

Award from the U.S. Department of Labor.

This marks the second year in a row that Analytical Engineering, Inc., has earned this esteemed award. They were 1 of only 12 companies in Indiana to win this award by hiring and retaining veterans.

As a Beirut veteran myself, I appreciate companies like Analytical Engineering for taking care of those who have served our country.

SEND NDAA TO PRESIDENT

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my Democratic colleagues to stop playing political games and send the NDAA to President Trump's desk.

The NDAA has been a bipartisan piece of legislation that we, as Congress, have passed for 58 straight years. The NDAA is essential for our men and women in uniform and for our National Defense Strategy.

Now, in the final hour, House Democrats want to wedge partisan policies into this bill. As Democrats continue to divide Congress over nondefense issues, they play right into the hands of our enemies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to stop indulging in this political theater and pass the NDAA.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 34 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of light, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Once again we come to You to ask wisdom, patience, peace, and understanding for the Members of this people's House.

Give them the generosity of heart and the courage of true leadership to work toward a common solution to the many issues facing our Nation.

As true statesmen and -women, may they find fortitude to make judgments to benefit all Americans in their time of need.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCHNEIDER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, climate change is an immediate and existential threat to our national security, economy, and the future we leave to our children.

This is a global problem that requires urgent international solutions, but the Trump administration is dangerously squandering this crucial moment. Quite simply, we are running out of time.

By formally beginning withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement, the President is ceding American leadership on climate and actively undermining critical efforts to curb emissions and transition to a clean energy economy.

As signatory countries around the world meet this week for a conference in Madrid, I am introducing a resolution, joined by more than 100 of my House colleagues as original cosponsors, condemning the administration's actions. This resolution sends a strong message that the House opposes the President's reckless, irresponsible decision to abandon the climate agreement, and we stand ready to fulfill the commitments that our Nation made under the Paris Agreement to address the climate threat.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this clear call for global action and critically needed U.S. leadership.

WAGES ARE RISING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday, Jessica Holdman with The Post and Courier reported that wages in South Carolina

rose faster than expected this year and will continue to rise. I was alerted to this by Gary David and Christopher Thompson on WVOC by iHeartRadio. I am grateful for President Donald Trump's actions to increase wages by reducing taxes and regulations.

According to Doug Woodward, economist with the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business, this is the best job market we have seen in a generation. USC economist Joey Von Nessen says, "workers are in high demand right now, and we are seeing strong wage growth as a result. This includes wage growth for workers across the pay scale, with those on the lower end benefiting the most."

By creating jobs, raising wages, and consistently working to promote opportunities, President Trump is continuing his record of keeping his promises. I am grateful that President Trump is focused to work for American families and jobs, despite the failed Russian hoax and today the impeachment hoax.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

CUTS TO SNAP AFFECT EVERYONE

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I want to talk about the administration's move to cut hundreds of thousands of people from SNAP, our Nation's safety net for those faced with food insecurity.

By the USDA's own estimates, nearly 700,000 people will be hurt by this policy. 700,000, that is appalling. That is 700,000 people who will struggle to feed themselves while they work towards getting back on their feet. That is 700,000 people who will have to decide whether to pay their bills or go hungry.

But this doesn't just affect those who will be cut from the food assistance program, this affects everyone. SNAP dollars are spent in local small businesses and help bring money to struggling communities. Simply put, this rule will make more people go hungry and hurt our communities in the process.

In Congress, we worked together on this issue. We reached a consensus, and we passed bipartisan legislation. So this policy is not what we passed, and it is not what the American people want. I am calling on this administration to stop this cruel policy.

RECOGNIZING BITTLE PORTERFIELD

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize Roanoke businessman Mr. Bittle Porterfield, III,

who contributed greatly to the arts, education, and business community throughout southwest Virginia.

Among the many civic leadership roles held during his lifetime, Mr. Porterfield served on the Virginia Council on Higher Education, was president of the Taubman Museum of Art, and the Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce in addition to being chairman of both the Roanoke Valley Business Council and the United Way of Roanoke Valley.

Mr. Porterfield believed in Roanoke's potential and knew that the Star City could play a pivotal role in cultural development. As a veteran, a Roanoke native, and an innate leader, Mr. Porterfield believed that it was his life's purpose to serve others and his community.

I am grateful for the commitment and passion Bittle Porterfield had for the Roanoke Valley and wish to extend my deepest sympathies to his family for their loss. May they find peace in knowing that his legacy of service will live on through the countless lives he touched.

