

this august body, say that they have concluded that the President has committed impeachable acts. Some have gone so far as to say that he should be impeached. I am one of them.

We have also had hundreds of lawyers, many of whom are prosecutors and former prosecutors, say that if anyone else committed the offenses outlined in this document, the Mueller report, that person would be arrested and prosecuted. That person would be prosecuted. That person would not be above the law.

Hence, since this document addresses acts by the President, since the President is not being prosecuted, and since the House of Representatives has not moved to impeach the President, one can conclude that the President is indeed now, for some 29 days, above the law.

No one is above the law, unless you are the President.

No one is above the law. The House of Representatives has a duty to enforce the law.

The President of the United States of America, it has been said by constitutional scholars, by Members of this august body, and by lawyers—hundreds—that he is subject to the law and that he should be properly prosecuted.

It is not happening.

The prosecution of the President in the House of Representatives will take place once impeachment is initiated. Until impeachment is initiated, this President is above the law. He continues to obstruct. He is above the law.

I am using this refrain because it is important for the American public, the people who understand that no one is above the law, to at least see that we have a problem. We have a President who, by most standards, has committed impeachable acts, yet we have not started the impeachment process.

If the President is not impeached, one of two things will happen: one, he won't be impeached; or, two, the Congress of the United States of America would become a toothless paper tiger, not only as it relates to this President, but also as this relates to future Presidents.

We cannot allow the perception of the Congress to be toothless when it comes to our constitutional responsibilities. We have a duty, a responsibility, and an obligation to bring the President to justice.

The bar of justice for this President and any other President is this House of Representatives, and each Member of this House has the responsibility to make sure that justice is served.

I will now start a process that will commence on the second anniversary of my initial call for the impeachment of this President, which will be tomorrow. Tomorrow will be the second anniversary, and I will start a process tomorrow of bringing to this floor a display.

We will display the number of days since the Mueller report was produced and the number of days that this Presi-

dent has gone above the law because until the President is impeached, those who say that he should be impeached, those who say there is evidence enough to impeach, until this President is impeached, we who say this must conclude that he is above the law.

I love my country. I stand on the law. I believe in the Constitution. As such, I believe that this House has a duty and a responsibility to take up impeachment.

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

AMERICA LEADS THE WAY

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the warnings to not mention the President, but you know what? They are going to continue to come. They won't be heeded.

People say they have respect for the rule of law. Do they even have respect for the House rules and the dignity that we have as leaders of our country to follow those rules?

How can we ask the American people to follow rules we pass when we don't follow the rules even on the House floor?

Madam Speaker, I know you understand this. My heart is heavy because I sit here, prepared to speak about one thing, but I feel like I have to say that I am very concerned for my country when my colleagues on the Democratic side speak of socialism as if history isn't littered with examples of failure, of destitution, of destruction of not only the economies of countries that go down that road of ruin but what it does to their people.

We see this in the most recent example of Venezuela. How can we be talking about these big-government, socialist ideas like the Green New Deal? Even Speaker PELOSI calls it a fantasy.

When colleagues on the other side aren't talking about giving Washington more control over the American people's lives, they are talking about party over country, unpatriotic rhetoric, in my opinion, and political theater.

That is the agenda. That is what they have. That is the bold vision of where they want to take this country. Not me, and not the people of west Texas. I can promise you that.

I mentioned the Green New Deal as the Democrats' signature legislation to steward the environment. They want to eliminate airplanes, ladies and gentlemen. They want to eliminate cows.

They want to give everybody a paycheck, guaranteed income whether you work or not. Whether you are capable of working or not working, everybody ought to get a paycheck, guaranteed, full faith and credit of the United States of America.

That is where this country would go if we didn't have a Republican Senate,

if we didn't have a Republican President, and if we didn't have Americans with better sense.

Look, is the climate changing? Yes, it is changing. What are the factors? What are the variables? How serious? Which variables are contributing over the others?

Let me tell you what is real. What is real is the responsibility we have to steward our environment.

I want clean air and water for my three children. I think, as leaders of this great country, we ought to be responsible for providing not only a land of opportunity for the future of our children but a clean land of opportunity.

Let's just get the facts straight for the American people. America has been leading the way in this regard. The Clean Air Act is one example.

We had six key pollutants that we identified, in a bipartisan way, that had an impact on our health and well-being in this country. We have reduced those pollutants by 73 percent since 1970. At the same time, we have grown this economy 230 percent.

America is leading the way. In greenhouse gases, from 2005 to 2017, U.S. energy-related emissions fell by 14 percent when the rest of the world increased their emissions by 20 percent.

Folks, through American innovation, through reasonable regulations, we have been able to lead the world and provide for a cleaner environment and steward God's great Earth, a gift to us.

We do have a stewardship responsibility. We have a calling to our creator and our children.

I don't want the American people to be misled, certainly not at a \$93 trillion cost and a plan that eliminates cows and airplanes. Give me a break.

The committee of jurisdiction, the Energy and Commerce Committee, hasn't even taken up that legislation. But that is what they have.

I hope we can work in a balanced way. I hope we can find ways to continue to do what we are doing, which is to steward our resources, provide for a cleaner environment for our children, and at the same time, make sure that we have opportunities for our kids to pursue their dreams and dream big and do better for their families because just talking about dirty fossil fuel is not enough of a plan.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SEYMOUR "SY" KAPLAN

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Seymour Kaplan, known as Sy, a local hero and World War II veteran who passed away on April 19 at the age of 95.

Sy was born on February 28, 1924, to Morris and Fannie Kaplan. At just 17 years old, Sy enlisted in the U.S.

Army—17—and, boy, was his father mad. But from a young age, Sy didn't let anything get in the way of serving others.

