

earned the top trophy, but they are champions to me and their entire 10th District of New Jersey.

CONGRATULATING MARK MEADOWS

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my friend, colleague, and fellow Brandon High School alum, Congressman MARK MEADOWS, on his appointment to be the next White House Chief of Staff.

Like myself, Congressman MEADOWS grew up in Brandon, Florida, and also, like me, spent time at Florida State University and also is an alum of the University of South Florida. Go Bulls.

As a longtime Representative from North Carolina, he has boldly served his State and country with pride and honor. There is no doubt that his constituents have been fortunate to have him as their voice in Congress.

His legacy will be one of relentlessly fighting for the American people and the American Dream while working tirelessly to pass and strengthen conservative policies.

Representative MEADOWS' resilience, passion, humor, and patriotism will be missed in committee hearings and on the House floor. However, I am confident that he will continue to display the same character and fight for these same values at the White House and always provide our President his best counsel.

Again, congratulations on your new position, Mark. I know you will continue to make our Nation proud.

EFFECTIVE APPRENTICESHIPS FOR VETERANS

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

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Support for Veterans in Effective Apprenticeships Act. I am so proud to be cosponsoring this bipartisan bill with Representative CLARK, and I want to, in particular, thank Senator GARY PETERS from the great State of Michigan for his leadership in driving this legislation through the Senate.

When we make the decision to send men and women to fight for our country, we make that decision to support them for the rest of their lives. That means veterans should have every opportunity to enroll in an apprenticeship that connects them with good-paying jobs.

The bill before us today expands the number of programs veterans can access with their GI benefits. GI benefits can cover things like housing and living expenses when they are going through their apprenticeship.

This bill came straight from concerns raised by veterans in the district. In

particular, I want to thank Rick Donovan, a veteran from Oakland County, who brought this idea to our attention.

Just last month, I visited Lansing Community College with Senator PETERS, which has some amazing apprenticeship programs.

This bill has already passed the Senate with bipartisan support. It is a great example of what can happen when we work together on issues that matter to all of us across Chambers and across parties.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this bill and send it to the President's desk.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNUAL WOMEN BUILD EVENT

(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. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the 10th annual Women Build event held by the Salem County Habitat for Humanity. The event and the building took place in Penns Grove, south Jersey. The three homes that were built in Penns Grove will be dedicated on March 30 of this year.

Across the country and around the world, about 6,000 women will unite in more than 235 communities to build and improve 540 homes. The Women Build event also raises awareness about housing issues facing women and facing their families.

Madam Speaker, I thank all of the volunteers who helped at the event. They are changing lives for the better and making our community thrive. I thank them for what they do.

I would specifically like to recognize Stephanie Williams. Stephanie has put her tools to great use to help families in her community.

It inspires me to see such great work happening in our own backyard, and I thank them for all of their dedicated service, their kind hearts, and their hard work in changing the lives of those who are very much in need.

NATIONAL WOMEN AND GIRLS HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

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

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Madam Speaker, today is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

In the United States, 235,000 women and girls are living with HIV, and they make up one in four new diagnoses, with Hispanic and African-American women disproportionately impacted.

Although, nationwide, new HIV cases are declining, in Miami-Dade County they are, sadly, on the rise, making today so important for my district.

Let's remember, also, that this disease yet has no cure. Awareness is critical to reduce transmission. Knowing your status is crucial.

But the reality is that one in nine women with HIV are unaware that they have it. That is why testing and preventive medication like PrEP need to be accessible and affordable. We must also be aware that some women living with HIV postpone care because of fears of rejection by loved ones or violence from a partner.

It is on us to do our part to spread awareness, reduce stigma, and support women and girls living with HIV and AIDS.

CONGRATULATING JILLIAN LARRABEE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jillian Larrabee from Durham High School in northern California for winning the giant slalom race during the California-Nevada Interscholastic Ski and Snowboard Federation championships.

As a resident of Durham, Jillian lived on her family's farm during the week and drove to Lake Tahoe on the weekends to train and pursue her dream of professional skiing.

Her high school never had a ski and snowboard team, so Jillian petitioned the Durham Unified School Board in hopes of bringing a team to her school. Earlier this year, the board approved her request for the 2020 season.

Jillian was the lone competitor to make the championship from Durham High during their inaugural year. She finished her first run in 1 minute and 13 seconds and then narrowed that time by clocking a run of 1 minute and 9.6 seconds, which finished a full second faster than the second-place skier in the giant slalom.

As a result of her outstanding performance, Jillian was named to the all-State team, the only member from the Butte County area.

From hard work and persistence comes great success for her and her school. Congratulations, Jillian.

CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I have always said that the role of the Federal Government is an umbrella on a rainy or stormy day. The Nation now faces the storm of coronavirus, and we should be the umbrella and be prepared and not panic. It is imperative that we provide widespread information on just the basics of how Americans can care for themselves.

I have organized a bipartisan task force on the coronavirus that includes an emergency doctor with experience, Dr. RUIZ from California, and our colleague, Congressman FITZPATRICK from Pennsylvania. We want to emphasize

an opportunity for Members to talk about the issues within their congressional districts and try to ensure that the American people are well taken care of.

Unfortunately, the administration got a very slow start. In a hearing that we just had, one State had the ability to test only 472 people; another State had the ability to test only 350. Obviously, we need to be able to ramp up the number of test kits to help the American people, and we need the equipment to protect our medical professionals.

Madam Speaker, I end by saying, as hospitals face a crisis and clinics face a crisis, the American people must look to the Federal Government to do their job correctly.

