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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BUSTOS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 6, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHERI BUSTOS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

IMPEACHMENT IS NOT DEAD

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, with love of country in my heart.

And still I rise, as I did some 659 days ago, more than 21 months, when I first stood on the floor of the House of Representatives and called for the impeachment of the President. In so doing, I had to fend off the multitudes who wanted to know what crime the President had committed, what law did he break.

We had to fight that fight, and we won, because it is now generally perceived and believed that the President does not have to commit a crime to be impeached.

In fact, Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States of America addresses that question when it deals with high crimes and misdemeanors as misdemeanors or misdeeds, pursuant to the understanding that we have of the Constitution of the United States of America.

And still I rise now, understanding that we have had to fend off those who have said: You have to wait for the Mueller report. You have to wait. Why not wait?

Here is why you don't have to wait: Because the Mueller report is dealing with violations of the law. Misdeeds don't necessarily require a violation of the law.

If you are corrupting society, if you are creating harm to society, if you are causing things to happen in society that are unacceptable to the people in the United States of America, an unfit President can be impeached for those misdeeds that corrupt and harm society.

We are winning that fight. This fight is one that is easily won because, as we proceed, it is going to become intuitively obvious that these misdeeds are the problems, and the misdeeds are creating the concerns in society.

It is my belief that we have a duty, a responsibility, and an obligation under the Constitution to deal with an unfit President.

There are those who would want me to withhold my thoughts until after there has been an investigation, when we have clear and convincing evidence before our very eyes of the misdeeds: separating babies from their mothers, who happen to be of color, I might add; talking about s-hole countries that happen to be where people of color live, I might add; talking about good people,

or very fine people, in Charlottesville, among those who are bigots, racists, xenophobes, homophobes, and Islamophobes.

Yes, the evidence is there, because the President was putting in his policies these bigoted statements. These statements went beyond his words. They became a part of his policies. For this, he can be impeached.

I stand where I stood 659 days ago, and I will continue to stand until this President is removed from office.

We can investigate to the extent that we engage in what Dr. King called the paralysis of analysis, just investigate until it is time for another election, and then the election becomes the focal point.

My dear friends, my dear brothers and sisters, those who desire to wait may do so. I will not wait. Impeachment is not dead.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CICILLINE). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many women who have shaped our country's successes and are inspiring our future.

This month, we celebrate Women's History Month and recognize the women who have fought for equality and positively impacted their communities. The courage and resolve of our women must not go unnoticed.

In Kansas, we are always quick to highlight the great Amelia Earhart, our hometown aviation pioneer. But today, I want to highlight the millions of women around the world who have made and continue to make significant impacts on their families, communities, and workplaces through meaningful, everyday contributions.

My own mother, Nancy, taught me many family values that continue to

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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give me strength and guide me throughout fatherhood and in my career as an obstetrician.

She instilled in me the value of proper nutrition at an early age, which I was able to go on and explain in very commonsense terms to all my patients as an obstetrician. My mom emphasized the importance of a healthy breakfast and sitting down each night as a family for dinner, something my wife, Laina, and I prioritized as parents as well.

She taught me all these lessons while also working a full-time job as an office manager. Her dedication to her family and career didn't garner news headlines, but it made a significant impact and allowed me to grow up understanding the outcomes of hard work.

My wife, Laina, went to school to be a nurse at Butler County Community College and later worked in the neonatal intensive care unit, caring for premature babies. She made a huge impact on all those babies' lives, as well as their families and their development.

Now, as a mother of four and grandmother of two, I often tell people my wife has the most important job in America: raising our children.

I know there are millions of mothers around the globe who have and continue to provide the same energy, time, and dedication to their children, families, and communities. Too often, we don't take the time to share and celebrate these contributions, but we all know a woman who has made a significant impact on our lives.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I challenge you to thank those women who have positively influenced your life, improved our communities, and contributed to the success of this great Nation.

RECOGNIZING LEADERSHIP OF DR. BOBBY MOSER

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize my friend and fellow western Kansas physician, Dr. Bobby Moser, for his leadership with the Kansas Heart and Stroke Collaborative, an initiative funded through CMS' Health Care Innovation Awards.

The effort started in 2014 with the University of Kansas Health System, Hays Medical Center, 10 critical-access hospitals, and the First Care Clinic to provide an innovative care delivery and payment model designed to improve heart health and stroke outcomes for rural Kansans.

