

many things, makes the environment cleaner, makes healthcare much more affordable and available. Employment, we have to do everything for those who are older, to encourage them to participate in the labor force. Add some “spiffs,” add some benefits.

How do we get millennial men that are still dramatically underperforming in showing up in the labor force?

About a year ago, we had an amazing breakthrough, mathematically-wise, millennial females entering the workforce.

Every policy that moves through here we should test; does this benefit economic growth?

When we work on immigration policy, are we doing a talent-based immigration system, where we don't care about your religion, your gender, or who you cuddle with or anything like that? We care about the economic vitality you bring to our society.

How do we encourage family formation?

Think of that. This one article here talks about only 12 States actually had positive birth rates over the previous year.

I know we get caught up in today's shiny object; you know, whether it is the we hate the President side of this room, or we feel we are stuck defending. And we are completely missing what is going to end up driving all public policy in the next couple of years, and that is the fact that we are going to be crushed by our debt.

There is a path. My fear is this current Congress, are we actually capable of doing complex policy, lots of complex policy on every issue, and seeing it as a unified theory to maximize economic vitality so we actually have the receipts, so we keep the promises that we go home and tell our constituents we are working for? But, yet, then we come here and we deny basic math.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1815

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RICHARD GORDON HATCHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to come before the House this evening to celebrate the memory of a major trailblazer in our Nation, one who was a fierce crusader for justice and equality, an American who was a quiet man, with a quiet demeanor, but a giant in terms of his accomplishments, his courage, and the things he did not only for his local constituency, the city of Gary, Indiana, but the African American community and America at large.

Mr. Speaker, I am speaking of the one and only, the first Black mayor of

Gary, Indiana, Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

Sadly, Mayor Hatcher passed away at the age of 86 on the 13th of December, 2019. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy lives on. His legacy, his work, his love, his sacrifices continue to be felt in these very Halls of Congress, throughout the city hall of Gary, Indiana, and indeed, throughout these State legislative halls, these halls of municipal governments in cities all across this Nation.

Mayor Hatcher was one who carved and made a way for African Americans who are elected officials even to this very day. When Mayor Hatcher was first elected mayor of Gary, Indiana, there were but few elected officials of African American descent in the Nation, but there now exists over 10,000 African American elected officials. In some supernatural sense, because of the hard work, the insight, the courage, and the commitment of Mayor Hatcher, his sterling example, we all stand on the shoulders of Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

Mayor Hatcher's surprise victory over the political machine in Gary, Indiana, in 1967 was indeed a watershed moment for Black political participation in this Nation. Along with the election of Mayor Carl Stokes, the first African American mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, Mayor Hatcher became the first Black mayor of a major U.S. city, the city of Gary, Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, in his two decades of service as Gary's mayor, Mayor Hatcher fought valiantly in his beloved Gary and throughout his beloved Nation for fair political representation for those whose voices had been previously dismissed, disregarded, and downright ignored for most of American history.

When Mayor Hatcher was elected to lead a deeply segregated Gary, Indiana, only two of the city's department heads were African Americans, in a city that was actually over 50 percent African American. Within 10 years of Mayor Hatcher's tenure as mayor, 25 of Gary's 40 department heads were African Americans.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, those who worked for Gary's government began to look more like Gary's citizens, those who were supposed to be working on behalf of the citizens of Gary, Indiana.

As mayor of Gary, Mayor Hatcher worked very closely with his congressional delegation and the Democratic administration in the White House. He secured millions of dollars in Federal funding for job training programs for Gary's citizens and subsidized housing for Gary's citizens, building up a vibrant economy in his beloved city of Gary, similarly and singlehandedly, in some instances, ensuring that those communities that were previously underserved received their fair share of city services, Federal funding, and Federal dollars.

Mayor Hatcher's herculean efforts to ensure fair representation extended far beyond Gary. As a young man, I was in-

spired and intrigued by the electoral and political processes and systems because of the tenure, political career, and outstanding accomplishments of Mayor Richard Hatcher.

Mayor Hatcher was a visionary, a man who not only talked the talk, but he walked the walk. On the streets of Gary, he was highly visible.

With all of that, his vision even surpassed and transcended Gary. In 1972, he organized the inaugural and historic National Black Political Convention in Gary. I was there. I attended. I saw it in action. This National Black Political Convention convened with two goals: establishing an independent Black political agenda and electing more Black officials to public office. Never before, not at any time, had this been done.

