

The time to act is now. We have to pass H.R. 3 to lower prescription drug prices and strengthen the healthcare centers that thousands in my district depend on for care.

LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, every day I hear from my constituents in Pennsylvania’s Ninth Congressional District about the skyrocketing costs of prescription drugs. Families should not have to dedicate such a high percentage of their disposable income on prescription drugs, and families should certainly not be forced to choose between buying medication or putting food on their table.

Over 70 percent of Americans think that lowering prescription drugs prices should be a top priority for Congress.

Delivering for the American people will require a bipartisan approach with proposals that can actually pass the House and the Senate and be signed into law.

Unfortunately, Speaker PELOSI’s prescription drug pricing proposal, H.R. 3, was crafted without any Republican input and will be dead on arrival in the Senate.

A key component of H.R. 3 involves the Federal Government mandating pricing for prescription drugs. While supporters of H.R. 3 describe this as “voluntary negotiation,” manufacturers who decline to participate in the process are taxed up to 95 percent of the medicine’s gross sales. That is 95 percent of the gross sales price.

This is not a negotiation. This is a heavyhanded government at its worst. It is ridiculous. It is take this price or else. It is, figuratively and literally, a poison pill provision to this bill.

Government command central price setting is not only un-American, it is ineffective. When we look at countries with heavyhanded approaches to price controls, we find they have significantly less access to lifesaving medications and treatments.

Of the 270 new medicines available in the United States, only 41 percent are available in Australia; 52 percent in Canada; 53 percent in France; 67 percent in Germany; 48 percent in Japan; 64 percent in the United Kingdom.

Imagine, in our country, a lifesaving drug being available in another country but not available here. We can’t imagine that.

Fortunately, House Republicans have found a solution to lowering prescription drug prices without sacrificing American innovation or harming access to lifesaving medications.

H.R. 19, the Lower Costs, More Cures Act, is a package of over 40 bipartisan provisions to lower out-of-pocket spending, strengthen transparency, and spur competition.

H.R. 19 protects seniors by placing an annual cap on out-of-pocket drug costs and establishing a “smoothing” mechanism to allow them to distribute their prescription drug spending throughout the year. Rather than heavyhanded government overreach, H.R. 19 stimulates free market forces to spur innovation and lower costs by streamlining FDA approval pipelines, increasing availability of over-the-counter products, and prohibiting anticompetitive practices that prevent access to generics.

H.R. 19 makes insulin more affordable—so important—by capping the costs at \$50 a month after a Medicare beneficiary has met their deductible. Under H.R. 19, doctors would know what a patient will have to pay for a drug, allowing them to prescribe medication that addresses the patient’s needs and fits their budget.

Again, every single provision in H.R. 19 is bipartisan and could actually become law. President Trump has made it abundantly clear that lowering prescription drug prices is a top priority,