

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the late Lieutenant, Junior Grade, John Joseph Wiley and the 129 men tragically lost aboard the USS *Thresher*.

This submarine departed its port on April 10, 1963, for a test dive. Unfortunately, it never returned.

John Joseph Wiley of Altoona, Pennsylvania, was among the lost. After graduating from the United States Naval Academy, he was selected for the Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit. The USS *Thresher* was the first and the last submarine to which he would report.

This week, a new memorial honoring those lost aboard the USS *Thresher* will be dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery. More than half a century after the tragic disaster, our Nation has not forgotten the sacrifice of Lieutenant John Joseph Wiley and those Americans who died with him.

#### PFAS CONTAMINATION

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, in the richest country in the world, every American deserves clean drinking water, but for millions of our fellow citizens, including many in Michigan and all across the country, this is just not their reality.

Hundreds of communities are dealing with PFAS chemical contamination that pollutes their drinking water.

Congress has to act to address this contamination to help keep American families safe.

Earlier this year, the House and Senate both passed National Defense Authorization Act bills. Both contain important provisions meant to address PFAS chemicals were included in those bills. These provisions would fund cleanup of contaminated sites, stop PFAS from polluting our drinking water in the future, and ensure that servicemembers, first responders, and families exposed to PFAS have the healthcare they need.

As the co-chair of the congressional PFAS Caucus, a bipartisan task force from States across the country, we worked successfully to include many PFAS provisions in both the House and Senate-passed bills.

Now it is critical that the final NDAA, which is being negotiated right now, include very strong PFAS provisions. This is what we need to do to protect public health.

#### HONORING CHANCELLOR CLIFTON GANUS

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Clif-

ton Ganus, Jr., who passed away earlier this month at the age of 97 after dedicating 73 years to his alma mater, Harding University, in Searcy, Arkansas.

Dr. Ganus began his journey at Harding College in 1939, majoring in Bible and history. Soon after graduating, he began teaching at Harding in 1946, ultimately chairing the History Department and serving as Dean.

In 1965, he was elected as Harding's third president, leading the then college to university status and significant growth. He served in this role for 22 years, becoming the university's first chancellor in 1987 and then chancellor emeritus in 2013.

Throughout this admirable life, Dr. Ganus traveled to 117 countries, was an Eagle Scout, and served on the Quapaw Area Council board. He was an active member in the Searcy Lions Club for 70 years and an elder at the College Church of Christ.

He was admired across our State, and I extend my prayers to his family and friends across our great State of Arkansas.

#### PFAS CONTAMINATION

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of thousands of families in my district that have been exposed to PFAS in their drinking water.

Last week, my friend Michael Hickey testified before the House on the prevalence of PFAS contamination in Hoosick Falls and in Petersburg, two communities in my district.

Hoosick Falls and Petersburg are not alone. Hundreds of communities across the country are dealing with PFAS contamination.

Here is what we know about these forever chemicals. PFAS contamination can cause autoimmune disorders, thyroid conditions or disorders, and cancer. It is time for action.

As a named conferee for the National Defense Authorization Act, I will forcefully advocate for pretreatment standards and that PFAS be designated a hazardous substance.

Too many families are living with the consequences of PFAS contamination in our Nation, and it is due in large part to our inaction.

#### HONORING DR. BRUCE STENDER

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Bruce Stender for his exceptional contributions to the State of Minnesota as an educator, businessman, and community leader.

From 1975 to 1981, Bruce worked as the first lay President of the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota. At the time of his appointment, he was the youngest president of any Catholic college in the United States.

Following his tenure at St. Scholastica, Bruce joined Labovitz Enterprises, serving 25 years as president and CEO. His hard work and success eventually earned him title of Businessperson of the Year in 2005 from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, Labovitz School of Business and Economics.

Committed to the betterment of his community, Bruce has also served on a number of healthcare, business, and statewide boards.

Mr. Speaker, this next month, the College of St. Scholastica will publicly honor Bruce's illustrious career through the naming of the Stender School of Business and Technology. The naming of this department after Bruce will ensure generations to come will remember his service and generosity.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to see Bruce receive this recognition, and cannot think of a better way to celebrate his life's work.

#### HONORING MAURICE FERRE

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

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend Maurice Ferre, who was considered the father of modern-day Miami. He passed away on Thursday at the age of 84.

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, Maurice championed the power of architectural beauty and cultural diversity to reshape a city.

He served Miami as mayor from 1973 to 1985 and succeeded in transforming the city into the commercial and cultural center we know today.

Mayor Ferre's vision of Miami as integrated and urban, international and ultramodern is woven into every inch of our community, from the high-rises in Brickell to the bayside park that bears his name.

He was a talented politician and innovative entrepreneur and a man of unparalleled class and elegance. He continued to advocate for our city and for the people of Puerto Rico until his last days.

