

who voted against the resolution under the guise of free speech.

H. Res. 246, voted on this week, echoes many resolutions that I have broadly supported. In February, House Republicans put forth one such measure to reject anti-Semitism in all forms.

Astonishingly, some House Members expressed dissent during the voice vote on this motion. However, once a recorded vote was called, the motion passed 424–0.

This week, the majority leadership took the path of least resistance from its far-left Members by putting on the floor another resolution to condemn anti-Semitism but refusing to debate legislation with the teeth necessary to push back against the hateful BDS movement.

Support of Israel has long enjoyed bipartisan consensus, and real action against the BDS movement must be taken. I and 195 other Republicans signed onto a discharge petition for H.R. 336, the Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act, to bring this legislation before the full House for an up-or-down vote.

H.R. 336 imposes direct and concrete penalties on the BDS movement by allowing State and local governments to adopt laws to divest public funds from groups or organizations that boycott Israel.

S. 1, the Senate companion to H.R. 336, passed with strong bipartisan support, 77–23. By passing H.R. 336, this House would send a clear message that the BDS movement's anti-Semitic messages and actions will be met with firm consequences in the United States.

It is important that we stand in opposition to the BDS movement and stand with our strongest ally in the Middle East.

We must reject the BDS movement with the full force of law and continue to support Israel as the major strategic partner that this body has long enshrined in our laws, our policy priorities, and our hearts and minds.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS HURTS ECONOMIC GROWTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, my home State of Oregon, like much of the country, is facing a housing affordability crisis that is hurting families and the economy.

I recently held six listening sessions in the district I represent. In every community—urban, suburban, and rural—I heard from individuals, employers, local officials, and nonprofits that told me the lack of affordable housing is having serious consequences around northwest Oregon.

Over the last several years, housing costs have gone up significantly, but wages have not. Available housing stock has not kept up with demand, driving prices higher and higher. Much

of the new housing that is being built is unaffordable for middle- and low-income households.

To afford a modest one-bedroom unit at fair market rent, someone earning minimum wage in Yamhill County, Oregon, for example, would need to work 65 hours a week. In Multnomah County, someone would need to work 81 hours a week to pay for a modest one-bedroom apartment—81 hours a week.

Housing is foundational. It forms the bedrock of a family's stability and security, and it is vital to each person's full participation in society.

The toll of this crisis on families and communities is devastating, and it is also hampering economic growth. I heard time and again from employers who are struggling to attract workers in areas where housing was unaffordable or unavailable, employees commuting long hours because they cannot afford to live closer to their jobs.

In Columbia County, for example, I heard how the lack of affordable housing for just one individual negatively affected the whole community. The county government recruited a highly qualified new finance director from another State, only to have that person struggle to find a permanent place to live. After staying in an RV for 4 months, she finally had to quit in the middle of budget season because she could not find a place to live.

Federal policies and resources are a vital part of addressing this true national crisis. Unfortunately, Federal support for cost-burdened individuals and families is severely insufficient and declining.

According to the Oregon Center for Public Policy, more than one-third of Oregon households are cost-burdened. That is 530,000 households spending more than 30 percent of their income on shelter, with some spending more than half of their income for a place to live.

Despite that tremendous need, only one out of every five eligible families receives any Federal housing assistance. Wait lists at public housing authorities often stretch into years.

At the Federal level, we have many tools to help address these problems: tax incentives, voucher programs, public housing, and grants that empower nonprofits and communities that implement local strategies. But the resources Congress provides are woefully insufficient.

We need to do much more if we honestly want to make sure that every person in our communities has the dignity and stability of a roof over their head.

Mr. Speaker, this crisis is why I support transformative legislation like the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act. It would invest \$445 billion to create 3 million deeply affordable homes and cut rental costs by 10 percent.

I also strongly support the Ending Homelessness Act to comprehensively

address chronic homelessness by providing a surge of resources that will drastically expand access to housing and case management that integrates healthcare and other supportive services. Our communities are better and families will thrive when everyone has a home.

Ultimately, any solution will require a determined and coordinated effort by all stakeholders, including community activists, developers, lenders, nonprofit leaders, and elected officials at every level of government.

Congress must step up and be part of the solution. I ask my colleagues to join me today in committing to bold action to address the housing affordability crisis in Oregon and across the country.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HIRE A VETERAN DAY

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 recognize today, July 25, as National Hire A Veteran Day.

In 2017, the nonprofit Hire Our Heroes established the day to highlight the many talented men and women who served our country and are now seeking civilian employment.

Hire Our Heroes serves as a resource bank for veterans to seek professional advice, discover new training opportunities, and search for new job opportunities.

Our Nation's veterans are some of the most dedicated and selfless individuals who call this great Nation home. While we may never be able to repay them for their sacrifice fully, the very least we can do is to help ease the transition back into civilian life.

A big part of that transition is ensuring there are well-paying, family-sustaining jobs available for our men and women in uniform when they return home.

The most recent numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show veteran unemployment at 3.2 percent, the lowest rate since 2011. That is great news, but that does not mean our work here is done.

As a proud father of an Army infantryman, I am proud to have supported legislation throughout my time in Congress that ensures our Active Duty servicemembers and their spouses have the tools they need to defend our country successfully. But it is critical that we also support legislation that prepares our veterans for adjusting to life after combat.

There are more than 7 million open jobs across the country. Our veterans want to work, and service is in their veins.

□ 1015

They want to make an honest living and provide for their families. They

want to learn new skills and be proud of the work that they do. It is important that we do our part to ensure these opportunities are available.

We can bolster veteran employment opportunities with career and technical education. Many of the men and women seeking civilian employment are already highly skilled, highly trained. They are experienced, literally, under fire.