During World War II, Sy served this country bravely in the 2nd Army 2nd Corps Division under General George S. Patton.

Sy fought for 3 years, advancing through Italy, France, and Germany. Sy was severely wounded while building a bridge to cross the Rhine River into Germany. For his heroism, Sy earned three Battle Stars and two Purple Hearts.

But Sy's service to our Nation did not end with his military service. Sy was a lifelong advocate for our local veterans. For 25 years, Sy served as the commander of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 78 in the Coachella Valley. His leadership helped countless veterans find healing, community, and a sense of purpose. Over the years, Sy also helped many homeless veterans find homes and jobs. Sy would show up to every townhall, every event, and every community forum, always ready to make his voice heard.

Shortly after I became a Member of Congress, I remember Sy knocking on my door and asking: "Who is this young guy? What does he know about veterans?"

I sat down with Sy, and I immediately recognized his expertise and, more importantly, his heart. That is why I asked Sy to serve on my veterans advisory board and help my office connect veterans with the healthcare and benefits they have earned and deserve.

Sy said: "Hell, yeah. Let's do this."

When Sy came to our meetings, he would often bring along a veteran in need, and before we started the day's agenda, Sy would give that veteran the space to tell their story. That was Sy Kaplan: a devoted advocate who recognized that good leaders also have to be good listeners.

Sy became one of the visionaries behind Veterans University, my annual event to connect veterans with local and Federal resources. Among his many accomplishments, Sy was instrumental in bringing the Palm Desert VA Clinic to the Coachella Valley. Sy would often visit the clinic to, in his own words: "Make darn sure all of my vets from the Coachella Valley are getting good care."

Last year, it was my honor to present Sy with the Shirley Powell award in recognition of his service to local veterans in our communities. I looked to Sy as a trusted adviser and a dear, dear friend.

Sy was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Doris, and his daughter Ellen. He is survived by his daughter Ilona and a loving community grateful for his leadership and compassion.

I will always remember Sy's blue Disabled Veterans of America shirt, his baseball cap, his energy, and his infectious smile. In Sy's honor, let's make "darn sure," as he would say, that we carry his memory in our hearts.

REPORT ON H.R. 2779, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2020

Mr. RYAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-64) on the bill (H.R. 2779) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT TRUMP FOR NOT WAIVING THE JONES ACT

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

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today commending President Trump for not waiving the Jones Act.

This is a hypothetical picture, thank goodness, a Chinese-built vessel, subsidized by their communist regime, operated by the Chinese, and delivering Chinese goods, all in the very heartland of the United States of America. But this could easily become a reality if the Jones Act is waived.

For the past 100 years, the Jones Act has brought strength and certainty to maritime commerce here in the United States. It has protected the rights of American sailors, created and maintained American jobs, and been one of the single largest factors in facilitating the strong American economy that we are enjoying.

The Jones Act states that goods shipped between U.S. ports are to be built, owned, and operated by the citizens of the United States, and to support the Jones Act would be an easy decision to continue promoting the policy of America first.

To waive the Jones Act would be to directly jeopardize our national security, our economic growth, and our ability to provide American jobs all across this country. Worst of all, waiving the Jones Act would be allowing these foreign-operated ships into our waterways and could be opening the door to espionage. These foreign vessels would have the potential to literally threaten our national security by exposing our waterways to very real threats.

Not only has the Jones Act played a vital role in economic growth, but it has and continues to play a very large role in disaster recovery and the efforts of emergency response. Take a look at the photos of New York City after the attack on 9/11. You will see the Hudson River and the East River full of American vessels who quickly came to the rescue. Or how about all of the supplies delivered to the coastal communities after catastrophic hurricanes?

The list goes on to include the cleanups of oil spills, fires, and nautical ac-

cidents. Americans are always there, and the Jones Act makes that possible.

The Jones Act creates stability and certainty to the maritime and shipping industry. Taking away the Jones Act strips this industry of job and market availability and stability, handing it over to foreign countries to cheaply fill the role through questionable labor practices and lower standards of performance. It would singlehandedly jeopardize one of the Nation's most reliable and strongest of our economic drivers.

As a conservative Republican, I am well aware that many groups and thought leaders here in Washington and back in Texas, whom I respect and agree with on most of the other issues, do not share my view on the Jones Act, and they are actively working to try to weaken or even repeal it.

I respectfully, but firmly, disagree, and that is why I am calling on any and all of my colleagues who want to repeal the Jones Act to explain why the image that they see here would make for a better and stronger America.

If they need to borrow this poster, I will be glad to let them use it. Just let me know.

CONGRESS MUST BE INVOLVED AND ENGAGED

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUIZ). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of serving in this august body, and serving the American people and the people of the 18th Congressional District.

Just a few minutes ago, I was at Arlington Cemetery participating in the wreath-laying ceremony for the women of the United States military, those who have fallen in battle, and recognizing young and new women members of the United States military.

In fact, Sergeant Kelly, whom I honored, is in combat, having been given permission to be engaged in combat since 2015 by the Pentagon and the United States Defense Department. That means that I have the greatest respect for all of these men and women and take very seriously the issues of war and peace.

I was here in the United States Congress during the heinous and devastating attack on this Nation on 9/11. I was here for Afghanistan and Iraq, the Kosovo war, the Bosnian war. Every one of those war zones I visited. I saw the men and women sacrifice. I take very seriously this issue of war.

I am very concerned with the efforts now in the waters in the Mideast, with the intelligence that is alleged by the administration that is coming and this saber-rattling that is occurring, because the lives of our men and women will be put in harm's way.

Congress must be engaged, and I demand that, beyond the immediate