

It was the NAACP that guided the Supreme Court of the United States of America for almost a quarter of a century under the leadership of Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall. He was the lawyer who took *Brown v. Board of Education* before the Supreme Court. He was the lawyer who was the chief legal counsel for the NAACP. He sat on the Supreme Court. He guided the Supreme Court.

The NAACP, again, makes history, and I am proud to be associated with this great organization.

Mr. Speaker, I would also add that we are now some 98 days since the Mueller report was called to the attention of the public, 98 days since it was made public, 98 days since the Chief Executive has been above the law.

Mr. Mueller is testifying today. Tomorrow, I will start another acid test wherein I will show the number of days that the President has been above the law since Mr. Mueller himself testified in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we are living in some very challenging times—very challenging times—but Dr. King reminded us that the truest measure of a person in times such as this is not where you stand in those times of comfort and convenience but where you stand in these times of challenge and controversy.

I am proud to know that the NAACP stands for liberty and justice for all, stands for the people of the United States of America, as it has historically. And I shall continue to stand and be a member of the NAACP.

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

KANSANS WANT CONGRESS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, the circus is back in town. I can hear the music all the way over here in the Capitol, the music of that merry-go-round going on in the Judiciary Committee right now, as we speak.

Yes, Mr. Mueller is here now for the fifth congressional hearing on this same issue, on this witch hunt. This is a cheap, made-for-TV television movie that is now going back and reviewing everything, allowing Mr. Mueller to sit there and read the report that he submitted days and weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker, the frustration is that, back home, we have done over 63 town halls, and I can count on one hand the number of times somebody has ever asked me about the Mueller report or Russiamania.

What Kansans want is for Congress to stand up and solve the problems in front of us.

The USMCA agreement, the NAFTA-2.0 agreement, is sitting on the Speaker of the House's desk. Nothing would

do more for Kansas right now, both Kansas agriculture and Kansas manufacturing, than to get that agreement passed. It would mean thousands of jobs for Kansans. It would mean hundreds of millions of dollars more income for Kansans as well.

We are tired of this witch hunt. We want to move on. We want to move on and fix problems. The problem is the Democrats don't want to challenge us on issues and on policy. Instead, they want to attack the President because their policies won't stand the test of the American public or the test of time.

BRING IRAN TO THE TABLE

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, we don't want war in Iran. We don't want war in the Middle East. We don't want war anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I try to talk to my parents every week—every Sunday, typically. My parents seldom offer me advice, but the last thing my dad recently said to me was, "Roger, don't send our troops into battle."

Mr. Speaker, we must, however, make every effort to ensure Tehran does not have access to nuclear weapons. We must stop them from fueling global terror and endangering Americans and our allies around the world.

Like many other Kansans, I have served our country in uniform. None of us want war in Iran. That is not my goal, and it is not the President's goal. We must, however, guarantee Iran never has access to nuclear weapons and that they stop funding and arming terror around the world.

They are very evil actors. They are not a normal country. They seek the destruction of the United States and our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel.

I support any effort to bring Iran to the table for a deal that addresses both of these important goals. The best way to do this is to continue to apply maximum pressure on Iran.

Mr. Speaker, Iran has been responsible for the death of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of American soldiers during the Iraq war through their supply of IEDs. They chant "death to America," and as I said, they threaten our allies. This is an issue of great importance to the safety and security of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, if I haven't said it before, we don't want war. We just want Iran to act like a normal country. Normal countries don't take other country's ships hostage. Normal countries don't shoot down American drones. Normal countries don't ship IEDs to terrorists to kill Americans. Normal countries don't fund terrorism.

We cannot sit idly by on our hands as we watch Iran seize ships and continue to hold the Nation hostage. Instead, I believe, like President Reagan and, before him, President Eisenhower, that we best have peace through strength. We need to keep the maximum pressure, keep the faith, work with our allies, and get Iran to the table.

My fellow Americans, please join me in prayer as our Nation's officials

make this effort to ensure peace and increase stability in the region.

USDA RULE CHANGE WILL KICK MILLIONS OFF SNAP

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the administration's proposal, its recent attack on some of the most vulnerable Americans, the 38 million people who rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP.

The USDA, United States Department of Agriculture, announced yesterday a rule change to the eligibility for the program. This change would kick millions of Americans—seniors, children, and their families—off a program that provides critical assistance. It is a safety net.

This change would weaken our ability to provide support for working people who are struggling to get by month to month.

It would have a huge impact in my district. Unfortunately, 25 percent of my constituents depend upon the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program monthly to provide nutrition for themselves and their families.

As a member of the conference committee that negotiated the 2018 farm bill, these suggestions were a part of the discussion. We opposed them. We fought successfully to include expanded SNAP eligibility requirements, and Congress agreed.

That is why I fought to expand the employment and training programs that we do in SNAP in the Fresno Bridge Academy, to equip recipients with the necessary tools to get back on their feet, to make them self-sufficient. That is what we should be doing.

Guess what: The President supported it when he signed the farm bill into law last December. He needs to remain consistent.

I will fight for families, for seniors, and for children. The bottom line is this: SNAP is a helpful program to support people in their time of need with achieving self-sufficiency. It is part of America's safety net.

We must block this egregious attempt to administratively do what Congress did not do last December.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand with me and oppose this attack on some of our Nation's most vulnerable populations.

HIGHLIGHTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HOUSE IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of the House of Representatives what we have achieved in the last 6 months, many of these pieces of legislation on a bipartisan basis.

