

charlatans who see opportunity in them. And we have, sadly, learned that such fear can cause a free people to abandon their legacy of freedom and independence, their prosperity, and their common sense, but only for a while.

Every time in history that this has happened, there is always a moment when the fear fever breaks, and the hysteria suddenly burns itself out. The French Revolution, the Salem witch trials, the Communist hysteria of the 1950s all had a moment when the absurdity of it all became so apparent that it overcame the fear and the people turned on their tormentors.

Now, I don't know if the recent wave of business and religious persecutions, the unlimited home detention orders, and the demonstrated hypocrisy of those who have ordered them signals that moment. But every shopkeeper who defies these petty tyrants, every parent who confronts their school officials, every person who refuses to submit to the dysfunctional dystopian world created by the lockdown left brings us one step closer to that turning point. It can't come soon enough.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAYOR DAVID DINKINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great New Yorker, someone that has made us all proud, someone that we all stand on his shoulders, the late Mayor David N. Dinkins.

Words cannot express how we feel in New York with the passing of Mayor Dinkins. Many of us stand on his shoulders, as many of us here in this Chamber stand on the shoulders of other giants that came before us. None of us really stand on our own. We stand on the shoulders of those trailblazers, those pioneers that opened the door to men and women across the country.

Mayor Dinkins was such a leader. He was the first and, up to today, the only African-American mayor in New York City, a city that prides itself on diversity. In fact, New York City says that its strength really comes from the depths of its diversity.

People from all over the world, immigrants, as I was in 1964, coming from the Dominican Republic, people from all over the world come to New York City looking for that dream. Different races, ethnicities, religions make New York City strong. And Mayor Dinkins often called the city a gorgeous mosaic, and that was its strength.

So we honor his legacy and his many years of service as a New York State Assembly member, as a Manhattan borough president, and then, of course, as mayor of the city of New York.

His detractors, and those that attempt to be revisionists of history, will never acknowledge the great things

that he did. But those of us in the trenches, in the neighborhoods that have been traditionally forgotten, those of us that know that our communities lacked the voices to be heard, the disenfranchised of the city of New York will forever remember him for his accomplishments.

Community policing, he got \$1.8 billion to establish the community policing program; foot officers, foot patrol officers, in neighborhoods across the city of New York fighting crack and crime but, most importantly, knowing the community, the small business owners, having a daily relationship, almost as family members, preventing the kind of conflict that is plaguing America today.

The beacon schools that he opened up, after-school programs that became the center of communities across the city of New York; the Arthur Ashe Stadium for tennis, which houses the US Open and yields more revenue than baseball, basketball, and football for the city of New York.

And, of course, that day when he welcomed Nelson Mandela to New York City, it was such an important day. I went to that celebration, and many of us in New York felt that day that New York was the center of the universe. Every neighborhood enjoyed and celebrated freedom for South Africa, and Mayor Dinkins was our mayor. What a great day. What a great mayor.

What a legacy, Mr. Speaker.

I stand here to honor that legacy so that it will never be forgotten that the great, late David N. Dinkins was an integral part of the gorgeous mosaic that he always called New York.

□ 1030

DEMOCRATS PRIORITIZE MARIJUANA OVER COVID RELIEF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, in March, our public health experts said that we needed to stay home to fight this virus and to bend the curve. Those public health experts urged the administration and Congress to design COVID-19 relief that included 8 weeks of paycheck protection and enhanced unemployment compensation through July, all with the thought that that was the amount of support that we needed to provide, given the nature of this virus.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to state the obvious: Months later, America remains in the throes of a brutal pandemic, Americans are hurting, and Arkansans are hurting. Every day I hear from restaurant owners and hotel operators who are concerned about whether or not they will stay in business and whether or not they can survive.