Over 8,000 individual American citizens attended this historic occasion, including some who are icons even today in our Nation, including Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson, Coretta Scott King, Betty Shabazz, Bobby Seale, and my colleague from Chicago, Congressman DANNY K. DAVIS. Many, many others were involved, inspired, educated, and learned the value of the vote and heard for the first time that a voteless people is a hopeless people, all because of the single vision of this one American giant, Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and humbled to speak in this well about this giant of a man, telling all who have a listening ear and a seeing eye about the work of Mayor Hatcher and that historic National Black Political Convention. It was not just fighting the windmills, Don Quixote-like. It produced results.

At the time of this convention, there were just 14 African American Members of Congress, just 14. Today, there are 56 African American Members of Congress, 56 living and breathing, hard-working Members of this Congress who are a result of the vision of Mayor Hatcher and who were inspired by his life and what he had accomplished.

He was our inspiration. He gave all of us an exceedingly high standard that we live by even today.

□ 1830

Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher spurred a wave of Black civic participation that reverberated all throughout America. In 1973, just 1 year, 365 days, after the Gary convention, Detroit elected its first African American mayor, Mayor Coleman Young, Atlanta elected its first African American mayor, Mayor Maynard Jackson, and Los Angeles elected its first African American mayor, Mayor Tom Bradley. All across this Nation, major cities all across this Nation saw a witness, and participated and celebrated the election of mayors in major cities all across this Nation.

The legacy, the inspiration, the example, the instruction just didn't stop in 1973. Even some 10 years later,

Mayor Harold Washington was elected mayor of the city of Chicago following the Gary model.

Congressman DAVIS and I were on the front lines in Mayor Washington's election. He challenged us to register 50,000 new voters, and we rose up to the challenge, a la just like being cognizant of what was going on in Gary, Indiana.

That voter registration, that election rocked the entrenched Chicago political establishment, political machine. The renowned Richard J. Daley's Democratic machine was overturned in 1993, inspired in no small respect by Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher in the city of Gary, Indiana.

It just didn't stop there, Mr. Speaker. The story didn't end there. It kept developing, it kept materializing. The civic awakening that was started in Gary, Indiana, with the election in 1967 of Mayor Hatcher, which ensued with the election of Mayor Harold Washington, inspired a young man who was living in Los Angeles to move to Chicago, Gary's neighbor. He wanted to be a part of what was going on in Chicago, in Gary, Indiana, in urban areas, and major cities throughout the Nation. It inspired him, a young law student named Barack Obama, to move to Chicago, to the south side of Chicago to start community organizing and ultimately to become a State senator from the State of Illinois, then to become the U.S. Senator from the State of Illinois, and then finally to become President of these United States.

So in no uncertain terms, the overwhelming outstanding achievements, the miraculously determined achievements of Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher led to the election of Barack Obama as President of the United States.

Mayor Hatcher was pivotal in Reverend Jesse Jackson's transcendent 1984 and 1988 Presidential campaigns.

In 1988, Mayor Hatcher served as his campaign vice chairman, and Reverend Jackson in that historic campaign earned over 6.7 million votes and Reverend Jackson, through the hard work and the inspiration of Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher, won 11 primary contests.

You can't undervalue, underestimate how important that was. This happened before the election of Barack Obama.

We all stand indebted to Richard Gordon Hatcher and his life, the life that he lived and the life that he led.

Mayor Hatcher's victory was a clarion call to all of us who aspired and are inspired to serve as elected officials in our Nation.

If we work hard, harness the imagination, speak to the real need of our constituents, we could also raise our voices in the spirit of equity and fairness, justice; that we could all stand not only in the well of the Congress, but in the State houses, in the city halls of our Nation and of States and municipalities all over this country, even in the White House.

We miss Mayor Hatcher. We will miss his counsel.

Again, he was a man who was not a self-promoter. He was quiet, in some sense professorial, in some sense laid back, but a mighty, mighty, mighty, mighty warrior, a mighty man, a giant.

I am just grateful for all that he has done for this Nation, all that he has done for poor people all across this Nation, for the middle class all across this Nation, all that he has done for African Americans not only in Gary, and certainly in Gary, but in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, other places all across this Nation.

He inspired young people, young professionals to look at public service as being an honorable pursuit, an honorable career, profession, and get in there and do something not just for yourself, but do something for your Nation, for your community, and for people who need a voice, those who are voiceless.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my condolences to Mayor Hatcher's family, his wife, Ruthellyn, his daughters, and let them know that our prayers are with them, and their loss is great, our loss is great. We lost a friend, we lost a colleague, we lost a champion, but in some sense, we lost someone who was a steadfast, rock solid inspiration to us all.

We mourn the loss of this American giant, former Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), a gentleman who represents the city of Gary right now, another man of unmatched wisdom and intellect, the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, and my friend and colleague.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I deeply appreciate Mr. RUSH yielding time to me. I also thank him for organizing this Special Order. I thank my colleague from Chicago, Mr. DAVIS, for participating, and earlier today, ANDRÉ CARSON, a Member from Indianapolis, for also expressing deep regard for Mayor Hatcher.