We have passed 10 bills to reduce the price of healthcare; lower prescription drugs costs, which our communities want us to do; and strengthen protections for people with preexisting conditions—reducing the cost of drugs and

strengthening protections for pre-existing conditions to protect those individuals.

We passed the Equality Act to ensure that every American enjoys the same rights and is protected equally under the law. The Equality Act is so important.

I fought to improve our water infrastructure, to address the strain on this precious resource brought by drought and climate change to ensure that we have clean, safe drinking water for all of our communities.

In the San Joaquin Valley, sadly, we have many communities that don't enjoy clean, safe drinking water standards.

□ 1015

I have worked hard to implement the farm bill, to lead education and outreach programs for farm programs to help farmers improve not only their water sustainability, but their ability to market their crops.

In immigration, we have passed the funding bills to help alleviate the humanitarian crisis at our border and advanced legislation to secure a pathway to citizenship for millions of undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States; our Dreamers, over 800,000, who came here through no choice of their own, and for them America is the only country they have ever known. They need and deserve legal status.

I am proud that, in the last 6 months of work, this week we will consider H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act.

Many of us have been to the borders, and we do have a humanitarian crisis there, and we need to do what is right. We need to ensure that those individuals receive good standards of water, beds, and access to healthcare, and that they are treated humanely. That is the American way. These are basic living standards.

Finally, the budget deal that was agreed to on a bipartisan basis over the weekend is important, not only as it relates to our discretionary and non-discretionary spending for the next 2 years lifting the budget cap, but in addition to that, to ensuring that we produce a budget on time; that we avoid a government shutdown; that we ensure that our men and women serving in American Armed Forces have the adequate funding that they need; that our veterans get the support and our VA hospitals that we have promised them.

These are the things that are part of an overall budget deal. It avoids the kind of circus that we had over the last year where we had a government shutdown, a government shutdown we should never have. We should never have that impact on our economy; our Federal workers to be expected—whether they be in air traffic control or food safety—to go to work and not to receive a check. That is irresponsible.

So the budget deal is good. It is a bipartisan effort. It, frankly, gives the sort of discretion that Congress needs to make budget decisions to prioritize our needs in America.

So, for that, I thank the Congress.

CONGRATULATING SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY ON THEIR APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION GRANT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Saint Francis University on a well-deserved grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission, otherwise known as ARC.

ARC recently announced Saint Francis University as the recipient of a \$150,000 grant to support advanced patient simulation training equipment for the university's new Health Science Experiential Learning Commons that will open this October.

The Commons will include much-needed space for classroom, laboratory, and clinical education, including five state-of-the-art simulation suites where students can practice real life clinical scenarios on computer-controlled mannequins with the assistance of their instructors through two-way audio-video conferencing.

The grant will be used to invest in this cutting-edge technology to provide students with the technology needed to close the skills gap and better prepare them for situations they will likely encounter in their professional careers.

Saint Francis University has committed itself to career and technical education in the health science field, and this grant will help provide hundreds of students with the training necessary to prepare for rewarding careers and, quite frankly, service to their community.

Investments like these are playing a critical role in developing the 21st century American workforce, in developing a workforce full of talented individuals who can help meet today's ever-growing demand for healthcare professionals.

Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, in particular, is in need of healthcare professionals, and Saint Francis students are rising to the occasion. The grant will not only support current Saint Francis students; ARC rightfully noted, "local employers will have access to a pipeline of highly-skilled healthcare professionals to meet labor demands, help create jobs and expand the local economy, and provide quality healthcare to citizens in Appalachian Pennsylvania."

Reverend Malachi Van Tassell, President of Saint Francis University, noted the value that this grant adds for the students who are seeking an education in health science. He said, "This equipment will allow our students to prac-

tice hands-on patient care procedures in a simulated environment and to learn how to work in an interprofessional, team-based setting. Beyond the benefit to our students, it will also enable us to provide advanced training opportunities to area emergency medical services personnel and first responders."

Mr. Speaker, this grant is not just an investment in Saint Francis, it is an investment in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District. It is an investment in the lifeblood of our local communities.

When we empower learners and provide them with the necessary resources for a conducive, innovative learning environment, our students will thrive personally and professionally, and will provide the best possible care to Pennsylvanians in need.

COMMEMORATING ASSYRIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate August 7, Assyrian Genocide Memorial Day.

Many Americans are already familiar with the horrors of the Armenian genocide. But not nearly as many know about the genocide of innocent Assyrian civilians by the Ottoman Empire; which is why I am leading a resolution to finally recognize the genocide of Assyrians in the Middle East.

Many of my Assyrian friends and neighbors in California's Central Valley still carry the weight of this horrific event.

Beginning in 1914, the Ottoman Empire is estimated to have slaughtered 300,000 innocent Assyrians; but some experts believe the true death toll is much higher. On August 7, Shovah b'tabakh, we remember those who were lost, and we say never again.

My resolution would take simple steps to do both. It would assert that Turkey, the inheritor of the Ottoman tradition, must recognize the genocide; and it would condemn any efforts to associate the U.S. with genocide denial.

My resolution would recognize the resilience of the Assyrian people who endured the genocide, the Simele massacre, and are now threatened once again by holdouts in ISIS. And they have survived all of this without a homeland to call their own.

Today, we remember the Sadih, the martyrs. We think of their families. We recommit ourselves to upholding the rights of all people to live freely and in safety.

AMERICA IS AN AMAZING PLACE

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

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, America is an amazing place, and we too