

□ 1030

# CONGRATULATING KENTUCKY SUPREME COURT JUSTICE BILL CUNNINGHAM ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham from Lyon County, of the First District of Kentucky, on his upcoming retirement from the Kentucky Supreme Court.

After serving in the United States Army, Bill Cunningham was the Eddyville city attorney, the public defender for the Kentucky State Penitentiary, and the Commonwealth's attorney for the 56th Judicial District. He then served on the bench as a circuit judge for 15 years before his election to the Kentucky Supreme Court in 2006.

As an avid writer, Bill Cunningham documented important parts of Kentucky's history in his books. Through his writings and life as a concerned citizen, he sought improved race relations and minority representation on juries.

Justice Cunningham evidently passed his passion for public service on to his son, Congressman JOE CUNNINGHAM of South Carolina. I am proud to serve alongside Congressman CUNNINGHAM and look forward to working with him to promote bipartisan legislation in the 116th Congress.

As Justice Cunningham begins the next phase of his life, I join with the people of western Kentucky to express our gratitude for his lifetime of public service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

# CONGRATULATING KENTUCKY SUPREME COURT JUSTICE BILL CUNNINGHAM ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise today to call attention, along with Congressman JAMIE COMER, to one of Kentucky's most fearless, tireless public servants, who recently retired from the Commonwealth's highest court at the beginning of this month and who is my father, Justice Bill Cunningham.

He began his long and distinguished career by serving as a JAG officer in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam war, serving in Germany, Vietnam, and Korea.

He returned home to serve later as the city attorney, then the public defender, then the prosecutor, followed by circuit court judge, all before being elected to Kentucky's highest court, the Kentucky Supreme Court, where he has been a justice for the last 12 years.

His skills in the courtroom were not just limited to the courtroom. Growing up the youngest of five unruly boys, we

found that he brought those skills home with him.

I recall one time when three of my older brothers came home late, past curfew, with the smell of alcohol. Their stories did not jibe with one another, so he immediately sequestered each brother in three separate rooms and went from room to room interrogating each of them, only to find out their story of a flat tire fell apart very quickly when they could not decide on which tire was flat and who fixed it.

He acted as the judge, the jury, and the executioner of our household in disciplining five boys.

I recall one time being disciplined at school for fighting. I came home. My father told me: If you are in trouble at school, you are in trouble at home.

He took a 25-pound weight, put it in a backpack, and made me carry that backpack around with me everywhere I went—to school, back from school to home—with the message that, if I was going to be a weight on him, he was going to put a weight on me. No doubt, such behavior would probably call attention to child services these days.

He is the bastion of public service; he is the example of integrity; and, last but not least, he is my hero.

Thank you, Dad, for all of your hard work, for leading by example.

He treated every single person with dignity and with respect. Even today, when he goes inside the walls of Kentucky's State Penitentiary, the maximum security penitentiary, he walks around in the yard and people approach him—people he has prosecuted, people he has sentenced to the penitentiary—and they come up and want to shake his hand because he treated every single person with dignity and with respect.

I want to thank my father, Justice Bill Cunningham, for making this world a better one.

And to my mother, who will be the beneficiary to all of his newfound free time, I wish to say to her: Good luck.

# HONORING BUCKS COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS AT HEARTS FOR OUR HEROES RECEPTION

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is home to some of the most thoughtful and compassionate people in the Nation. This was on full display earlier this month when parents and students from the Howard Hersch Religious School at Congregation Brothers of Israel held a reception for first responders, called Hearts for Our Heroes.

Held at the Newtown Township Building, first responders in attendance received letters of appreciation and cookies for their service and their sacrifice. Students also sang a song of gratitude to the heroes in our community.

I would like to honor several people, Mr. Speaker, who played a pivotal role in ensuring that our community's first responders received the recognition they deserve: Joan Hersch, Congregation Brothers of Israel Religious School director; and Janet Barudin and Amy Stinson, who co-chair the congregation's Caring Committee; as well as Rabbi Aaron Gaber.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all first responders in Newtown Township and throughout Bucks County for all they do to keep us safe.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE REA B. BOYLAN

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable career of a public servant in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who will be retiring at the end of her term.