□ 1630

SUPPORTING JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF SANCTUARY CITIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TLAIB). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks, to include extraneous materials on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I am joined by my colleagues today to discuss how sanctuary city policies threaten the safety of American citizens.

Before I dive in, I want to commend the Trump administration for its crack-down on sanctuary cities, and I applaud the recent Second Circuit Court of Appeals' decision allowing the Department of Justice to withhold funding from sanctuary cities.

Now, back in June, Immigration and Customs Enforcement released a list of criminal illegal aliens that were allowed back into their sanctuary communities by local officials. One such criminal is Rosalio Ramos-Ramos, he is a Honduran citizen who was deported four times before authorities arrested him in Washington State in October of 2017.

Once notified of Rosalio's arrest, ICE issued a written detainer request, asking the local authorities to imprison him for an additional 48 hours so that they could decide whether or not to begin deportation proceedings.

Instead, local authorities ignored the detainer request and released Rosalio back into the community. In January of 2018, he murdered his cousin, and then he hid the body in a dumpster.

In another instance, in 2015, Garcia Zarate, an illegal immigrant from Mex-

ico shot and killed 32-year-old Kate Steinle, a very well-known case, and a tragedy, while she was walking with her father and her friend on Pier 14 in San Francisco.

Prior to the shooting, Garcia Zarate had been deported five times, and was supposed to be deported for a sixth time. He had been transferred to San Francisco's jail to serve a sentence for selling marijuana, but local authorities released him a few days later, despite a detainer request from Federal law enforcement.

Situations like these are more common than they should be in our country, and many local officials protect illegal immigrants and ignore Federal immigration laws up to the point of leaving dangerous individuals in their communities.

As you can see from these horrific examples, refusing to honor detainer requests and frustrating local law enforcement has dire consequences. Not only does it make our Nation less safe, it leaves no room for the victims of these offenders to obtain justice.

That is why I introduced the Justice for Victims of Sanctuary Cities Act, along with my colleague, Representative BRADLEY BYRNE, here in the House, and my fellow North Carolinian, THOM TILLIS, over in the Senate.

This legislation would allow anyone who is a victim of murder, rape, or any felony, to file a lawsuit and bring civil action against the State or the sanctuary city if that city failed to honor a lawful immigration detainer request from the Department of Homeland Security. Any individual who is injured or harmed by an illegal immigrant, who benefited from a sanctuary city's policy, will be able to sue the sanctuary city or State.

My bill also requires sanctuary cities to waive a criminal's immunity as a condition of receiving certain Federal grants. If the jurisdiction doesn't agree to waive immunity, it will not be eligible for grants for public works, grant planning, and administrative expenses, and grants for training, research, and technical assistance.

I am extremely proud that President Trump endorsed our bill during his 2020 State of the Union address. It is time for Congress to force sanctuary cities to comply with Federal law enforcement, and to stop them from letting dangerous criminals remain on our streets. It is finally time to give victims of sanctuary city policies a legal pathway to justice.

During my trip to the southern border last year, I witnessed the humanitarian and security crisis up close and personal. I saw the sorry state of some areas of our border. I saw places that were only defended by thin, barbed-wire fences. These weak defenses allow practically anyone to break into our country, and that includes dangerous members of drug cartels who fuel our country's devastating opioid crisis.

I will continue to support policies that crack down on sanctuary cities across the United States.

Madam Speaker, with that, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN), my dear friend, someone who has been a staunch advocate for securing our border.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman BUDD, and I appreciate this bill.

I rise in strong support of the Justice for Victims of Sanctuary Cities Act. It is high time the United States Congress address the dangers of sanctuary city policies.

I think it comes at a very important time, as we are suffering or could suffer from a pandemic that we are facing. To have open borders and let anybody in doesn't make sense now, nor does it make sense in the future. I commend my colleagues, Representatives TED BUDD and BRADLEY BYRNE, for their leadership in holding sanctuary cities accountable to the law.

Make no mistake, sanctuary cities kill by offering safe havens to some of the most violent and reckless criminals residing in this country. Sanctuary cities put American lives at risk every single day.

Only a few months ago, an illegal alien, Nemias Perez-Severiano killed a 67-year-old Vietnam war veteran, U.S. Marine, Samuel W. Jackson, inside a sanctuary county in Pennsylvania.

Jackson risked his life to defend a country that now refuses to protect his life. Counties like Montgomery in Pennsylvania are an insult to patriots like Jackson.

My district has no sanctuary cities, but that does not guarantee our safety. In Lancaster, South Carolina, just a few miles from where I live, Charlie Byrdic, an innocent and law-abiding citizen, was killed by an illegal immigrant who had hidden from authorities for years. Without the cooperation of sanctuary cities with law enforcement agencies, more families will lose their loved ones because criminals are allowed to roam our Nation without consequences. That is why we need this legislation.

This bill will offer a measure of justice to the victims of those violent crimes by allowing victims and their families to sue the cities that house these assailants.

Enough is enough. No American should lose his or her life, liberty, or property, because the government refuses to act against known criminals, immigrants or not.

The choice is ours; do we want to be the kind of country that protects the victims of crime or the perpetrators of crime? I know where I stand. It is time to fight against this thing that is plaguing our country of opening up our borders to anyone.

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. NORMAN.

Madam Speaker, at this point, I would yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE), a friend and colleague who led the effort with me to introduce the Justice for Victims of Sanctuary Cities Act.