

### CONGRATULATING MAYOR JOHN KONIAR

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor John Koniar of Foley on his upcoming retirement after a remarkable career in public service.

Mayor Koniar began his official service to the people of Foley upon his election to the city council in 1980. He began serving as mayor pro tem in 1996 until his appointment to mayor in 2006. The people of Foley have shown their continued trust to Mayor Koniar by reelecting him in 2008, 2012, and 2016.

Mayor Koniar has been absolutely indispensable in the promotion of Foley and its remarkable growth over the past several decades. Despite that growth, Foley has maintained its small-town Alabama charm, so exemplified by Mayor Koniar himself.

He leaves big shoes to fill, but in no small part due to his leadership, Foley is positioned better than ever.

It has been a pleasure to work with Mayor Koniar during my time in Congress, and I wish him and his family all the best as they embark on this new stage in their lives together.

### CONGRESS PASSED 600 PIECES OF LEGISLATION

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this has been one of the most productive sessions of the U.S. House in modern history.

In less than 2 years, under Democratic leadership, the House has passed more than 600 pieces of legislation responding to the urgent priorities of the American people.

We have passed bills for the people, cracking down on corruption, driving down healthcare costs, and raising wages for workers.

Many of these bills are bipartisan. All are commonsense approaches for delivering results for working people.

But roughly 400 of these bills have been buried in MITCH MCCONNELL's legislative graveyard. He won't even give them a vote. His sole purpose, it seems, is to pack the Federal judiciary with rightwing judges who will rip away healthcare from 20 million people and eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions.

This is no way to run a democracy. The American people deserve better. That is why House Democrats will keep fighting for the people until these bills become law.

### RECOGNIZING GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

(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, as co-chair of the German-American Caucus, I rise today to recognize October as German-American Heritage Month and to commemorate 30 years of German unity.

Last year, I introduced H. Res. 446, a bipartisan resolution to recognize the importance of the alliance between the United States and Germany and to highlight our shared commitment to democracy.

The resolution reaffirms our support of the Wunderbar Together initiative, which, in 2019, worked with 500 partners to host more than 2,800 events to celebrate German-American culture, art, science, and more.

On October 3, 1990, East and West Germany reunited, just short of 1 year after the fall of the Berlin Wall, when thousands rushed to Brandenburg Gate to celebrate.

This year, the German Ambassador to the United States, Emily Haber, is hosting a virtual event to celebrate East and West Germany becoming one, walking attendees through the milestones that led to this historic moment. Anyone can tune in by visiting the Embassy's Facebook page tomorrow at 1 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say danke, or thank you, to our German friends, and prost, or cheers, as we celebrate this milestone together.

### AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED RELIEF NOW

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I recently received a letter from a constituent named Jeffrey. Jeffrey was laid off in March and hasn't been able to find work during the pandemic.

He wrote to me and said: "I have been scraping by on my savings and borrowing, and I am now finally broke with a disabled brother, a 13-year-old kid to feed, and a house."

Another constituent wrote about his 83-year-old mother, who survives on a small pension and Social Security. The pandemic has required her to have a caregiver for much longer hours. Her and sons' bank accounts are running dry.

The American people need relief now, which is why the House passed the updated Heroes Act this week with another round of stimulus checks; extended unemployment benefits; small business support; and money for local, State, and Tribal governments to pay for essential services like first responders, police, firefighters, and teachers.

The House is doing their job. The Senate must do theirs and bring this bill for a vote for the people.

### REMEMBERING AND HONORING TIMOTHY EBERT

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of a Good Samaritan and hero from Georgia's First Congressional District, Mr. Timothy Ebert of Richmond Hill.

On August 9, Timothy Ebert was on his way to work at the Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport when he got out to help a motorist near the intersection of I-95 and I-16. When he tried to help another driver, he was, sadly, hit by another car and killed on the interstate.

Mr. Ebert was one of the kindest, most selfless people. His life was marked by the way he served others. He was an E-7 Marine veteran who served his country, friends, family, and even complete strangers with his utmost abilities.

Timothy loved to spend time exploring the outdoors and playing games with his family. His two sons, Bryce and Braden; his daughter, Tinley; and his lovely wife, Lindsay, were his whole world.

It is people like Timothy who make our world a better place and inspire us to be the best people we can be. He will always be remembered for his selflessness and kindness, and I know his legacy will continue.

His friends, family, and all who knew him will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

### CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF COMMERCIAL RADIO

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Broadcasters Caucus and a former radio sports announcer, I would like to acknowledge and celebrate that this year is the 100th anniversary of the first commercial radio broadcast.

In fact, it was in my home State of Pennsylvania that station KDKA made the first commercial broadcast. This revolutionary idea brought news to people before they had to read about it in the newspaper.

For a century now, radio broadcasts have crossed towns, cities, and States across our Nation to bring us the sense of kinship we have come to expect from stations that are invested in our communities.

We are looking forward to the next 100 years of radio entertaining, connecting, and informing Americans.

### IT IS TIME TO BAN ASBESTOS

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

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, it does not give me pleasure to be here today to say what I am about to say. I am really frustrated.

