

Caucus, we are constantly looking for new ways to support a skilled workforce.

A skilled workforce is critically necessary to support a 21st century economy, and the individuals who pursue a skills-based career, as well as the institutions that train them, deserve to be rewarded for their commitment to closing our Nation's skills gap.

The Transportation Workforce Centers of Excellence Act would establish a competitive \$50 million grant program to strengthen education and training programs in critical industries.

A highly skilled workforce is necessary to revitalize our national transportation system. The demand for qualified workers is greater than ever. This bill will help us meet infrastructure demands, close our Nation's skills gap, and reward schools that have gone above and beyond by establishing centers of excellence.

Madam Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to join our efforts in supporting career and technical education centers of excellence and increased transportation workforce training.

□ 1215

PREDATORY DEBT COLLECTION

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, our servicemen and -women deserve more than a thank-you. They deserve our support and our protection.

This week, with unanimous support, we passed H.R. 5003, the Fair Debt Collection Practices for Servicemembers Act, to stand up for our troops against abusive debt collection practices.

Many debt collectors have used manipulative practices against our soldiers, such as threatening to contact a soldier's superior officer, threatening to reduce rank, and threatening to revoke a security clearance. If these practices aren't shameful enough, many debt collectors have resorted to contacting the soldier's family.

Soldiers are already under enough stress keeping us safe. The House passage of H.R. 5003 sends a clear message that we will protect those who protect us, and predator debt collection practices are never acceptable.

I urge the Senate to consider our servicemembers and support H.R. 5003.

CONGRATULATING PLEASANT PLAINS CARDINALS

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sangamon County's Pleasant Plains High School girls basketball team, who brought home

the school's first State championship last weekend.

Last Saturday, at Redbird Arena in Normal, the Pleasant Plains Cardinals defeated the two-time defending champion Chicago Marshall Commandos in a performance dominated by Pleasant Plains' defensive efforts.

The Cardinals held Marshall to 32 percent shooting and forced 12 turnovers in the game, winning by a final score of 43-37. The Commandos, who have won 11 previous State titles, led for only a minute the entire game.

The Pleasant Plains victory was not without drama, however, as the Cardinals allowed a 13-point, fourth-quarter lead to dwindle to just 1; but, on the strength of strong senior leadership, the Cardinals were able to seal the game and bring a State championship home to Pleasant Plains.

The Pleasant Plains girls team made all of Illinois very proud with their accomplishments this season, finishing with a 28-3 record. Each girl's commitment to the champion team and their community is truly inspiring.

Congratulations to Coach T.J. Fraase and the Pleasant Plains Cardinals.

PERSONAL WELL TESTING

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

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, I rise today because our communities need peace of mind when drinking water from their personal wells. This is felt acutely in rural communities, where a lack of water infrastructure leads people to use wells as their main water supply.

That is why I joined colleagues on both sides of the aisle to introduce H.R. 6053, which will give folks an easy-to-use tool through the EPA which would enable them to test their own well water. This tool will empower our communities and assure them that they are drinking water that is clean of toxic chemicals.

I will keep championing work at the Federal level to hold the EPA accountable to set a safe drinking water standard, make sure PFAS is regulated under the Clean Water Act, and more. At the same time, we can make sure our communities have the tools they need to feel safe when using well water.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVERETT "CRUSTY" TOLER

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Everett "Crusty" Toler, who passed away last week in his hometown of Jena, Louisiana.

Crusty was a tugboat captain who lost the use of his legs early in life, but it did not do anything to cast a shadow on his warm personality or his out-

going demeanor. He was just a phenomenal gentleman. A friend to all who knew him, Crusty was a member of the "Ole Boys" club and Pritchard Baptist Church in Jena.

Crusty is survived by his wife, Paula, of 46 years; three brothers; and several nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

Please join me in bidding Crusty Toler a warm farewell.

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL DEVICES

(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, we are all concerned about the growing spread of coronavirus, and these concerns are not relieved by troubling stories of shortages of critically needed medical devices, including respirator masks.

Concerningly, as our healthcare system responds, it is exposing serious weaknesses in the supply chain for medical devices. These are products providers depend on to deliver life-saving care.

That is why, today, with my colleagues JAN SCHAKOWSKY from Illinois and JODY HICE from Georgia, I am introducing important, bipartisan legislation to help the FDA combat the threat.

My bill would allow the FDA to act expeditiously to address shortages, including by importing medical devices as needed. It would ensure that the manufacturers are communicating with the FDA about expected shortages of medical devices and that this information is shared transparently with the public.