Judge Rea Boylan, a resident of Hilltown, has spent 20 years on the bench and is the most tenured member of the Bucks County court of common pleas.

In her years of service, Judge Boylan has worked in the public defender's office, the office of the district attorney, and also was Bucks County controller before her judgeship.

Throughout Judge Boylan's tenure, she has been known as a fair judge who is not afraid to hold people accountable and always seeks to rehabilitate those in need.

Notably, her work with juveniles and those struggling with addiction truly embodies her dedication to both justice and fairness.

I wish Judge Boylan all of the best in her retirement, and I speak on behalf of all of Bucks County when we thank her wholeheartedly for her service.

CONGRATULATING NORTH PENN HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING COACH JEFF FAIKISH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate North Penn High School swimming coach Jeff Faikish for being named Pennsylvania Coach of the Year for girls swimming and diving during the 2017-2018 school year.

The National Federation of State High School Associations awards coaches who exemplify the high standards of sportsmanship, ethical and moral character, and have received the endorsement of their State high school association.

Last fall, the North Penn High School swim team won the State championship and, under John's leadership, has competed in seven State championship meets.

Mr. Speaker, we congratulate John for receiving this honor and all the athletes of the North Penn girls swim team for their outstanding achievements. We wish them all continued success in their future endeavors.

# BORDER SECURITY

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, in fiscal year 2018, more than 2,000

illegal aliens were apprehended by Federal agents for homicides committed on American soil. In addition, over 70,000 Americans are killed each year by poisonous drugs, much of which is shipped illegally into America across our porous southern border by illegal aliens, MS-13, and other drug cartels.

Stronger border security, which must include wall construction, will save thousands of American lives each year.

Unfortunately, in the worst betrayal of America in history, socialist Democrats, motivated by a lust for political power, selfishly elevate illegal aliens over American citizens because illegal alien families overwhelmingly rely on welfare, thus making them highly reliable Democrat voters who elect socialist Democrat politicians by diluting the votes of American citizens.

Inasmuch as socialist Democrats refuse to protect American lives from illegal alien homicides, drug deaths, and America's porous southern border, I urge President Trump to secure our borders and build the wall under existing law and Presidential powers.

For example, title 10, section 284 of the United States Code empowers Presidents to order America's military to assist Federal drug and law enforcement agencies in the fight against drug and transnational organized crime.

Pursuant to this law, the President may deploy active military and National Guard troops to establish and operate bases of operations; detect and monitor surface traffic in Mexico and in the United States within 25 miles of the southern border; construct roads, fences, barriers, and lighting to block drug smuggling corridors across the southern border; and use aerial and ground reconnaissance.

For emphasis, this Federal law empowers President Trump to order America's military to construct walls and barriers to block drug smuggling corridors, with the side benefit of stopping illegal aliens.

Mr. Speaker, another example of existing Presidential authority is the power to declare a national emergency and divert congressionally appropriated money to border security and wall construction.

America invaded Iraq and Afghanistan based on 9/11 terrorist attacks that killed roughly 3,000 people. In response, America spent trillions of dollars and lost thousands of lives in military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While 9/11 was horrific, 9/11 deaths pale in comparison to hundreds of thousands of Americans who are dead or will die over the years because of illegal alien homicides and overdoses caused by deadly drugs shipped across America's porous southern border.

For emphasis, a minimum of 50 Americans die each day we delay securing our southern border. That is a minimum of 15,000 dead Americans each year. This death rate easily justifies a Presidential declaration of a national emergency. In fact, not one of the 58 national emergencies declared by a

President since 1979 is supported by a worse death rate or threat to America and American lives.