CALLING ATTENTION TO LYME DISEASE

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

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an urgent issue in upstate New York. Lyme and tick-borne diseases are deeply prevalent in my district, New York 19, and across the country.

From 2007 to 2017, Lyme disease cases rose by 78 percent in my district. Approximately half of adult deer ticks in the State carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. We should be doing all we can to address this and invest in more effective ways to both diagnose and treat this disease.

That is why this week, I, along with fellow members of the bipartisan Lyme Disease Caucus, introduced legislation to supplement congressionally appropriated funding for research with the Stamp Out Lyme Disease Act. Our bill would create a postage stamp to raise awareness about the disease and directly support medical research to treat and cure tick-borne illnesses.

I urge the House to take up this legislation and move us closer to a cure.

RECOGNIZING THE REPEAL OF PROHIBITION

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the repeal of prohibition. On this day in 1933, the 21st Amendment was ratified, ending the prohibition of alcohol.

Today, throughout Pennsylvania, breweries, wineries, and distilleries

have become one of the Commonwealth's fastest growing industries, and quite frankly, agri-businesses. Pennsylvania is home to more than 300 wineries, which produce more than 1.6 million gallons of wine each year. This equates to roughly \$1.4 billion in economic impact.

Recently, Woody Lodge Winery, a disabled veteran and female-owned business from Cambria County, racked up six awards at the Atlantic Seaboard Wine Association competition, including two best-in-category awards.

The craft beer industry is also booming. Each year, craft brewers pump nearly \$6 billion into Pennsylvania's economy and are responsible for more than 100,000 jobs and generate \$2.2 billion in wages. For the past three years, Pennsylvania has been the number one producer of craft beer in the Nation.

As we look back on 13 long years of prohibition in this country, let's raise a glass to how far we have come in the 86 years since.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE STAND BEHIND THE INTERNATIONAL FIGHT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Madam Speaker, this past week I had the privilege to join Speaker PELOSI and several of my colleagues at the 2019 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Madrid, commonly known as COP25.

Our visit sent a message: No matter what the current President says or does, the American people stand behind the international fight to combat climate change. We are still in.

Our only chance to stop the climate crisis is for the entire world to come together on solutions to stop pollution, protect public health, and build a clean energy economy. I was greatly encouraged and reinvigorated by the world leaders I met in Madrid who were deeply passionate and understand the urgency in finding ways forward on this global crisis.

I pledge to bring that passion back to the House as a member of the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis as we continue our work to put together an action plan for both Congress and our country.

□ 1215

HONORING MAHANTONGO VALLEY FARM FOR WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS TREE

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mahantongo Valley Farm owners Larry and Joanne Snyder, who reside in Pennsylvania's

Ninth District and whose farm is located in Schuylkill and Northumberland Counties.

One of their beautiful Christmas trees was selected by the President and First Lady to adorn the Blue Room in the White House during this holiday season.

The Snyder's magnificent 23-foot Douglas fir was personally delivered last week by the Snyder family to the White House, where they were greeted by First Lady Melania Trump.

Mahantongo Valley Farms has been in the Snyder family for over 200 years, but this is the first time one of their trees has won the National Christmas Tree Contest. There are over 13,000 Christmas tree farms across the country, making this a truly remarkable accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the Snyder family for their contribution to this wonderful Christmas tradition and for making Pennsylvania and particularly Pennsylvania's Ninth District very proud.

ADDRESS URGENT PRIORITIES OF AMERICA

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, it has been less than a year since Democrats took back the majority in the House. In that short time, we have passed nearly 400 bills to get government working for the people again, by increasing access to quality, affordable healthcare and protecting coverage for preexisting conditions; by raising family wages; by making bold investments in rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure; and by cleaning up corruption in Washington and getting the government to work for the people again.

We have sent more than 275 bipartisan bills to the Senate, where MITCH MCCONNELL is refusing to vote on them. These bills include legislation to protect and strengthen coverage for preexisting conditions, to ensure equal pay for equal work, and to fight back against the debilitating effects of climate change and ban offshore drilling.

We also voted to give 33 million Americans a long-overdue pay raise by raising the minimum wage, provide Gold Star families with much-needed tax relief, and secure our Nation's elections.

Yet, MITCH MCCONNELL has described himself as the "grim reaper" and won't take up any of this legislation.

We are busy doing the work of the American people. We have passed over 375 bipartisan bills that are sitting in the Senate. It is time for the Senate to take up these bills and address the urgent priorities of the American people.

HONORING TREVON TYLER

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