The FDA already has these authorities to act during drug shortages, and we should grant them the same ability to respond to shortages of medical devices.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense bill.

RECOGNIZING HANK WOLGAMOTT

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, last Thursday night, as the House was recessed, I stood at this podium with a future President of the United States of America. His name is Hank Wolgamott. He is on the right in this picture.

Hank is one of my bosses in Texas 22. When he was 9 years old, his left arm was in a cast. The doctors said he had fractured his elbow. They were wrong. Blood was going into his elbow joint. He had severe hemophilia.

With the love of his mom, Amanda; his dad, Jesse; and his brother, Jack, Hank went to war against his condition, even though he was too young to know what was happening inside his body.

At 16 months old, he had a port placed in his left chest as part of his immune tolerance induction therapy. That was there for over 6 years. A fever or a fall meant a trip to the hospital to stop the bleeding. But Hank soldiered on.

My dad always told me: There are no guarantees in life. I have been alive now for 57 years and 3 months, and my dad has never been wrong—until I met Hank. There is a new guarantee in my life: Never bet against Hank Wolgamott. Hank always wins.

Vote for Hank in 2048. You will be glad you did.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT JUAN ZAMORA

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Riverside County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Juan Zamora and celebrate his decades-long career. Sergeant Zamora is a devoted public servant, a great father, a caring husband, and my good friend.

We both grew up in the Coachella Valley; we both graduated from Coachella Valley High School; and we are both the proud sons of farmworkers. In fact, it is in the fields where Sergeant Zamora gained an appreciation for honest, hard work, and it is that very same appreciation that fueled his desire to serve his community and drove him to become the first in his family to go to college.

In 1997, he joined the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, rising through the ranks and serving as public information officer before his appointment to sheriff's sergeant in 2010. As the recipient of the Lifesaving Award and the Unit Citation Award, he has received recognition for all that he has done to protect and inspire our community.

I thank Sergeant Zamora for his years of service. I wish him a long and happy retirement filled with many more fond memories and plenty of that barbecue shrimp he loves.

I am proud of him; our community is proud of him; and I know that Carmen, Matthew, and Nicholas are proud of him, too.

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO FAMILIES OF INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

(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 in support of an important bill I recently introduced with my friend and colleague, DAVID TRONE from Maryland.

H.R. 5572, the Family Support Services Act, would improve access to non-profit community organizations that

provide vital support for families of individuals struggling with substance use disorder.

Despite the Trump administration's strong support of significant funding increases through H.R. 6 and other means, last year, my district experienced over 130 overdose deaths in Berks County alone, 102 in Schuylkill County. The numbers are tragically high throughout my district.

Families play an essential role in helping their loved ones recover from addiction, but the recovery process can be intimidating, stressful, and confusing. Organizations across the Nation struggle to offer family support services, such as finding treatment options, navigating insurance coverage and funding assistance, joining local support groups, and training and educating parents.

Currently, organizations offering these services receive no government funding. H.R. 5572 would create a grant program to improve access to these vital services and save lives.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 5572, and empower families to do all they can to help their loved ones recover.

PREPARATION AND PREVENTION OF CORONAVIRUS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, just returning from my district, I am well aware of the sense of concern of our constituents regarding the coronavirus, having been the first Member to present this to her community after unclassified briefings left me with many more answers.

I believe it is imperative that we not panic, but prepare.

In San Antonio, this headline reads: "San Antonio declares emergency after CDC released a woman infected with the coronavirus: 'Totally unacceptable.'"

"Coronavirus: You may need to take a 2-week break from your life," CDC says.

I am intending to introduce legislation that deals with hourly wage makers in order to protect them if such happens.

But I think it is important, as well, to determine what equipment we have in the United States, to explain to the American people that there are now two strains—one more deadly than the other—and to be as forthright as you possibly can.

Information provides opportunity to prepare, and it embraces all of the community.

Finally, it is important that local health departments have test kits and that we explain to the Nation that a vaccine is not easily done. It has to be researched, tested, and vetted, and there will be a period of time.

So our actions should be preparation and prevention, not panic; but the re-

ality is that we are dealing with something enormously serious, and I intend to continue to do that on behalf of my constituents.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEAN). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

Mr. TED LIEU, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to The National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 955(b)), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the National Council on the Arts:

Ms. ADAMS, North Carolina

□ 1230

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1140, RIGHTS FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS ACT OF 2020; PROVIDING FOR MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES; AND WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 877 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 877

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1140) to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in