

that, once again, Congress is kicking the can down the road and putting off properly funding the government by another month.

I urge my colleagues to recognize government funding affects the lives of millions of Americans: USDA officials inspect our Thanksgiving turkeys; postal workers deliver our holiday cards and packages; TSA agents and air traffic controllers keep us safe to fly home for the holidays. Not to mention, millions of Federal employees rely on a steady income, especially during the expensive holiday season.

This is unfair to Americans. Clearly, all Americans are affected by Congress' inability to pass a budget. That is why I introduced the End Government Shutdowns Act, which safeguards against the damaging consequences of shutdowns. It lifts the shutdown burden from the shoulders of Americans and incentivizes lawmakers to reach across the aisle and do our jobs.

Americans want to see us come together and find bipartisan solutions to our Nation's most challenging funding problems. My bill does just that.

#### NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and a member of the Adoption Caucus, I rise to recognize National Adoption Month.

Mr. Speaker, all children deserve the love and security of a family, but for the 125,000 youth waiting to be adopted from foster care, that most basic of human needs can seem so out of reach. Through the Foster Youth Caucus, we try to shine a spotlight on these youth, as well as the adoptive families that open their hearts and homes to children in need.

Ted and Teena Sullivan are two such adoptive parents from my home State of Rhode Island. Ted is also the senior director of Mission Advancement for Bethany Christian Services, and I was honored to recognize him as a 2019 Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute Angel in Adoption last week.

Mr. Speaker, adoptive parents like Ted and Teena give children in need the most important gift: a forever family. Let them be our example this National Adoption Month as we recommit to serving our most vulnerable youth.

□ 1930

#### CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS ARE NOT THE WAY CONGRESS SHOULD OPERATE

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will consider another temporary funding measure, this time

kicking the can down the road until December 20. We are nearly 2 months into the fiscal year, and not a single full-year appropriations bill has been completed. Continuing resolutions are not the way that we should operate.

Priorities shift from year to year, and the longer a CR lasts, the more it hurts our military, our ports, and our infrastructure investment. I have seen no evidence that we are any closer to passing any full-year bills than at the end of September when we passed the last CR.

You will hear my colleagues across the aisle blame this on Senate Republicans, however, the House majority appropriations bills were filled with poison pills that they continue to insist upon, such as preventing the use of funds for the border wall. And now the entire past month has been devoted to their sham impeachment efforts.

I urge my colleagues, put the partisan investigations to the side so that we can come to a bipartisan agreement to fund the government in a responsible way.

#### HONORING BERNARD TYSON

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Bernard Tyson, who passed away on November 10 and is being celebrated at this hour.

I had the privilege of serving alongside Bernard on the board of the American Heart Association, and I can tell you he was a visionary and a champion for high quality healthcare for all Americans and providing some 12 million American men, women, and children healthcare in the process. That is what he fought for every day as president and CEO of Kaiser Permanente, in which he served as the first African American in that role.

He was a trailblazer in the industry with a push-the-envelope mindset, quick wit, and he was a people person. He never forgot where he came from. He mentored many and was a prominent African American that we looked up to.

My condolences, thoughts, and prayers are with his wife and dear friend, Denise, his son, and the entire family. I am proud to call Bernard my friend and will miss him dearly and his exceptional contributions to our Nation's healthcare industry. Rest in peace. Rest in power.

#### HONORING LAURA CHAFFIN

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the Holy Bible, the book of Mark, chapter 12, verse 30 says, "Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all of your

strength." Those words sum up Laura Chaffin, her life.

An accident last year in Uganda took her voice and paralyzed her for a couple of trying weeks. She was there with her husband Scott trying to put their family together. The Chaffin family is beside me right now. There is Laura, there is Scott, and their three sons, Elijah, David, and Jonah.

If you think Laura felt pity when she was hurt, you are dead wrong. With a team of experts at TIRR at Memorial Hermann Hospital and with the love of family and the love of Jesus Christ, she started talking and walking and teaching at Alvin ISD and cooking for her family. She became, again, a mom and a wife.

Mr. Speaker, in the name of Laura, Scott, Elijah, David, Jonah, and Jesus Christ, I yield back.

#### CONGRATULATING MATTHEW CATANOSO

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to send my congratulations to an extraordinary south Jersey native, who represented our Nation at the international Henley's Royal Regatta this past summer.

Matthew Catanoso is a rising sophomore on the crew team at the United States Naval Academy, which was chosen to participate in the King's Cup competition in July. This race commemorated the historic Henley's Royal Regatta in 1919 that was originally held to celebrate the end of World War I.

For the centennial anniversary of the tournament, eight countries were invited to send a team to compete for the cup over the summer. Matthew, the former coxswain of Ocean City High School, participated with the rest of the Naval Academy and he took home the King's Cup after narrowly beating Germany in the final race.

I congratulate Matthew on his big win at the Henley Royal Regatta, and I thank him for representing our Nation and south Jersey at this historic event and wish him the very best as he continues his education at the Naval Academy. We are proud of him and we are proud of what he has done. Congratulations.

#### A SOLUTION TO THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY'S NEEDS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, last week after many months of hard work by staff and Members here in a bipartisan fashion, amazingly in this atmosphere here, we introduced the Farm Workforce Modernization Act legislation. This will really clean up the process for ag labor in this country, something desperately needed. It will be

better for the workers, better for the farmers, and much better for the rule of law.

With the problems we have on our border, the problems with immigration as it is these days, at least the ag worker section will be able to be much better monitored and much better regulated, and indeed, much better off for the workers themselves not having to live in the shadows.

This legislation modernizes the H-2A program. It stabilizes wages, institutes a merit-based system for ag workers to eventually earn legal status after years of proven work and consistent employment in the U.S. ag industry.

So when you look at the whole package here, where we stand right now with the disarray in nonofficial status that we have, this is going to be a vast improvement, and I urge people to get behind that.

#### HONORING RICK PERRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSE of New York). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I am here tonight with a number of my colleagues from Texas because Governor Rick Perry, as we Texans refer to him, will be stepping down in a few weeks as the Secretary of Energy of the United States of America.

I have had the honor of serving on his staff, working with him on a number of projects, including a book, and working on his campaigns. He has been a State Representative in Texas, the Agriculture Commissioner in Texas, Lieutenant Governor, Governor of Texas, but I always think of Rick Perry first and foremost as a proud Texan, an Aggie, an Eagle Scout, a husband, an Air Force veteran, a father, and a grandfather. But for me personally, I always remember the Governor as a friend, a loyal friend who would help those who needed it, whether it was a veteran, suffering after battle, who needed a home, which the Governor and his lovely bride, Anita, would welcome them into their home, or whether it was praying for me when I had cancer as a staffer for him. Governor Perry literally called me from a Presidential debate to check on me while I was going through chemotherapy. And he stood with me and my family through it all. He is above all a good and decent man.

There are few people in this world who cause you to want to charge the hill behind him, and you know it will be for fighting a just cause, but Governor Perry is one of those people. And he learned this from his family and his community.

Governor Perry grew up in Paint Creek, Texas, with no indoor plumbing for the first 5 years of his life in 1950s west Texas. His dad, Ray, was a World War II veteran, who along with Perry's

wonderful mom, Amelia, were ranchers in Texas. And his wife Anita, whom he met in elementary school, was his high school sweetheart and has been the love of his life and by his side ever since. He is a proud dad to Griffin and Sydney and granddad to their wonderful children.

Governor Perry is fairly famous for being an Aggie. He received his bachelor of science degree in animal science from A&M. He was commissioned to second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation. He was a member of Squadron 6 and served as a junior and senior Yell Leader and was immersed in all aspects of Aggie student life. A strong supporter of the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M, Governor Perry has been a speaker at countless Aggie musters since 1990 and was the principal speaker at the main campus ceremony in 2002. And he was also the key note speaker at the 125th anniversary celebration of the Corps of Cadets in 2001. He exemplifies the Aggie values, selfless service, respect, loyalty, integrity, and excellence in leadership.

Before I yield to my colleague, I would be remiss if I did not note that it was 20 years ago today that the historic tradition at Texas A&M, the A&M bonfire that is always built in preparation for and lit the night before the game against the University of Texas, one of the greatest rivalries in sports, which is long overdue for renewal, 20 years ago today it collapsed at 2:42 a.m. where 11 students and one former student died and 27 others were injured. Fifty-seven Aggies were working on the bonfire at the time when they heard a crack, and it collapsed. My wife was a senior at the time. And as we commemorate Governor Perry tonight, we also commemorate the lives of those great Aggies who were carrying on the spirit of that great institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today to honor Rick Perry in his final days as Secretary of the Department of Energy. It makes sense that those lined up to speak would be from our shared home State, the great State of Texas. We have served with him. We have benefited from Rick's leadership. We call him friend. Much can be said and will be said of Rick Perry in these next few weeks.

As already mentioned, Rick is a fifth generation Texan, an Aggie, Air Force pilot, state representative, agricultural commissioner, lieutenant governor, longest serving Texas Governor, Secretary of Energy. He will be rightfully lauded for a life well given to public service.

In every stage of his life, Rick Perry sought to do the best for Texas and for the people of this Nation. As a state representative, he was one of the most effective legislators pushing for more strict budgeting. As Agricultural Commissioner, Perry showed his skill at

sales and started what would be a lifelong career as the number one top salesman for the great State of Texas.

As Governor, Rick helped make Texas a destination for business and industry and for families and people. There is a reason why we still see an average influx of people, a thousand a day in our great State.

As Secretary of Energy, we continue to see the benefits of Rick Perry's unabashed love of Texas and these United States. Thanks to his leadership, the United States is now the largest energy producer in the world with a greatly expanded footprint in the international market.

Still, my favorite story which defines the man that is Rick Perry is one told by a former rival turned friend, and that would be Senator Rick Santorum. Former Senator and Presidential candidate Rick Santorum told of the regular frantic note taking of candidates while they were on the debate stage, all except for Rick Perry. Instead, Rick recounted, Perry only wrote one note. It was when Rick Santorum told about the health difficulties his beloved daughter, Bella, had faced from her birth.

Following the debate, Rick said the two men spoke and Rick said as he looked over Perry's shoulder at the single note written, it had three words: "Pray for Bella." That, Mr. Speaker, is a man of faith, compassion, and integrity. It speaks to his character. It speaks to his effectiveness. It speaks to his dedication to public service and to his love of this great country.

I am grateful for having served under Governor Perry in the State house for 4 years and with Secretary Perry in the Department of Energy. The great State of Texas and our Nation are better for his service.

As Rick Perry moves away from public life, his leadership will be missed, but the legacy he leaves behind will endure.

I thank my friend, Governor Perry, for all he has done. I thank Anita for loaning Texas and then America a true Texas treasure, a true statesman, and a truly fine individual. Rick and Anita both deserve a rich time together. Blessings to them both and please enjoy the private life.

□ 1945

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my friend.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to rise today in honor of Energy Secretary Rick Perry, a devoted statesman, a proud Texan, and a long-time friend of mine.

In his early years, Governor Perry became an Eagle Scout and was taught what a strong work ethic looked like, and he has practiced it in every office he has held since, and those are numerous.

I first met Rick Perry back when he was Agriculture Commissioner for