

schools quickly became a task force tackling substance abuse.

In 2014, the Waconia HERO Coalition was awarded the Drug Free Community Support Grant, providing \$625,000 of funding over 5 years. Today I want to congratulate them for receiving a continuation to that grant, which reaffirms the incredible work this task force has already done and will be doing and serves as encouragement to keep working towards solutions to youth substance abuse.

SETTING STRAIGHT THE RECORD

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise.

And I rise today with love of country in my heart and a belief that the record has to be set straight.

The record has to always reflect the truth, and there is a truth that is being obscured.

I want to set the record straight because there seems to be a belief that, if you have committed acts of bigotry, if you have been a racist, if you have been engaged in homophobia, xenophobia, Islamophobia, there seems to be a belief that, if you can do one thing, somehow that thing will eradicate and eliminate all of the bigotry that you have perpetrated.

I rise to correct the record because I want the record to show that at least one person came to the floor of this Congress and made it clear that, yes, unemployment may be low for African Americans—yes, it may be low—but it is still twice that of Anglo Americans, generally speaking.

Yes, you may have signed a bill to deal with some aspects of criminal justice in a just way, and that is appreciated. But there is still more work to be done. But notwithstanding the fact that there is more work to be done, it is still appreciated.

But the record has to be set straight, and here is what the record should show: that that does not eliminate the bigotry emanating from the Presidency.

Eliminating bigotry does not occur because you signed one bill. It does not occur because unemployment is low. It does not occur.

If you want to have the record reflect that you have done something to atone for your bigotry, then you have to do something a little bit more than to simply sign a bill.

And I am not saying to you that an apology is in order. I say to people: Tell the truth. Just tell the truth.

Say: I was wrong when I instituted a policy that separated babies from their mothers that emanates the type of bigotry that we don't condone in this country.

Say: I was wrong when I said there were some good people among those who were the racists, the bigots, the xenophobes and homophobes in Charlottesville.

Say: I was wrong when I said that you don't have to be so kind when you are taking persons into your care, custody, and control and you are part of the constabulary, you are part of the policing force in this country.

Just say you were wrong if you want to atone. Signing bills won't do it. Going to church won't do it.

Asking forgiveness will cause you to be forgiven. And I will forgive you, but that doesn't mean that you are no longer going to be sanctioned for your bigotry.

I want to thank those who have stood and made their points clear as it relates to bigotry.

I am listening to these morning programs now. They are all talking about bigotry emanating from the Presidency, not necessarily in those words. They are talking about the racism that the President perpetrates.

I appreciate what they are saying, but we have got to do more than talk about it. We cannot allow a President to remain in office who has engaged in this kind of bigoted conduct.

It is time for us to take a stand here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

There were no fine people in Charlottesville. You ought not separate babies from their mothers. You ought not have policies that would condone bigotry and encourage others to engage in it.

I believe that we have a duty to take a vote, and at some point in the near future we will take another vote, notwithstanding the Mueller report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF WELCOMING THE STRANGER

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a nonprofit organization in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that is celebrating its 20th year of service helping immigrants settle in the United States.

Welcoming the Stranger, based in Langhorne, was founded in 1999 by the late Reverend Sturgis Poorman.

Welcoming the Stranger has provided countless opportunities for immigrants in southeastern Pennsylvania from over 100 countries.

Welcoming the Stranger offers English language classes and courses in citizenship preparation and computer science. Their programs have been so popular that they often expand to 300 attendees, packing houses of worship and community centers across Bucks County.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the work of Welcoming the Stranger, and I wish the organization all the best as it en-

ters its 20th year of service to our community.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to Meg Eubank, the executive director of Welcoming the Stranger, for her work and her vision.

□ 1030

HONORING FRIENDS OF FIVE MILE WOODS

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a group of conscientious citizens in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who were recently recognized for their environmental stewardship.

Earlier this month, the Lower Makefield Board of Supervisors and the Lower Makefield Environmental Advisory Council awarded Friends of Five Mile Woods with its annual Environmental Stewardship Award. Friends of Five Mile Woods, which has been a presence in Bucks County since the 1980s, seeks to protect the landscape of Five Mile Woods Preserve.

One of the most successful programs the organization has implemented is its volunteer cleanup efforts on the second Saturday of the months of March through November. During these Saturdays, dedicated volunteers pick up trash, maintain trails, and repair infrastructure in the 285-acre preserve.

Madam Speaker, Friends of Five Mile Woods helps provide amazing nature experiences and educational opportunities for our community in Bucks County. I congratulate them on this award and applaud the work of John Lloyd, chairman of the organization, and the Lower Makefield Board of Supervisors.

RECOGNIZING MEGHAN SCHULZ FOR HER WIN ON "JEOPARDY"

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a resident of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who recently made us all proud from her successful appearance on "Jeopardy."

Meghan Schulz, a resident of Bristol and an environmental engineer for SEPTA, appeared on the hit television show last month. Going into the final round, Meghan was in second place with \$14,000. She was able to clinch her victory, however, when she successfully answered that Mariah Carey was the New York native who, in the 1990s, had eight of her first 10 Billboard Top 40 hits reach number one.

Her closest competitor, whom she trailed by \$400 going into Final Jeopardy, incorrectly guessed Whitney Houston, putting Meghan over the top.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Meghan on this major accomplishment. It is a major feat to be selected to participate on this famous show to begin with, but to win against other highly intelligent competitors is something truly noteworthy.

I wish Meghan and her family all the best, and we congratulate her on this achievement.

WILDERNESS CONSERVATION

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to discuss concerns with S. 47, legislation we will soon be voting on in the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, S. 47 has some positive things in it. The legislation provides for expanded recreational opportunities, expanded opportunities to hunt and fish on our public lands, and a lot of things that I very much support.

Madam Speaker, the bill has some pretty profound flaws, one of which being process. This is a 700-page bill—a 700-page bill—that has been held at the desk. It has not gone through the regular committee process.

This isn't some small bill that folks have been exposed to. This is 700 pages of text, and it has not gone through the regular legislative process and, in fact, is being put up under suspension of the rules, where we are not even being provided the opportunity to offer amendments or to represent our constituents, other than just voting "yes" or "no."

Madam Speaker, I want to throw out some statistics on what this bill does and the implications. It provides 1.3 million acres of land being designated as wilderness areas—1.3 million acres; 694 acres of recreation and conservation areas; 370,000 acres of mineral withdrawals; national monument designations of 2,500 acres; 621 miles of wild and scenic rivers; 2,600 miles added to the national trail system; and 42,000 acres added to our national parks.

Now, Madam Speaker, I used to teach outdoor wilderness courses. I have spent hundreds, maybe even thousands of nights of my life in the outdoors, sleeping out in the wilderness areas, national parks, and national forests and others. I love these areas. I enjoy them.

I am not saying that these things shouldn't happen. I am saying that we need to have the ability to go through regular order, just like the Senate did this week when they had the ability to offer amendments to this bill. We are not being afforded that same opportunity.

Madam Speaker, my biggest problem or concern with this legislation is this: The bill permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which, I will say it again: I support the acquisition of lands, the protection of lands, so we can enjoy the ecological productivity and enjoy time in the great outdoors. However, the bill does not address the fact that we have a \$17 billion backlog in national park maintenance—\$17 billion. So we are acquiring more land without a plan for addressing the existing backlog maintenance issues that actually prohibit or prevent people from enjoying some of these same lands that are being acquired.

We are talking about the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and \$9 billion in funds over the next 10 years being deposited into a Treasury receipt account to acquire more land. Guess where this money is coming from,

Madam Speaker. A hundred percent of these funds is coming from the State that I represent and the other five States that produce offshore energy. Every penny of it is coming from the State of Louisiana, which produces perhaps over 80 percent of all the offshore energy of this Nation in Federal waters. It is paying for this fund.

At the same time, we have lost 2,000 square miles—2,000 square miles—of our coast. Guess how much of this bill addresses the problem there? With 2,000 square miles of our coast disappearing, the ecological productivity being lost, the increased vulnerability to the people that I represent, zero, nothing. This bill diverts money for conservation and for protection in other States in other areas and does nothing for my home State of Louisiana, yet it is coming from our revenues that we are producing in our offshore.

This is a flawed process. This is a flawed bill. We need to go through regular order.

I really can't even believe that this is happening. Here we have dozens of hearings on climate change and other things, and the very State that is the canary in the coal mine, the State that is experiencing the worst ecological challenges or losses as a result of sea rise and other challenges, is being completely ignored.

Where are the climate change advocates right now? Where are you?

I strongly urge opposition to this bill. We need to go back through regular order, consider the largest conservation and the largest natural resources bill that we have had since I have been in the Congress, and send it through regular order again.

I urge opposition to this bill.

STATEHOOD FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, our residents who are fortunate to live in our Nation's Capital will come to the Capitol as part of their Lobby Day to ask the Congress to pass the D.C. statehood bill.

Most Americans are unaware that the Americans who live in their Nation's Capital have the fewest rights of any Americans. That is at the same time that those 700,000 residents who live in the Nation's Capital pay the highest taxes per capita, higher than the taxes of the residents of any State.

As you might imagine, the residents of the District of Columbia are seeking to become the 51st State of the Union. I am pleased that already almost 90 percent of Democrats are on our D.C. statehood bill. I am grateful to Senator CARPER, who will soon introduce this same bill on the Senate side.

There are many reasons that no Americans should fail to have equal rights if they pay equal taxes. But

surely, service in every war the Nation has fought, even beyond being first per capita in Federal income taxes, should qualify the 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia for equal treatment as the 51st State.

On this poster, we see why any State would stand for its rights: World War I, more casualties of people who live in the District of Columbia than three States; the Korean war, more casualties than those of eight States; World War II, casualties are more than four States; and the Vietnam war, casualties that outnumber those in 10 States.

The residents of the District of Columbia will be here to say to my colleagues that 200-plus years—it is about 218 years now—without equal rights is 218 years too many.

Nobody who lives in our country and pays taxes should be unrepresented on this floor when votes are taken. I appreciate that I can now vote for the District of Columbia in the Committee of the Whole, where some votes are taken. But District resident have no representation on this floor and none in the Senate at all.

It is past time to right this wrong. We cannot do it for those who have died in war for our country. We can certainly do it in their memory.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor A.D. Shaw, Shekinah Glory Cathedral Church of God in Christ, Plant City, Florida, offered the following prayer:

God of infinity and sovereignty and redeemer of humanity, grace us with Your mercy, as this 116th United States Congress forges the future of America.

Cover the distressed and despondent, too often forgotten and manipulated, with unceasing care.

Shelter the children of this Nation from the destructive silence and sins of their predecessors. Grant unto them courage and fortitude to be affirming and inclusive of all.

Reclaim us to Your peace and unity, that we may truly be one Nation under God, the Nation known as the melting pot of the world.

Therefore, redeem the soul of this Nation, and bequeath unto us wisdom, mercy, and love, that we may all encounter heaven on Earth.