

markets as well. These reforms were critical for the district, which, by the way, is the number two producer of eggs in the Nation and also a top dairy producer.

So, again, I would like to thank the President and his administration for their willingness to listen to the farmers in my district and to ensure that USMCA is a win not only for farmers, but for manufacturers and employees in my district as well.

#### SUPPORTING THE INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I want to raise my voice in support of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.

I want to congratulate Chairman DEFAZIO. He has been working on this for a long time. This is the infrastructure bill that we have been waiting for. He has followed what my father advised me to do as a young boy: If you are going to do something, do it right. And it is a wonderful bill.

This is something that will repair our crumbling roads and bridges in this country, expand transit and commuter rail, repair and rebuild schools, make childcare facilities safer, deliver broadband to the entire country, reclaim abandoned mines, save affordable housing units, provide access to safe drinking water and good sewer systems, and put more energy into the grid. This is something that this entire Nation needs.

It is time for us to come together and fulfill this promise to the American people to rebuild and reinvest in our American infrastructure. It is the Moving Forward Act, H.R. 2. Let's all vote "yes" on that bill.

#### NURSING HOME NEGLIGENCE

(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, we continue to see appalling nursing home negligence nationwide, including my home State of Pennsylvania.

Last week, my fellow Pennsylvania Republican Members and I joined the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis to send a letter to State Attorney General Josh Shapiro demanding an explanation for Governor Wolf's deadly decision to readmit COVID-19-positive residents back into nursing homes.

According to the most recent data, Pennsylvania has suffered 4,539 nursing home deaths related to COVID-19. That is more than 68 percent of the State's total COVID-19 deaths and more than 3 percent of the State's entire nursing home population.

The families who have lost loved ones as a result of this reckless policy de-

serve answers, they deserve an explanation, and they deserve closure.

Prior to my being elected to Congress, I spent many years as a licensed nursing home administrator specializing in long-term care, and I have been horrified to see this avoidable crisis unfold.

In closing, I would like to thank our frontline employees in nursing homes. They work so hard to protect the residents. And my sincerest condolences to the families who are grieving.

#### RUSSIAN BOUNTY ON U.S. TROOPS

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, in response to the attacks on September 11, my son joined the military, and I am now the proud father of a U.S. Air Force veteran.

I know firsthand the anxiety felt by loved ones whose family members are called on to fight for our Nation overseas.

As the father of a former soldier, I am disgusted by the allegation that Russia placed a bounty on our troops, and as an American citizen, I am outraged that the Commander in Chief of our military forces has seemingly abandoned his responsibilities.

The President has an obligation to investigate these accusations and to protect the lives of American soldiers, but, once again, all we are hearing from this White House is denial and deflection.

We deserve to know the truth. When was the President informed and what action has he taken to protect the lives of our troops? Americans should settle for nothing less.

#### REMEMBERING JACK THOMPSON

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor and to recognize Mr. Jack Thompson from Montgomery, Alabama. He passed away on Sunday, June 21, 2020, after a full life of 88 years.

He was born in Colbert County, which is now the Fourth Congressional District, in 1932 and remained a resident of the State of Alabama for his entire life.

After graduating from Colbert County High School, Jack married his sweetheart, Ruth Hester, at the age of 20, and Jack and Ruth were married for 67 years and raised four wonderful children.

For 31 years, Jack worked for Auburn University Extension Service. After retiring, he went on to own a farm in Athens, Alabama, and served as assistant commissioner of agriculture alongside my father-in-law, who was commissioner at the time, Albert McDonald, from the State of Alabama. Then Jack, himself, thereafter was elected

commissioner of agriculture and industries for 4 years for the State of Alabama.

Jack is now survived by his four children, David Thompson, Keith Thompson, Susan Woodham, and Janice Thompson, and his sister, Ann Thomas. He has 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Jack will be greatly missed by all his family and friends and all of us that knew him. Jack's legacy will live well into the future.

#### SUPPORT IMPROVING THE NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Moving Forward Act.

I represent a district where 85 percent of the towns are 5,000 people or fewer, and 60 percent of the towns are 1,000 people or fewer.

Earlier this year, I reached out to every mayor and city administrator and county administrator and village president, 151 leaders, representing towns and counties in the 7,000 square miles in the congressional district that I serve. I listened to their needs, and the Moving Forward Act reflects many of their priorities.

Now, the administration has said this package is biased against rural America, to which I say: What?

The President has failed to bring forward any plan that prioritizes rural America. This bill expands broadband. It strengthens water systems. It provides \$250 million for our rural roads and our communities, rebuilding our rural schools, and prioritizing buying American in all that we build.

Today, for the district I represent, and for all rural communities, I will be proud to cast my vote in favor of this important legislation.

#### WILDFIRE SEASON HAS BEGUN

(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, wildfire season has begun, especially in California. In 2020 so far, 3,100 fires have started, twice as many as the same period in 2019.

Ongoing drought is part of the problem. We will be on the way to surpassing 2019 for the entire season as, indeed, we do have a head start.

We shouldn't leave our fire preparedness plans completely to our firefighters having to go out and do it after the fact. We need to get ahead of the curve.