When they first received this 3-year Federal grant, they were nothing shy of ambitious. In their proposal, they aimed to reduce healthcare costs by nearly \$14 million and reduce deaths from stroke and heart attack by 20 percent. The collaborative wanted to accomplish this using data in a meaningful way, enhancing bedside care, and building sustainable models for access and treatment.

They have indeed shown signs of good work, and they are expanding their efforts. This group has helped hospitals track and audit data to find ways to improve patient performance.

Dr. Moser recently reported that the clinical network of hospitals has improved medications and delivery time for getting clot-busting drugs to patients that literally save lives and prevent lifelong paralysis.

Since its inception, these physicians have grown to reach more counties and are able to help more patients. Now called Care Collaborative, they are exploring new payment systems for rural hospitals and focusing on expanding into new medical treatments, like palliative care.

With more than 50 critical-access hospitals in my district, the resources developed through this collaborative have been lifesaving and critical for our hospitals and, most importantly, rural patients.

ADVOCATING FOR FEDERAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to advocate for the Federal nutrition programs that help our most vulnerable constituents and to highlight why these programs continue to need our unwavering protection and attention.

March 4 marked the beginning of National School Breakfast Week, which is designed to show parents, students, and school officials the benefits of fueling up for the day with a healthy school breakfast.

I am sure it comes as no surprise to many of you that learning improves when students are not hungry. It is awfully hard to concentrate when you don't have any fuel in your body.

Last week, I met with several anti-hunger organizations from my district, and they shared with me stories from the people they serve on how nutrition programs, food pantries, and school breakfast and lunch programs impact their lives.

Many of them wrote their thoughts on paper plates, and I would like to read a few of them to you.

Jay Keller from Jeremiah's Inn in Worcester said: "These food centers make a huge difference when it comes to preparing meals. Without them, I would not be able to make ends meet. Please keep them going. Many people may go hungry if they do not continue."

A parent from Catholic Charities in Worcester said: "SNAP and school lunches help my daughter and I eat. It helps us get by, and I work part-time. Very grateful for these programs."

Sometimes, Mr. Speaker, school breakfasts and lunches are the only opportunities a child has to receive a full meal. For example, a student from Memorial Elementary School in Winchendon said: "School lunch is important because it keeps me full until I go home." Another student from Pernet Family Health Services in

Worcester wrote: "If I don't eat, my head hurts."

While many nutrition program participants are children and persons with disabilities, their reach extends to veterans. A veteran from St. Anthony's Parish in Worcester wrote: "My food bank provides myself and fellow veterans with love and nutrients. Without you guys, it would be a long month. Thanks to our nuns who help us always."

When a family is worried about whether they can afford basic necessities, nutrition programs and the food security they provide goes a long way.

In 2018, a monthly average of 40.3 million people participated in the SNAP program. Despite the fact that this number has been steadily decreasing, the Trump administration has unveiled several baseless attacks on these nutrition programs.

On December 20, 2018, the Trump administration proposed a rule that will threaten the eligibility of SNAP participants who are considered able-bodied adults without dependents. In an effort to, ironically, "restore self-sufficiency through the dignity of work," their rule stigmatizes SNAP participants and limits a State's ability to waive 20-hour work requirements.

The able-bodied adult without dependents population is a complex group. Many of them are veterans returning from overseas and having a difficult time reintegrating into our community. Many of them are young adults who have aged out of the foster care system. Some are ex-felons who are products of mass incarceration. Some are workers who are not given 20 hours of work per week.

Mr. Speaker, 75 percent of SNAP participants do work, but often in jobs that are either unstable or don't pay enough to put food on the table. It is not that the able-bodied adult without dependents population is jobless by choice. Many are jobless because they lack privilege and are trying to get on their feet.

This proposed rule also specifically goes against the will of Congress by imposing restrictions that were specifically rejected for inclusion in the farm bill signed into law just last year.

As if that weren't enough, the Trump administration also announced its intention to propose changes to categorical eligibility. Categorical eligibility, or Cat-el, is criteria used to determine whether a family is automatically eligible for SNAP because they already qualify for certain other low-income programs. Cat-el is fine as it is because it eliminates redundancy and minimizes hurdles that low-income families must overcome just to keep up with their basic needs.

While the administration changes are forthcoming, I don't have much optimism about how they will turn out.

The current administration is trying to solve problems that don't exist, and they are creating problems that have clear solutions. That is why we must