Mr. Speaker, I also appreciate the gentleman's eloquence in describing the incredible contribution that Richard Gordon Hatcher made to our world and, in particular, those most in need. He is absolutely correct: it certainly transcended the city of Gary and his immediate responsibilities.

Everyone here knows the vast and immeasurable contributions that Mayor Hatcher has provided to advance the cause of civil rights and racial equality in all of our communities and throughout our Nation.

On a personal level, I would note that my father, John Visclosky, also was mayor of Gary. While the mayors may not have always agreed on every issue, Mayor Hatcher always treated my father with respect and grace, and for that, I will always be grateful.

Everyone he met and worked with was treated with similar dignity and respect.

Mayor Hatcher's value of respect is one we should all strive to emulate.

It was through this value that he became a trailblazer for the city of Gary and our Nation. It was also through his selfless leadership and desire to bring other people along that led to countless other trailblazers for civil rights.

One of those trailblazers who was inspired by Richard Gordon Hatcher, as Mr. RUSH pointed out so eloquently, was my predecessor from the First Congressional District of Indiana, Representative Katie Hall.

□ 1845

When Mrs. Hall was sworn into office as U.S. Congressperson from the First District, she became the first Black woman from Indiana to serve in the United States House of Representatives. Again, as Mr. RUSH pointed out, there are many more African Americans in this Chamber today.

Representative Hall was also the Member of Congress who sponsored the legislation that was signed into law that established Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday as a Federal holiday. As we take time honoring Dr. King this month, let us remember that that legislation's sponsor was mentored by Mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher.

As a resident of Gary, I would conclude by saying that I knew Richard first and foremost as a dedicated husband and a proud and loving father and grandfather. In his three beloved daughters and six grandchildren, it is plainly evident that he has instilled his exemplary dedication to hard work, the value of education, and a commitment to public service.

Again, I appreciate that this time was organized. Let us never lose sight of the example that Mayor Hatcher provided for all of us to follow.

I thank the gentleman for yielding. Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I certainly thank the gentleman from Indiana for his candid remarks, and he also stands in the wonderful splendor of Mayor Hatcher's legacy and of his work and his commitment to public service.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS), who is my colleague, my true friend, my coconspirator.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, let me, first of all, thank Representative RUSH for his leadership, his vision, his diligence, and how well he has reminded us of those glory years during the 1960s and 1970s that we call movement years.

As I looked at the photograph of Mayor Hatcher, I couldn't help but smile thinking that, in 1967, that is the way we looked. We obviously had more hair. It was a different color.

And it is a great reminder of what it was like during that period of time. There was so much momentum in the air in terms of hope for change in America from what America had been to some to what America was to become.

I was thinking that, with just a little different twist, I might have ended up in Gary, Indiana, rather than in Chicago, Illinois; because, as we were leaving the South, coming to other places

to live and work, I didn't know that I had a bunch of relatives who lived in Gary who were also involved in politics: the Allen family who grew up, some of them, with Mayor Hatcher at the same time. My cousin Dozier Allen, and then his son, who is now on the county board, and his cousin, who was on the county board before that, Roosevelt Allen. If I had known that the Allens were there and were my cousins, I might have gone to Gary instead of coming to Chicago.

But I remember 1967. I remember 1972. I can remember those huge crowds of people who converged on Roosevelt High School where the National Black Political Convention was taking place and all of the eloquent speakers who were there: poets, Baraka, Ron Del-lums, and Charlie Diggs from Detroit. It was the most exciting thing I had ever done, I mean, just to be in the presence of all this action.

It seemed as though each speaker would be more eloquent and more compelling than whoever spoke before them. And, of course, Mayor Hatcher, as the host and the person who had brought everybody together, was just off the charts.

You have pointed out how much his presence, not only on an individual basis, means as a motivator, stimulator, and activator for so many others throughout the country who decided they wanted to do this. They could do this because Richard Hatcher had shown the way.

And the individual cities that looked at Gary.

Of course, Gary was a different Gary: steel mills, steel jobs, opportunities, people were flocking. So a lot of folks who don't look at history in terms of understanding and knowing how things became and have become the way that they were, I mean, it is good to see Gary on the way back.

It has been good to work with Mayor Rudy Clay, with Mayor Karen Wilson, and with others who are using what Mayor Hatcher did.

It is good to know his daughter. It is good to have come in contact with the individuals who are there who have refused to give up.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. VIS-CLOSKY for being a real part of the re-birth and redevelopment and recon-stitution and reinstitution of Gary, Indiana, to become one of our cities that we knew in the past and so we can think of what is yet to come.

