

PASS A DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL BILL

(Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I think it is urgent for Congress to approve the disaster supplemental bill.

Although I welcome the House version, I am still waiting on the Senate side to work a final solution.

The more that passage is delayed, the longer our communities will wait because just passing the appropriation is the beginning of a drawn-out process.

I know my constituents are still waiting for the \$600 million for the Nutritional Assistance Program that I have long been advocating. That will cover the gap in funding under the supplemental appropriations we made immediately after Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

As of last month, those residents who have not fully recovered are already seeing a decrease in benefits because we have not yet passed the disaster bill.

For example, 20 months later, of some \$42 billion allocated to Puerto Rico, just \$12 billion has been outlaid. That means that we have work to do, and this funding is still being reviewed with great scrutiny from FEMA, HUD, and OMB. That is the reason I do believe we should move across aisles to make this happen.

LEGISLATING ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me, too, add my appreciation and congratulations to Head Start, a very viable program, not only in my district, as I watched little children become empowered with education, but also around the Nation. I congratulate all of those who were engaged in its beginning, and I thank them for their brilliance and their leadership.

I rise today to say that we are troubled because the work of this body is to legislate on behalf of the people of the United States. We are, in fact, the people's House, and we have done our work. We have passed disaster funding.

Those of us who are, if you will, the remnants of various hurricanes in the 2017 season—in particular, those that impacted the East Coast, Puerto Rico, Houston, and the State of Texas—are waiting for disaster funding, which we have done.

We are waiting for the Violence Against Women Act to be passed. We are waiting for the universal background checks to be passed. We are waiting for protecting people against losing their preexisting condition coverage and, of course, lowering prescription drugs to pass. All that has been passed in this House.

We are waiting as we begin to debate the Equality Act that will have a blind eye to anyone's difference and be able to celebrate them and support them without discrimination.

Where is the other body? Why haven't they passed a bill in 3 months? Why can't we do the work for the American people?

It is time to get the job done.

HONORING OFFICERS DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this is National Police Week, highlighted by Peace Officers Memorial Day, which President John F. Kennedy designated, in 1962, as May 15.

Law enforcement officers and their families selflessly serve our communities across the country. Americans appreciate honoring officers, their families, and fallen heroes on Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Law enforcement personnel are national heroes. We are grateful for their sacrifices made to serve and protect our country on a daily basis.

We also provide our deepest support and gratitude to those who have been injured or lost their lives in the line of duty and to their families. Grateful citizens across the country will take time to thank a police officer this week.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

STOP PRICE-FIXING ON GENERIC DRUGS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, last week, 44 attorneys general filed a lawsuit in Federal court against 20 generic drugmakers, alleging market manipulation and price-fixing.

The American people's tax dollars are invested in unprofitable basic research that is essential to bringing highly profitable drugs to market. The United States Government is also a huge purchaser of these generic drugs.

In some cases, it is alleged that one company sets the price of a drug and the others follow, without the cost-cutting influence of competition. All of this resulted in billions of dollars in harm to patients and the U.S. economy.

Congress must stop this price-fixing scheme and will vote this week to approve legislation to end this price-fixing and market manipulation perpetuated by these generic drugmakers.

ENACT THE JAKE LAIRD ACT OF 2019

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize National Police Week, let's provide our law enforcement every tool possible to prevent senseless acts of gun violence from harming or claiming the lives of innocent people, including our law enforcement officers.

That is why, today, I am reintroducing a gun violence reduction bill, categorized as a red-flag bill, with my colleague TED DEUTCH, who represents Parkland, Florida, and our colleagues from Michigan, FRED UPTON and DEBBIE DINGELL.

Our bill, the Jake Laird Act of 2019, is named after an IMPD officer who paid the ultimate sacrifice serving and protecting his community of Indianapolis, Officer Jake Laird.

Our bill provides grants to States to enact laws substantially similar to Indiana's red-flag law because we know that, since 2005, this Hoosier common-sense bill has been working.

Specifically, the Jake Laird Act will enable law enforcement to remove and retain firearms from individuals who are determined to be a danger to themselves or others, while ensuring due process under the law.

According to a USA Today article recently published, more than 30 States across the country are either considering similar measures or have passed red-flag laws.

It is past time for our Nation to adopt laws like Indiana's red-flag law that will keep our law enforcement and citizens safer.

WE DO NOT ALLOW DISCRIMINATION

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to tell you about Gwyn Ciesla of Aurora, Illinois. Gwyn is a wife, a mother of two, and an IT professional with two decades of experience. She is also a transgender woman.

Gwyn transitioned about 2 years ago. Shortly afterward, she began interviewing for jobs to advance her career.

Gwyn was met with hesitation from potential employers. On multiple occasions, recruiters were suddenly uninterested in Gwyn after they conducted in-person interviews—no follow-up, no phone calls or emails, just complete silence.

This is a horrifying reality for many people in the trans community like Gwyn. A 2016 report by the National Center for Transgender Equality found roughly 30 percent of trans people have been denied a job or a promotion, or were fired, because of their gender identity.

This kind of discrimination is not only hurtful and illegal, but it hurts our economy, which is why groups like the Chamber of Commerce and over 200

major corporations support the Equality Act.

Gwyn is now employed, but there are so many others still forced to sit on the sidelines, keeping top talent out of our workforce.

The Equality Act would ensure everyone has the opportunity to earn a living and contribute to our economy, and it would send a message that we do not allow discrimination in our country.

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HONORING DAVID KING

(Mr. RIGGLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember David King, an indomitable family man, a constituent of mine who passed away after a hard-fought battle with cancer on May 2.

David was born in Houston, Texas, but moved to Virginia in 1995 and spent over 2 decades there. He will be remembered for his lasting contribution to the Virginia wine industry and his King Family Vineyards. It is one of my favorite places for a glass of wine.

David served as a chairman of the Virginia Wine Board and worked tirelessly as a free-market advocate for vineyard agriculture and agritourism in Virginia. He leaves an enormous legacy in both the wine industry and his local Crozet community.

David is survived by his loving wife, Ellen; his six sons and daughters-in-law, Carrington and Corie, Stuart and Ali, James and Kelly; as well as his eight grandchildren.

One of David's favorite phrases was this: "A rising tide lifts all boats," and David lived by that, lifting up those around him in success.

We will miss him dearly.

HONORING IAN JACOB TRONE

(Mr. TRONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my nephew, Ian Jacob Trone, who was born May 18, 1991. This Saturday, he would have been 28 years old. But on December 31, 2016, Ian died alone in a hotel room from a fentanyl overdose.

Ian was a nice young man. He, like many of us, was destined to grow up, find a partner, and start a family. He was a huge sports fan, and like many young boys his age, he had a sense of humor, he was a friend to many.

But last year, 72,000 people died of an overdose. Almost 70 percent of those involved fentanyl. This is the most important issue in America today.

In Congress, we must be determined to end this devastation, both Democrats and Republicans.

Ian Jacob Trone left us too soon, and I will do everything in my power to

make sure we don't senselessly lose more lives to this epidemic.

ABORTION IS NOT HEALTHCARE

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced the Abortion Is Not Health Care Act. This bill amends the Internal Revenue Service's treatment of out-of-pocket abortion costs as a medical expense.

This bill was drafted after receiving feedback from my constituents that they no longer wanted their tax dollars to support the abortion industry.

It is unfathomable to me that my Democratic colleagues in Congress continue to not only condone the practice of abortion but allow taxpayer dollars to subsidize this abhorrent practice.

For years, the pro-abortion movement has marketed abortion as a form of reproductive healthcare, but it is time for us to be honest with ourselves. Healthcare is primarily a restorative function, one that helps our bodies and minds to heal from disease or ailment.

Under no circumstances should healthcare include the intentional taking of life.

The Abortion Is Not Health Care Act is a small step towards ending the Federal Government's treatment of abortion as a healing medical practice.

I am happy that several of my colleagues and many pro-life groups, including March for Life, Family Research Council, Eagle Forum, Center for Arizona Policy, Arizona Right to Life, and others have endorsed this bill.

As Members of Congress, we have a duty to protect life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to uphold the call for human dignity at all stages of life, including while still in the womb, and support the Abortion Is Not Health Care Act.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

(Mrs. AXNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. AXNE. Mr. Speaker, Iowans are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of prescription drugs.

A teacher in Farragut, who has had diabetes for 20 years, is spending over \$750 a month for insulin. That is a third of her take-home pay, and she needs a second job just to cover her costs.

A woman from West Des Moines wrote to me that her medication used to cost \$50 for a 90-day supply and now that price has gone to \$1,000. Her family found they can buy the same medication in Canada for \$60.

In fact, Americans pay more for prescription drugs than any other country in the world. Brand-name drug manufacturers are gaming the system to reap profits and they are using delay tactics to prevent generic companies

from bringing the same drugs to market.

I ran for Congress to protect Iowans, not Big Pharma. This bill will help bring generics to market quicker to lower the cost for consumers and save billions in taxpayer dollars.

No one should ever have to decide between putting food on the table and taking their medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation to lower the cost of prescription drugs for all Iowans and Americans.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER BAUMANN

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Baumann, a high school senior from my district who was named the recipient of the Good Citizen Award by the Illinois Daughters of the American Revolution.

This year, over 400 high school seniors submitted essays for the DAR Good Citizenship scholarship application. Among these, district DAR chapters identified one student as the person who best exemplifies dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their area.

Jennifer was selected from Mt. Zion High School as the representative for the Stephen Decatur Chapter and attended the Illinois State DAR Conference, where she was named the statewide winner of the Good Citizen Award.

By all accounts, Jennifer demonstrates well the attributes of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. She is active in nearly every aspect of student life in her high school, where she is the captain of all three of her varsity teams: cross-country, basketball, and track and field. She also serves as the President of the National Honor Society and treasurer of the Student Council, and even finds time to dedicate to volunteering with both the Key Club and her church.

She plans to study speech, language, and hearing sciences at the University of Arizona in the fall.

I am proud to recognize outstanding students in my district, including Jennifer. I congratulate her on this prestigious honor.

HEAD START GIVES CHILDREN A BRIGHTER FUTURE

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Head Start program turns 54. Since this life-changing education program was created in 1965, it has served millions of children, giving them and their families a brighter future.

Head Start and Early Head Start provides comprehensive early childhood