Central Arkansans tell me that they are spending more time worried about their school kids, keeping their schools open, and having reliable broadband to

be able to do telemedicine and tele-education. More central Arkansans are taking their meals at food banks. Mr. Speaker, frontline workers depend on help and our health industry to deliver the care that is essential.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, for what has the House leadership and Speaker PELOSI brought us back to Washington, D.C., to consider? Is it to consider this much-needed delivered COVID-19 relief for the American people?

No.

Is it to extend the deadline for the Paycheck Protection Program or bring the discharge petition to the House floor that House Republicans have proposed, that has over 180 signatures of this body to help our small businesses who desperately need that assistance?

No.

Mr. Speaker, while Arkansans and Americans are suffering, and while Republicans are working to extend critical assistance like the Paycheck Protection Program, our House Democratic leadership is putting a bill to legalize pot on the floor of the United States House for a vote.

Let that sink in. In the midst of this pandemic and in the midst of calls across the country to help the American people, our leadership in this House has proposed a bill to legalize pot.

My friends on the other side of the aisle are showing just how much they are out of touch with conditions in our country today. People are working to make ends meet for their families. They are trying to educate their children while juggling work obligations. They are trying to protect themselves and their loved ones from this virus.

And that is why we are here this week: To legalize pot?

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are leading. Our discharge petition could help small businesses right now, and every Democrat should sign it. Yet, Mr. Speaker, for 40 times, our Speaker of the House has blocked the consideration of extending the Paycheck Protection Program. House Democrats need to follow the lead of House Republicans and put Americans above their special interest friends by moving COVID-19 relief today on this House floor, by calling up our discharge petition and voting on paycheck protection relief.

RECOGNIZING CLAYTON BOOTHE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young man in my district, Clayton Boothe, who was raised to value a broad span of interests. At just 17 years old, he is excelling in many of these areas.

He is captain of his quiz bowl team, founder of Maumelle High School's chess team, and a member of Arkansas' Governor's School and the National Honor Society. He is ranked top of his class, and he is one of 16,000 semifinalists in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program out of 1.5 million nationwide applicants.

He is a writer who is working on a novel. He is a musician and a member of the Arkansas Sympathy Youth Orchestra. He hopes to attend Northwestern University in Chicago, and I expect him to succeed wherever life takes him. I congratulate Clayton on his hard work and keen interests.

Keep it up, Clayton, and make Maumelle High School and your family proud.

FAREWELL ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE of New York. Mr. Speaker, this may be the last time I get to address this hallowed Chamber, and for that I am grateful for this opportunity.

I want to start by thanking my staff. It may come as a surprise to some of my colleagues, as well as the press, but I do have some flaws. My staff worked with me for 2 years—some of them even longer—and together we—not me, we—accomplished an extraordinary amount for the great people of southern Brooklyn and Staten Island.

As I leave to pursue new adventures, I want to depart, though, with a few words of optimism for our great country, as well as a warning.

We live in a tough time for truth, and it is causing faith in our government to corrode. There is not a person in this Chamber who thinks the American people trust us. There is not a person sitting here right now who thinks the American people believe in our government.

This didn't happen overnight. It was death by a thousand disappointments, a thousand scandals, and a thousand lives broken by politicians who mock a virus until it kills their neighbor; who carve us up into blue States and red States, yet have the nerve to question someone else's patriotism; who saw no problem whatsoever giving a trillion-dollar tax cut to Big Pharma and companies that are killing our planet, but then they clutch their pearls when we say we want to be there for poor people and when we say we want to be there for the most vulnerable.

During my few years in politics, I have seen how we can beat back this festering cynicism: when we fight like hell for what is right, especially for those who need us most, when we bring converts to our side by promoting truth where there is injustice, and by appealing to common sense and—God forbid—humanity.

I have seen constituents who thought their government was there only to screw them over; begin to hope that maybe that wasn't the case when we passed the Victim Compensation Fund; and when we cut through the red tape to finally begin the construction of the East Shore Seawall, the largest resiliency project in New York City history. I saw it when we reunited families torn apart by the racist Muslim

ban and when we secured millions to combat the opioid epidemic.