His passion, wisdom, and loyalty to Miami will be missed but never forgotten. He was a true titan of public service. I am proud to have called him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, my thoughts are with his wife, children, and grandchildren, and with all those in Miami who will miss this incredible man.

#### STUDENTS NEED MORE VIRTUAL APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight my bill, the Virtual Apprenticeship Tax Credit Act of 2019, which I introduced last week.

Despite booming economic growth as a result of the American Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, nearly 7 million jobs in America remain unfilled.

Mr. Speaker, I can't tell you how many employers from my district have struggled to find workers with the technical competencies to compete for in-demand, good-paying jobs.

So when it comes to workforce development, we need innovative ideas and partnerships between businesses and institutions of higher education. That is why I introduced the Virtual Apprenticeship Tax Credit Act of 2019, which offers a tax credit to employers who invest in the funding of virtual apprenticeship programs. It is my hope this will open more doors for students from all backgrounds.

When it comes to learning and workforce development, there shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach. Put simply, there needs to be more virtual apprenticeship opportunities for our students.

□ 1415

#### INCLUDE PFAS PROVISIONS IN NDAA

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support hundreds of communities across America, both rural and urban, that are being forced to endure PFAS contamination.

Every week, we learn more and more about the toxicity and ever-widening scope of this man-made crisis.

Not one but two PFAS sites have been discovered in my own district, the 13th Congressional District, first seeping from the sewers in Melvindale and then at the construction site of the Gordie Howe International Bridge in Detroit.

As a representative of people living in those areas, and from the State with the most PFAS sites in the country, it is my moral obligation to stand before you all today and say time is now for Congress to act. Include provisions to clean up contaminated sites, to stop PFAS from polluting our drinking water in the future, and to protect our servicemembers and first responders in the final NDAA that is on its way.

We have waited long enough to help families whose drinking water is at risk, who have been exposed to these toxic chemicals, and whose future is very much threatened.

#### INCENTIVIZE INNOVATION TO LOWER HEALTHCARE COSTS

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

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no doubt that Americans pay too much for healthcare. Seventy percent of Americans agree that low-

ering prescription drug costs should be a major priority for the legislature.

During August, I participated in a number of healthcare-related roundtables with medical professionals across Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District. Those healthcare professionals identified a number of ways to help lower prescription drug costs, including patent reform that would help get generics to market quickly and the need to incentivize innovation as a means to find more cures.

As such, I am disturbed that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have introduced a pricing bill that is merely for political talking points and, if enacted, would put this country on the road toward socialized medicine. Rather than incentivizing innovation and patent reform, Democrats have introduced a bill that would increase taxes and stifle innovation while raising drug prices, leading to fewer cures.

The American people have demanded action on lowering healthcare costs. But, Mr. Speaker, socialized medicine is not the answer. It is time to work together on real solutions in the free market to lower prescription drug costs and find cures for all Americans.

#### CONGRATULATING DIAMONDBACK TRUCK COVERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate DiamondBack Truck Covers, a truck bed cover company in Philipsburg, Pennsylvania. DiamondBack was recently awarded the Small Business Administration's Pennsylvania Small Business of the Year Award.

I had the pleasure of traveling back to Philipsburg to present DiamondBack founders Ethan Wendle and Matthew Chverchko with a commendation for this award. Ethan and Matt were also recognized as the SBA Persons of the Year for Pennsylvania.

Ethan and Matt met at Pennsylvania State University. What started out as an engineering class project has turned into a flourishing business.

I am particularly proud that Ethan and Matt chose to plant roots in Philipsburg. This sort of commitment to our local communities is breathing new life into small town USA. It is companies like DiamondBack that are helping small towns bounce back.

The decision to manufacture, market, sell, and ship from Philipsburg is an investment in Pennsylvania's future, in local communities and businesses, and in the people who call the Commonwealth home.

#### SUPPORT CLEAN ENERGY WEEK

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Clean Energy Week, an opportunity to celebrate bipartisan support for a wide variety of clean energy sources strengthening America's national security while also preserving our environment for future generations.

Environmental stewardship doesn't have to mean making economic sacrifices. Clean energy solutions and jobs are the future for the United States, with clean energy powering more homes and businesses than ever before.

The environment is, and should be, a bipartisan issue. That is why, this week, I am proud, with my friend Congressman LOWENTHAL from California, to offer a resolution in support of congressionally supporting the designation of Clean Energy Week.

I am proud that our effort has already gathered dozens of our colleagues, bipartisan, on both sides of the aisle. This goes to show that we can work across the aisle to be better stewards of this Earth. I plan to continue pursuit of these positive bipartisan solutions in the future.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 24, 2019.  
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 24, 2019, at 11:33 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1340.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4285.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1501

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 3 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair