

throughout my district are being impacted, along with the Federal officers who are involved in the United States Department of Agriculture and the ability to operate their offices.

And there are those who contract with the government who are looking at not receiving paychecks. It is affecting our Nation's economy. And there is clear proof of that.

Mr. Speaker, this harm must stop. Let me say it again. There is no good reason for a government shutdown. We have our differences, to be sure, and we ought to be negotiating those differences on border security and other matters.

On December 18, the Senate passed a bipartisan agreement, unanimously, to keep the government open that was acceptable to both Chambers and the President, and it did not include funding for a border wall. The next day, the President changed his mind.

This shutdown is not about securing our border, but it is about consistently providing funding to improve our border security, and we can do that. We should do that.

I urge my colleagues to get to work. The American people expect better.

HONORING BOB KIRK

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

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a true public servant and a friend of mine, Bob Kirk, from Dyersburg, Tennessee.

Bob has served as an alderman for the city of Dyersburg for 51 years. He leaves this position this month not only with many years of dedicated service, but also as the longest serving elected official in the State of Tennessee.

Bob Kirk's service to the Nation and to our State started immediately following his high school graduation, when he dedicated 4 years to the United States Air Force. After serving in the military, Bob returned home to start his career at Colonial Rubber Works, where he was a loyal employee for 30 years until his retirement in 1996.

During Bob's tenure as an alderman, he played an instrumental role in securing a Tennessee Highway Patrol office in Dyersburg, and he has been present and active for so many economic wins on behalf of the city of Dyersburg.

In addition to his elected position, Bob has remained extremely active in numerous community organizations. Last spring, the Tennessee Municipal League honored Bob by creating a new award in his honor that will bear his name. It is the Bob Kirk Local Government Leadership Award. This award is going to be given annually to outstanding public servants who not only go above and beyond the call of duty, but also do a great job in serving their communities.

To Bob and to his wife, Carol, I speak on behalf of west Tennessee and the State of Tennessee and I say thank you for your service to the city of Dyersburg. Thank you for your service to Dyer County. You epitomize public service and your love for the community.

OPPOSITION TO BIGOTRY AND RACISM

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, proud to have the pre-eminent privilege of serving in the Congress of the United States of America, a proud American, and proud to say that, yesterday, this Congress went on record indicating that it is opposed to bigotry. It went on record saying it is opposed to hate.

I read to you the style of the resolution, H. Res. 41. It reads: "Rejecting White Nationalism and White Supremacy." That is the style of the resolution.

I will not read all of the whereases, but I do think it appropriate to read the resolved.

"Resolved, That the House of Representatives once again rejects White nationalism and White supremacy as hateful expressions of intolerance that are contradictory to the values that define the people of the United States."

I thank all of my colleagues. I heard many of them speak, and much of what was said really touched my heart. I thank them for saying it, because it was made very clear yesterday that we reject bigotry. It was made very clear that bigotry will not be tolerated.

I am appreciative that this happened because there was a time in the history of our country where such a resolution would not have been brought before the House of Representatives. There was a time when people would deny the existence of racism and bigotry and hate, xenophobia, homophobia, anti-Semitism.

There was a time when people would have denied the existence, and then when you deny the existence of something, you don't have to deal with it because you say that it isn't there and it doesn't exist. Why would you deal with it? But yesterday, we went on record not only saying that we reject it, but we also acknowledged the existence of it, which is important.

I also have to single out just one Representative, Congressman BOBBY RUSH, who voted against the resolution—one vote against. I want to acknowledge that he was right. He was right because he said it wasn't enough. I concur.

I thank my colleagues for the resolution indicating that we oppose bigotry, but the real question that we have to answer at some point in the future is the corollary that flows from being in opposition to bigotry. The corollary is this:

If you oppose bigotry, if you reject bigotry, will you reject the bigot? If you reject racism, will you go on record rejecting the racist? If you are antithetical to anti-Semitism, will you go on record rejecting and opposing the anti-Semite?

This is the question.

I appreciate greatly and I am going to be eternally grateful to those who brought this resolution. It was timely. It was something that was necessary. But I also appreciate Mr. RUSH's position, because the corollary has to be addressed at some point.

We cannot continue to say we are opposed to something. That is a talking point. We have to get to the action item, which is: What are you going to do about it if you oppose it? What will you do about it?

What will you do about it when it emanates from the highest office in the land? What will you do about it? Will you simply say "I oppose it," or will you take a vote to indicate that it is an action item and you are going to reject it?

One step closer to impeachment, yesterday's resolution brought us one step closer. The clock is ticking. Impeachment is not dead.

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

HERE ARE THE FACTS

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, during a meeting in the White House, our newly elected Speaker of the House interrupted Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, who was reciting statistics relating to the border.

"I reject your facts," Ms. PELOSI said.

Well, here are the facts:

Fact: Last year, 17,000 people with prior criminal convictions were stopped trying to cross our southern border.

Fact: The recent 8,000-plus caravan that attempted to breach our southern border contained over 600 confirmed criminal migrants.

Fact: Approximately 90 percent of the heroin seized by Customs and Border Protection is interdicted along the southwest border of the United States at and between the ports of entry, and Mexico continues to be the primary supplier of heroin to the United States.

Fact: The Department of Homeland Security reports a 73 percent surge in the deadly synthetic opioid fentanyl interdicted at the southern border over the last 2 years.

Fact: Over 72,000 Americans died of an opioid overdose last year.

Fact: In my home State of Kentucky, we suffer from the fifth highest opioid overdose rate in America.