In retrospect, those were the good days.

Then there were days when it felt like our politics was absolutely irredeemable, when a peaceful march for justice in my community was used as a weapon to tell my constituents that it is impossible to believe that Black Lives Matter while also believing that the vast majority of police officers are heroes. Those marchers were called thugs and they were called rioters just for believing that peaceful protests could change this country. The public was told that their movement was dangerous and not something you should listen to but something you should be afraid of. Yet for those who saw it with their own eyes, the truth cut through all those smears.

I remember being outside of a supermarket. It was raining, and I was miserable. An off-duty police officer came up to talk to me. He assured me he was no Democrat, but he had been working that day of the march. He had been skeptical, but those young men and women changed his mind, and he was proud of them. That officer saw past the lies and past the differences others have used to divide us. He witnessed his fellow Americans in pain, and for him it changed everything. In typical Staten Island fashion, though, right after, he told me he wasn't going to vote for me and that I was going to lose for a thousand other reasons.

But conversations like that refreshed my memory and my faith that this country can one day live up to its promise. We can put the government back on the side of working people from New York City to Washington, D.C., and everywhere in between.

That is the America we know is possible: One where, in the face of unimaginable vitriol, we don't hate back; in the face of unimaginable adversity, we don't give up fighting until it doesn't matter what you look like and where you come from, but in this country you can accomplish your dreams—a safe America, a just America, our America.

In light of recent electoral results, some have begun to wonder if Democrats should soft-pedal the fight for equal justice, if they should take a step back from fighting for economic security or even just give up. I am here to say absolutely not. This cannot wait. Justice cannot wait. If you aren't willing to risk everything to build a better country, then you do not belong here in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, to close, representing Staten Island and south Brooklyn has been the honor of my life. On behalf of Leigh, Miles, and myself, I thank the people of the 11th Congressional District for this extraordinary privilege. I am not sure what life has in store for us, but I will be on the front lines making sure our city and our country live up to its promise.

May God bless my colleagues with the strength to do what is right, and may God bless this great country.

REMEMBERING CHAIRMAN BOB SMITH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and honor the life and legacy of former Congressman Bob Smith. An Oregon native—born in Portland and raised in Burns—he had a deep understanding of what it meant to be an Oregonian and he knew the needs of the surrounding communities, especially the rural part of our State.

He went to Willamette University in Salem and received a degree in agriculture. He would go on to put that degree to work on his own ranch.

In 1960, Bob's career as a public servant began when he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives. He served in the State house until 1972. He was speaker of the Oregon House during the 1969 and 1971 sessions.

I remember as a 13-year-old youngster going with my father, whom they were recruiting to run for the legislature, down to Salem to see Bob Smith and the speaker of the house. I was about this tall. I looked up, and here was this giant of a man. He was a giant of a man in Oregon politics, but a very kind soul.

He then served in the State senate from 1973 to 1982. When Oregon got its fifth congressional seat, he ran for that and was elected. He actually ran 31 different times for election and never lost a single one.

In the State house, Bob passed a number of pieces of legislation. He always stood up for farmers and ranchers in eastern Oregon and for lower taxes. He led the effort in the Congress to pass a balanced budget amendment. In the State senate, he actually helped pass the kicker law, which said when Oregon collects more tax revenue than anticipated, that goes back to the taxpayer. That went into the constitution eventually.

Bob went on to serve here, as I said, for 14 years, from 1983 to 1995, and then came back to chair the Agriculture Committee when he returned from 1997 to 1999.

I am joined here on the floor today by a colleague from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS), who served with Chairman Smith on the Agriculture Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS).

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is an honor to be here. Discussing my Agriculture Committee chairman and my colleague for 2½ years, Bob Smith, is truly an honor.

When I was sworn in, in a special election and I first surveyed this body, one of the faces I recognized was this huge figure of a man standing at the back brass rail. I can still almost see