The skills that come with CTE training can help expand our veterans' existing skill sets and prepare them for careers in STEM disciplines, nursing, construction, information technology, energy, cybersecurity, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans are a huge part of what makes this country so great. They have chosen to risk their lives to protect our Nation. We have the opportunity, no, the responsibility to provide them with the best possible care and to empower them with the necessary tools to make smart career decisions when we welcome them home.

Hire Our Heroes says the best way to thank a veteran is to hire one. We should all keep this in mind as we celebrate our Nation's veterans today and for many more days to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BARBARA KELLER

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, there are people whose empathy and compassion glow like a beacon, and others whose shine like the sun.

That was Barbara Keller: A blazing star of kindness and an inspiring local leader who lived to serve others, championed causes that uplifted the sick, the poor, and fought for the rights of the LGBTQ community.

For 3 decades, Barbara called California's Coachella Valley home. Barbara and her husband, Jerry, brought award-winning restaurants to the Coachella Valley. But it was Barbara's generosity and commitment to serving others that made her so remarkable.

Barbara was a champion for combating HIV/AIDS through her leadership as the first female president of the Desert AIDS Project. Barbara was moved by the deaths and suffering of many HIV-infected friends living on the margins, facing injustice and discrimination in their struggle to live. She brought hope and healthcare to so many individuals living with, affected by, or at risk for HIV or AIDS.

As a doctor, I had the honor of working with Barbara on the Desert AIDS Project in our shared advocacy for the health of local and medically underserved communities.

Barbara's annual Steve Chase Awards fundraisers were a fixture of the Coachella Valley, as was her incredible gala dress fashion, second only to her beauty and class.

Barbara also lent her compassion to defending the health of patients while

working with the AIDS Assistance Project and the Loma Linda Children's Hospital.

During her years of service to our communities, Barbara also helped grow our desert's art scene through organizations like the Palm Springs Art Museum and the McCallum Theatre.

Barbara's generosity in her public life was complemented by her extraordinary kindness in her private life.

My wife, Monica, and I knew Barbara as a dear, dear, friend and a wonderful role model to our daughters, Sky and Sage. I was constantly personally touched by her loving nature, her unwavering support and encouragement, and her dedication to her higher purpose.

Barbara most treasured her family, and her greatest pleasure was being a loving wife, a mother, a daughter, and grandmother.

Barbara devotedly cared for her aging father, Marvin Cohn, until he passed away in March at 106 years old, never once telling him she was undergoing intense chemotherapy for breast cancer. Barbara's death soon followed the following month on April 15, 2019.

Barbara and her husband Jerry's marriage was a love story few can claim and a touching example of the power of true love.

Barbara leaves behind her devoted husband, Jerry, her son, Brad, her daughters, Lindsay, Lisa, and Kelly, and her seven grandchildren, Taylor, Rebekah, Graham, Ridley, Greta, Eva, and Levon, and her sister, Carole.

While Barbara's passing deeply saddens me, her memory will live on in my heart and in the hearts of the countless individuals whose lives she touched.

In an era of "me first," ego-driven, selfish ambition, Barbara reminds us that love, kindness, and genuine service to others is possible. She is the embodiment of good, humility, strength, and outer and inner beauty. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she improved and inspired. And she was a giant, a social architect, designing a healthier, kinder, more just community.

Knowing Barbara, and calling her my friend, was an incredible, unique, and beautiful blessing in my life. And her story must be told and recorded in our national records, so that generations to come can learn the vast potential of our national spirit.

She will be missed.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GROVER DAVIS

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary man. He is from Bay County, Florida, and I am fortunate to have him as a dear friend of mine, Mr. Grover Davis.

Grover was born into a fishing family in December of 1941 in Parker, Florida, and he learned the value of hard work

at a young age. He built fishing boats with his father and his brothers, leading his family to own the first charter fishing boats in Panama City.

When his father died, Grover dropped out of high school and worked with his brothers to support the family. They made a living in the charter fishing business, with young Grover below deck keeping the boats running. He still keeps the boats running 70 years later.

He learned a lot about life at a young age. He met his wonderful wife, Judy, at Bay High School, and married her in 1961.

By the 1970s, the Davis family was managing the St. Andrews Marina, and Grover became interested in a new business venture. In 1974, he began Marine Transportation Services, which provided transport services for oil and gas companies in the Gulf of Mexico. Marine Transportation Services has truly become a family affair, with his wife, Judy, and his daughters, Kim and Kerrie, joining him at the helm.

Grover treats all of his employees like family. In fact, 50 percent of his employees started at Marine Transportation right out of high school and still work there to this day.

He is unfailingly supportive of all of his employees. When they make a mistake, he doesn't let them go. He is famous for sitting with them and saying: "Did you learn something from this?"

His favorite phrase is: "There are only two kinds of captains; those who have run aground and those who are about to run aground."

Grover truly leads by example in all aspects of his life, and he has spent much of his life giving back to the community. He is a big supporter of Camo Dreams, a nonprofit that helps disabled children go on hunting trips, and routinely supported events for the Girl Scouts when his daughters were growing up.

Grover, his wife, Judy, and his daughters, have long since cemented their place in the firmament of stars that are the foundation of our community back home.

He has always preached that honor is the most important value among people, and no one person is better than another. He never asks anyone to do what he would not do himself.

Judy and Grover have two children, Kim and Kerrie, two grandsons, and two great grandsons. They all describe him as an amazing friend, father, and leader in our community.

He is the single most social man I know. A great storyteller, he always surrounded himself with his friends, and if he stood still for more than a few minutes, it was certain that he was frying grouper or mullet for a host of people. He loves people and they love him.

I have to say, Grover is also widely known as a huge and very inventive practical joker. He has been known to go to elaborate lengths to prank his friends.