I thank Congressman RUSH again for his vision. I thank him for his fore-sight, for his insight, and for giving us to share, along with Representative CARSON and Representative VIS-CLOSKY and himself, so that people who really didn't know the history of Mayor Rich-ard Gordon Hatcher might have a bet-ter understanding of what his presence has meant, not just to Gary, but to America.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, as I close this significant moment in the annals of this Congress, let me just say to the

family of Mayor Hatcher once again, as I reflect on my public career, as I re- flect on all of us who are public offi- cials who represent African American communities, as I reflect on all public officials, but particularly those of us who have historically been denied the opportunity to serve, I want to thank this wonderful man for giving me and others the audacity: the audacity to act, to believe, to run, to get elected, to lead.

Mr. Speaker, I give thanks to Mayor Hatcher for showing us the way to con- tribute, to add our voices to the plight of those who are seeking the American Dream, and for giving us the audacity, the audacity to act.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PUT MANUFACTURING ECONOMY AT THE FOREFRONT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan- uary 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STE- VENS) for 30 minutes.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to recognize a new year and a new decade in which we find our- selves, the second half of this session of the 116th Congress, an incredible dele- gation of individuals who have come together on behalf of the American people, for the American people, to usher in an agenda of renewal, of standing up for everyday hardworking Americans: to protect their healthcare; to advocate for infrastructure and good, sound infrastructure spending; as well as to stand up for hardworking Americans who have always played by the rules and have worked for their re- tirement savings, my pensioners back home in Michigan.

It was a delight to close out the end of the decade back home in my district with so many of my beloved constitu- ents and the community members who make us so strong.

Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that on Jan- uary 3, 2020, this new year, this new decade, 1 year from when this Congress was sworn in, this session of Congress was sworn in, the headline became pro- nounced that industrial activity has come down to its lowest point since 2009, since the heart of the recession, with production, inventories, and new orders falling.

These are real headlines. These are headlines that affect the heart of America. And while so much hums in our national media and in our national news, this is a reality for so many. This is a reality for Michigan's 11th Dis- trict.

We were delighted, we were pleased to see us pass the USMCA overwhelm- ingly bipartisan for the manufacturers, for the manufacturing economy, for the hardworking union members who will get a better deal because we are advocating for buy American content.

We know the road to implementation will be long, but it is an implementa-

tion that the suppliers in my district, from Auburn Hills down to Plymouth, an implementation they are planning for. Yet the reality is such that a man- ufacturing recession hangs before us, a manufacturing recession as marked by low levels of productivity.

□ 1900

Over the last 6 months of 2019, man- ufacturers lost a net of 23,000 jobs and average hours worked fell to its lowest levels in 8 years. Who is talking about this? Your Congresswoman from Michi- gan's 11th District is talking about this here tonight.

The reality of tariffs has cost us. Tariffs imposed have cost U.S. corpora- tions \$34 billion as of October 2019, as marked by that day since they were implemented.

Also, as October 2019 has marked, manufacturing taxpayers have paid \$1.8 billion in 2019 in additional tariffs, in additional money. I talk to these em- ployers. I talk to these small busi- nesses. I talk to the lifeblood of the American economy, and they are pay- ing more. They are squeezed. Their margins are tight. Can this continue? No, it cannot.

So that agenda that we are ushering in here the first month of 2020, is that we do not forget that we need to ad- dress the problem of tariffs for our manufacturers. We have given cer- tainty with USMCA. We knew we need- ed to give that certainty, in part, be- cause the jobs were going to go else- where. The investment was going to be made elsewhere. It wasn't going to be made in the American workforce.

We are in a global race to compete. We have got to compete as Americans. We have got to compete as manufactur- ers in small communities, in suburban communities like the ones that I have the privilege and honor of representing. Comprised within that are the people who are going to work every single day: in snowstorms, in rainstorms, on sunny days, in the middle of summer, putting food on the table.

We look at wages and we ask our- selves as we are now in this third de- cade of this millennium of this century: What has transpired with wages? The alarming headline as we were closing out 2019 was that the richest, the wealthiest 500 individuals increased their wealth in 2019 by \$1 trillion, by over \$1 trillion, when wages for our middle class have remained stagnant; where wages for the lowest earners in our economy—we are still advocating to raise the minimum wage from \$7, just about. It is the year 2020.

Who is working those jobs, by the way? Single mothers; people who have played by the rules and who have chil- dren, who aren't just working tempo- rary jobs. This is the promise of America. This is the dream of America, Mr. Speaker, that we are representing, and that I am fighting for all of you, where my sleeves are rolled up. The things that I am eyeing here.

Because if we don't start addressing this, we stop winning. We stop having