There are real solutions to getting fires under control in the West. A big part of it is forest management, especially on Federal lands.

There are 100 million dead trees in California. When coupled with years of

drought, the risks of turning our forests into tinder boxes is higher than ever. Responsible thinning and hazardous trees removal is an essential portion of what we need to be doing.

My bill, the CLEAR Zones Act, which is Clearing Lines, Electrical At-Risk Zones Act, would reduce the bureaucracy and the timelines to actually get the work done after permitting within 60 days and increase the buffer zone along power lines so there is less danger and more ability to fight fire at a smaller level.

Mismanaged forests lead to more fire. Without better practices, we will see more and more of the West go up in smoke.

#### REBUILD THE NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act, legislation to repair and rebuild our Nation's crumbling infrastructure.

I am pleased to see this bill make significant capital investments in our rural roads, schools, broadband expansion programs, and much more.

I also want to note that outdated infrastructure disproportionately affects rural and Tribal communities, which too often lack access to quality electricity, water, and sanitation systems.

To that end, I was pleased to see two bills I have sponsored included in the package.

First, the Tribal Power Act, which ensures that Tribal communities get access to affordable energy sources by increasing funding for the Department of Energy's Indian energy education planning and management assistance program.

Second is my bill for the planning, construction, and renovation of water, wastewater, and sanitation facilities across all of Indian Country.

These much-needed updates to our infrastructure have been on Congress' back burner for decades, putting the health, safety, and growth of our communities at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to voting in favor of this important bill and ask that you also do that.

#### REMEMBERING SERGEANT WOLFGANG K. WENINGER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of U.S. Marine Sergeant Wolfgang K. Weninger.

On June 16, just days before he was set to graduate from the U.S. Army Airborne School, Sergeant Weninger was tragically killed in a training accident. He was 28 years old.

Sergeant Weninger, who went by Kyle or Wolf back home, was a grad-

uate of Kenston High School and a local sports legend in Geauga County.

Known for his selflessness, Kyle joined the Marines in 2015 and immediately excelled. In roughly 4 years, he earned the coveted Marine Special Operator Insignia and rose to the rank of sergeant.

Kyle's instructors said that he possessed unsurmountable determination, a deep sense of integrity, and an unconquerable spirit. They called him a natural leader, someone who always looked out for his team.

I had the opportunity to speak to my old friend, Kyle's father, Ernie, this past week and express my profound condolences directly to him. As a parent, I can only imagine how difficult this time is for him, Mrs. Henry, and their families.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in a moment of silence to honor Sergeant Wolfgang K. Weninger and to pray for his loved ones in the wake of their tragic loss.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will observe a moment of silence.

#### CHILDCARE IS INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Moving Forward Act recognizes that childcare is infrastructure.

Central to rebuilding our economy, stabilizing our workforce, and educating our children, childcare is a public good, supporting more than \$99 billion a year in economic activity.

But we have not treated it as such. Ninety-six percent of childcare professionals are women, and 40 percent are women of color, and they are chronically underpaid. Costs for families are high, creating barriers, especially from women, from entering and staying in the workforce.

The pandemic has pushed this vital sector to its breaking point, and we cannot afford to let it fail. This bill creates a grant program to renovate and modify childcare facilities, helping them to reopen safely. It invests in providers and in our Nation's children.

Childcare is the foundation for building an inclusive economy, and now is the time to invest in our future. I urge a "yes" vote on this legislation.

□ 1030

#### RECOGNIZING BEASLEY, TEXAS, VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

(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, Sunday is a weekly day of Christian Sabbath. I must confess that last Sunday my Sabbath was not very pious. I toyed with one of the seven deadly sins; the sin of gluttony.

After I went to church, I drove down Interstate 69 to Beasley, Texas, and that is where I cracked. But it wasn't my fault. It was purely the fault of Tim Sabrsula, who is the chief of the Beasley Volunteer Fire Department.

At 11 a.m. they started selling huge chicken fried chicken plates at \$10 a plate. The temptation of gluttony was overwhelming; I had to buy five plates.

But Chief Sabrsula was not alone, Beasley Mayor Kenneth Reid joined this sinful attack. But I succumbed for a great cause, new equipment for the heroes at the Beasley Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Sabrsula asked me to close by saying, "Y'all come next year, you'll be glad you did."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will ask Members to observe proper decorum in the Chamber.

#### OUR UNALIENABLE RIGHTS OF LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday we will celebrate the Independence Day of our country. In our Chamber we have photographs of Lafayette and George Washington. In the preamble of the Declaration of Independence, it reads: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Unfortunately, those words were not complete because African Americans were not considered men, and they were not given the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We are still pursuing that. We did it with the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, and we are doing it in other ways with opportunities for African Americans.

And as we said in the founding of our country, that we are becoming a more perfect union, and we continue to do that today; to see to it that all men and women have certain inalienable rights, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Hopefully, we will remember that on Saturday, and remember that the reason why we cut ourselves off from King George is because we wanted to be a Nation of a rule of laws and not a Nation of a rule of man. That was worth people signing the Declaration, putting their lives at risk, and founding the United States of America.

#### NATIONAL COIN SHORTAGE

(Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the national coin shortage occurring as a result of COVID-19.