The Energy and Commerce Committee, which I am the ranking member and former chairman of, we worked most of this year on legislation to ban the manufacture, processing, and distribution of asbestos.

We found common ground. We worked together. We voted it out of committee by a 47-1 vote. We fully anticipated the work product of the Republicans and Democrats in that committee to be brought to the floor under suspension, as approved by the committee.

Sadly, Democrats on Friday night listed the bill, but they had rewritten parts of it without ever consulting with Republicans and tried to cram it through the process.

Now, after many days of trying to work this out between us, and we have offered many alternatives to try and accommodate our majority colleagues, they are trying to blame Republicans for this bill not coming to the floor.

Well, I will tell you what, bring the bill we passed out of committee to the floor and we will vote for it, and it will pass overwhelmingly.

You are the majority party. You just brought a \$2.2 trillion bill to the floor; you can bring this one under a rule. Do that. Keep your word.

Let's work together and ban asbestos.

#### FINDING A PATH FORWARD TO BAN ASBESTOS

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, since last Friday, I have been working in good faith to find a path forward on a bill to ban asbestos. Democrats ended that effort yesterday evening.

The bill passed the Energy and Commerce Committee with bipartisan support last November, but the majority added new language just last Friday.

One minute is not enough to detail my concerns with that language or to describe every offer our side made to try to reach agreement. The committee record will have to speak for itself.

The record shows the bill passed 47-1. Every Democrat on the committee voted for it. It shows the bill does not affect talc litigation. And it shows exactly which special interest objected, trial lawyers who didn't get exactly what they wanted.

I want to offer my apologies to Linda Reinstein, who has been a tireless advocate for more than a decade and has fought the good fight in honor of her late husband, Alan, for whom this bill is named.

We know the 47-1 bill I have right here could pass.

#### REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 1603, ALAIN REINSTEIN BAN ASBESTOS NOW ACT OF 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Education and Labor be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1603, and I ask for its immediate consideration in the House with an amendment adopted by the Committee on Energy and Commerce on November 19, 2019, by a vote of 47 yeas and 1 nay.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

□ 0915

#### CONDEMNING UNWANTED, UNNECESSARY MEDICAL PROCEDURES ON INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT THEIR FULL, INFORMED CONSENT

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1164, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 1153) condemning unwanted, unnecessary medical procedures on individuals without their full, informed consent, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1164, the amendment to the resolution, printed in House Report 116-557, is adopted and the resolution, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the resolution, as amended, is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1153

Whereas there is a shameful history in the United States of Black, Indigenous, people of color, immigrants, poor people, and people with disabilities being subjected to medical procedures without their informed consent;

Whereas 32 States passed eugenic-sterilization laws, resulting in the sterilization of between 60,000 to 70,000 people beginning in the early 1900s;

Whereas 25 percent of Native American women of childbearing age were sterilized over the course of 6 years after the passage of the Family Planning Services and Population Research Act of 1970;

Whereas incarcerated individuals have continued to face sterilization practices, including nearly 150 incarcerated women in California prisons sterilized between 2006 and 2010;

Whereas, on September 14, 2020, a coalition of organizations, including Project South, Georgia Detention Watch, Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights, and South Georgia Immigrant Support Network, filed a complaint to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General expressing concerns about the Irwin County Detention Center in Ocilla, Georgia, including detained immigrant women receiving unnecessary hysterectomies and a lack of informed consent for gynecological procedures;

Whereas a growing number of women are coming forward to share stories of unwanted, unnecessary medical procedures, including full or partial hysterectomies and other procedures involving their reproductive organs, performed without their knowledge or consent;

Whereas, on September 16, 2020, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement nearly deported a woman who was formerly detained at Irwin County Detention Center who had one fallopian tube removed without her knowledge or consent;

Whereas, on September 18, 2020, 4 women came forward saying that they did not approve of the procedures they received;

Whereas an initial review of available medical records by independent gynecologists raises serious questions about whether patients detained at the Irwin County Detention Center provided informed consent and whether prevailing standards of care were adhered to in their care; and

Whereas these allegations indicate a failure by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to conduct rigorous oversight to protect the health and safety of people in its custody: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns performing unwanted, unnecessary medical procedures on individuals without their full, informed consent;

(2) recognizes that everyone deserves to control their own reproductive choices and make informed choices about their bodies;

(3) recognizes that further accountability, oversight, and transparency is necessary to protect people in the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

(4) calls on the Department of Homeland Security to—

(A) pause the removal of any individual who experienced any medical procedure at the Irwin County Detention Center;

(B) allow individuals who may have experienced an unnecessary or nonconsensual procedure to have immediate access to adequate, safe, and consensual medical treatment or to seek a second opinion from an independent medical professional;

(C) immediately comply with all investigations and records requests related to investigations about the Irwin County Detention Center;

(D) ensure impacted individuals are able to freely participate in any investigation and share their stories without fear of reprisal; and

(E) hold all individuals found to be involved in any unnecessary or nonconsensual medical procedure at the Irwin County Detention Center accountable and bring them to justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

The gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1154.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, imagine this: You are an immigrant woman detained in a detention center. Perhaps you have been