Mr. Speaker, an extraordinarily weak and conflicted Congress is of no help. Worse yet, this Congress is a hindrance. As such, I urge President Trump, as America's Commander in Chief, to invoke title 10 United States Code section 284, declare a national emergency, and use every other authority, statutorily and constitutionally, he possesses to direct the military to secure our southern border, build the wall, and protect and save American lives.

America's military protects the borders and lives in South Korea, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Europe, and many other countries. America and Americans deserve no less protection.

#### WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE DEMOCRAT PARTY?

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask one question today: What happened to the Democrat party?

Democrats, up until just recently, were a lot closer to the middle. Take John F. Kennedy, for example, who argued in favor of supply-side economics and fought for tax cuts and personal responsibility.

Bill Clinton and DIANNE FEINSTEIN are recorded decrying rampant illegal immigration. Bill Clinton described Democrat policies on abortion as safe, legal, and rare. Even as recent as last decade, Barack Obama attacked companies for hiring illegal aliens.

But something new is emerging from their ranks. Dangerous extremist ideas are becoming the new normal on the left side of the aisle.

Let's begin with infanticide. Are Democrats truly accepting killing babies outside the womb now?

A Democrat head of State, last month, casually defended it on a radio station broadcasting in the Nation's Capital. He explained to listeners that an infant already delivered would be kept comfortable while a mother and a doctor discussed letting the child die.

□ 1045

When pressed for clarification, he explained that the scenario he envisioned involved a baby with deformities. Assuming he meant something like Down syndrome or something similar, this is an outrageous claim. If you go and ask people with Down syndrome, they think their life is worth living, and I couldn't agree more.

If all of that is not sitting well with you right now, well, we are just getting started, or I should say, they are just getting started.

How about the newly unveiled Green New Deal? This massive overhaul of the entire U.S. economy was reportedly drafted over a single weekend by a bunch of staffers and environmental

activists. The visionaries behind this massive bill are hoping to eliminate air travel, gut and rebuild every building in America, eliminate 99 percent of cars, eliminate nuclear energy, and ban affordable energies like natural gas.

One of the authors of the Green New Deal laments that we aren't sure we will be able to fully get rid of flatulating cows fast enough to get down to zero carbon emissions. Of course, that has been pulled off their website, following the appropriate national response.

But don't worry, the authors tell us, if passed into law, the government will guarantee each and every one of us a high-paying job, free education for life, a house, free money, and healthy food for all Americans.

How about the various proposals to get free healthcare for everyone? The most popular one of these, Medicare for All, was introduced by a self-described socialist and has received enthusiastic endorsement of 2020 Democratic Presidential candidates. Cautious estimates of the cost of Sanders' plan start at around \$32.6 trillion over the next 10 years.

Even if we implement the most aggressive tax plan to seize and redistribute wealth, the hard-earned work of some Americans, we only raise \$720 billion over 10 years, or 2 percent of what Medicare for All will cost.

Keep in mind, our revenue for the entire United States over that same period will only be approximately \$40 trillion, unless, of course, this bill passed and we tailspin toward a second Great Depression.

Democrats have abandoned all reason in the immigration debate as well. We are witnessing Democrat officials offering homes, voting rights, welfare, and taxpayer-funded education to anyone and everyone who is able to sneak into the interior of the United States. It has been estimated that each illegal border-crosser is a net fiscal burden of \$74,722 to the United States, and that is before all the goodies I mentioned previously are added.

Moreover, we have one primary agency in charge of identifying and apprehending illegal aliens who go on to commit other crimes, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Democratic officials are demanding we eliminate them. Instead, they tell us to give everyone amnesty, something estimated to cost taxpayers another \$2 trillion.

With all the free programs available to illegal aliens in the United States, it is no wonder they are flooding over the southern border. According to the White House, 400,000 migrants were apprehended attempting to illegally enter the United States in FY18 alone.

Along the way, reports from non-partisan organizations state that one in three women are sexually assaulted on the trip north. They also have to pass through something called the route of death. Do we really want to incentivize people to make this trek?