Fact: The administration's request to Congress is not funding for a sea-to-sea

concrete wall, as some falsely claim. It is a commonsense request for a sophisticated border wall system, including strategically placed 30-foot steel barriers, technology, lights, cameras, sensors, and other infrastructure.

Fact: Currently, there are 700 miles of physical barriers on our southern border, a measure 90 Democrats, including Barack Obama, Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and CHUCK SCHUMER supported in 2006.

Speaker PELOSI, it is interesting you claim walls are “immoral,” when many of the leading voices in your party have a previous record of supporting physical barriers on our southern border. Do you consider them immoral?

Fact: Border walls work. The Department of Homeland Security reports that, where a wall was built, illegal crossings have dropped by 90 percent or more. For example, apprehensions of illegal aliens crossing the border in El Paso, Texas, dropped 72 percent in 1 year and 95 percent over 22 years. And veteran Chief Border Patrol Agent Gloria Chavez, a Hispanic American, not a political appointee, a career professional with the Border Patrol agency, has said that the newly constructed border wall in her El Centro Sector of California has already reduced illegal border crossings.

Speaker PELOSI, you are entitled to your own opinion, but you are not entitled to your own facts. I certainly agree with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who say we must end this government shutdown and pay our Federal employees. It is wrong that these workers are missing paychecks, especially essential government workers who are required to work.

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After all, many of these people are corrections officers, air traffic controllers, Federal court personnel, and Border Patrol agents. These are the very people who are charged with the responsibility of keeping the American people safe. That is why I cosponsor the No Work Without Pay Act, which would require us to pay these essential Federal workers during the pendency of a shutdown.

But as important as it is that we timely fund these patriotic Americans’ paychecks, it is equally important, and perhaps more important, that we fund their mission. So by all means, we must end this government shutdown, but that objective won’t happen when the Speaker of the House refuses to accept basic, irrefutable facts. It won’t happen until both parties sit down and offer a proposal, and a compromise, and a counterproposal, something that the Speaker of the House refuses to do.

So my other friends on the other side of the aisle, many of them who I know are equally committed to protecting the American people, to Speaker PELOSI, and Senator SCHUMER: Stop the partisan games. Do your job. Protect the American people from drugs and criminals. End this shutdown, and fund commonsense border security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

SHUTDOWN STORIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call for an immediate end to President Trump’s irresponsible and unnecessary government shutdown which has now entered its 26th day.

People in my home State of New Hampshire and across this country are suffering and they are put at risk because of this manufactured crisis.

One woman wrote into my office: “My two girls and I count on the auto deposit from their dad. If this goes on, we will not be able to buy food, pay bills, or buy gasoline.”

Another constituent wrote: “We are not okay with a shutdown for a wall or for any other reason. We are not pawns on a chessboard.”

The wife of a Coast Guard member spoke of the sacrifices that their family has already made for this country. And now they are facing the uncertainty of even being able to pay their mortgage.

We take an oath to protect and defend this country. Safety is our number one job. And, yet, air traffic controllers, TSA agents, DEA agents, and even, ironically, Border Patrol agents are not receiving their pay, and our safety is at risk.

One of the most heart-wrenching stories that I have heard is that domestic violence shelters in New Hampshire and across this country are cutting services to women and children whose lives are at risk. These stories go on and on.

Who in our society are truly being hurt by President Trump’s shutdown: women and children; seniors; and veterans, whose health, safety, and well-being are put at risk by his intransigence.

Here in the House we have voted repeatedly to reopen the government and the Senate should follow suit. I urge the President to end this shutdown so we can focus on the hard work that is expected of us by the American people.

Democrats and Republicans in this Congress agree that we need comprehensive immigration reform and 21st century border security.

Now is the time to reopen the government so that we can work together in good faith to advance meaningful legislation that will strengthen and protect our country. Mr. McCONNELL and President Trump, do your job.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are again reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF NORVAL REECE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on Monday we recognize Martin Luther King Day and we celebrate his legacy of civil rights and his promotion of opportunity for all.

Today, I am proud to recognize an individual from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who has spent his life and career dedicated to the advancement of equality.

Norval Reece of Yardley remembers witnessing Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech and marching with him on the third march from Selma to Montgomery. He worked closely with Dr. King to enact change and in 1967 spent several hours with Dr. King in Philadelphia.

Norval credits his devotion to civil rights activism to his Quaker faith. He served in India with the American Friends Service Committee, and later continued to work on their behalf upon his return home. He later became a successful businessman, building his own media company that helped bring cable television to then-Communist Poland.

Mr. Speaker, Norval’s life and dedication to the service of others is truly inspiring, and we thank him, his wife, and their sons, Tim and Stockton, for their service to their community and our country.

RECOGNIZING THE FOOD CENTER AT THE MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a faith community in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that is going the extra mile to minimize the negative impact felt by Federal workers and their families during this prolonged government shutdown.

Last Friday, an estimated 800,000 Federal employees missed their paychecks. Understanding the undue hardship these Federal employees are facing, the Food Center at the Morrisville Presbyterian Church stepped up to the plate, opening their door to furloughed Federal workers and their families with the opportunity to receive food.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly blessed to represent such thoughtful and compassionate constituents.

As I did in this same exact spot yesterday, I urge my colleagues to put aside their differences and reopen our government. Our inaction is putting Federal workers in an untenable position.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to the Reverend Rachel Rhodes and all the staff and volunteers at the Food Center at Morrisville Presbyterian Church for their work. Each and every one of them makes our community a special place.

STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, January is Stalking Awareness Month, and I rise today to bring attention to the critical need for action to empower survivors and protect victims of this crime.