

only Ohio, but also had the experience and understood how to get things done here in Washington. And that made Kevin Fitzpatrick a natural fit as my legislative director.

I have served on three committees during my 25 years here in Congress: Foreign Affairs, Judiciary, and Small Business. Kevin has had a profound impact on my policy agenda on all three committees over the years.

On Foreign Affairs, we have worked on more issues than I could possibly relate here, but some of our most significant accomplishments have been in advancing the relationship between the United States and our democratic ally, Taiwan, in the face of the existential threat posed by communist China. Kevin was instrumental in helping me create the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, along with former Congressmen Robert Wexler, Dana Rohrabacher, and then-Representative, now Senator SHERROD BROWN.

Over the years, we have pushed many pro-democracy and pro-Taiwan initiatives, one of the most significant being the Taiwan Travel Act, which will now allow diplomatic visits between top U.S. and Taiwanese officials.

Judiciary. Throughout his life, Kevin has been a warrior for the unborn. He has played a significant role in the promotion of pro-life legislative initiatives. Those efforts ultimately led to the most significant Federal pro-life legislation enacted since the infamous Roe v. Wade decision, the Federal ban on partial birth abortion signed into law by President Bush back in 2003 and ultimately upheld to be constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. Kevin was front and center in those efforts, and I know he is as proud of that accomplishment as I am.

In recent years, Kevin has led the Small Business Committee as my staff director. In that role, Kevin has put together what I believe to be the best committee staff on the Hill: Jan Oliver, Joe Hartz, Rob Yavor, Delia Barr, Allison Kerman, Vivian Ling, and Rachel Emmons.

Perhaps the greatest testament to Kevin's leadership occurred earlier this year with the creation and implementation of the Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP. This critical program saved millions of small businesses across America that would otherwise have gone under during the COVID-19 pandemic, and most importantly saved over 50 million jobs.

Finally, during the course of Kevin Fitzpatrick's career, he has hired, trained, and mentored so many people currently working both on and off the Hill. He has shared his knowledge, his experience, and his commitment to improving our country with each and every one of them.

It will now be their turn to teach new staff members how to make the people's House truly work for the people.

They couldn't have had a better teacher, a better mentor, or a better example than Kevin Fitzpatrick.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Kevin for his service, his dedication, and his friendship. He will be missed.

THE NIGHTMARE IS ALMOST OVER

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to declare that our 4-year public nightmare is almost at an end.

Next month, Joe Biden will be sworn in as the 46th President after an honest, free, and fair election, and an ugly chapter in America's history will be over.

No more governing by tweet. No more constant lies. No more insulting our Nation while praising our enemies. No more incompetent family members conducting national policy. No more gross profiteering off of the Presidency. No more children in cages. No more promoting of white supremacy. No more attacks on American institutions like the FBI, the courts, schools, and the post office and so many others. No more payoffs. No more conspiracy theories. No more recounting ballots. And a future with no more coronavirus, hopefully.

For the last 4 years, we have been told to make America great. When Joseph R. Biden is sworn in as President of the United States, we can say that we finally did.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ELECTION THOUGHTS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we just wrapped up an election here, and we were told this election was about hatred and bias. I don't really know any haters on my campaign, and I don't think there is this huge amount of bias, in general, in this country that some people tried to make this election about.

Recently, I did have a woman come up to me from my district talking about real bias and perhaps hatred in America. She talked about her children who went to college. Her and her husband got married before they had children, and both worked hard and made an average income. Both of her kids had about 30 or \$40,000 in student loan debt, and she had good kids who were working hard to pay off that debt.

But she felt that if her and her husband had not gotten married, the government probably would have given them something they couldn't get as married and working people. Her kids may have gotten \$30,000 plus in Pell Grants, and they were probably eligible for other grants. At least in the State of Wisconsin you would receive similar State grants, as well as be eligible for a work study program.

Unfortunately, her kids were not eligible for that, and at least she feels they are being significantly discriminated against, and hatred is being displayed by the American Government. Here is real hatred and real bias.

Is she right? Is there really U.S. Government hatred and bias against people who got married?

How did this happen? I have talked about this issue before, and people imply that maybe it happened by mistake, not just the Pell Grant program, but other government assistance programs just inadvertently sprung up and punished people who got married.

However, in this election I had a little bit of an eye-opener.

In this election we had Black Lives Matter get involved. If you read the website, which was eventually scrubbed or taken down in part about two months ago with a month left to go in the campaign, on its website it said, first of all, two of its three co-founders were trained Marxists, and secondly, it said one of their goals was to disrupt the western-prescribed nuclear family structure.

First of all, I think they are a little bit historically inaccurate. I think there are all sorts of cultures in the world, other than just European cultures, in which you have a wife and a husband and kids. But nevertheless, they clearly consider it a problem. And it doesn't surprise me that this group would have this on their website that they consider it a problem, since they were founded by two Marxists.

And when I think of Marxists, I think of three things: First of all, of course, I think of Socialism and the fact that government should own everything, and we shouldn't have lots of different people own lots of different businesses or different rental units or what have you. They want everything controlled by the government.

The other two things I always think of when I think of Marxism is: First of all, they hate God. And whether you are talking about countries in which Marxists take over, be it Red China, Vietnam, Russia, they follow Karl Marx in saying abolition of religion is demanded for the true happiness of people. So when I associate Marxism and people associating with such a group, I associate the hatred for God.

But the other thing we have got to remember is Karl Marx himself was very antifamily, and that is why I assume on the website it appeared that Black Lives Matter wants to disrupt the western-prescribed nuclear family.

So here is a group that I am sure cheers programs which penalizes people who are married and discriminates in favor of people who aren't married. And to my surprise, people did not run from this group.

To me, every politician should say for some groups, I am not going to ask for your help. Years ago, when I was in the State legislature, I fought the drug companies who I think are over-drugging our kids. I fought the drug companies who I think were prescribing too

many opiates, which were leading to deaths, and so, I don't take money from the prescription drug companies. I don't take money from the payday lenders because I think it is a horrible service, and they rip people off. I have known people who got cancer. I don't take money from the cigarette companies.

So you don't have to take support from everybody who is willing to support you. But when Black Lives Matter puts on their website, we disrupt the western-prescribed nuclear family, and we have an American government right now which, to me, is discriminating against couples who are married, you have to wonder, was this by chance, or are these people who want to set up government programs to discriminate against families?

□ 1130

I would like to give people a chance to publicize this problem in hearings and see if there's something we can do about this problem.

So I have asked the chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, which has something to do with programs like Pell grants, to have a hearing and see whether my constituent is right: Are we really, in the United States Government, expressing strong bias against couples who are married, and penalizing them?

I have forwarded a request like this to the chairman of the committee.

I think it is a problem that has been out there ever since Lyndon Johnson, in the 1960s, began his war on the family.

I personally think he was the worst President in this country's history, and it is not just because he declared war on the family. He did a bad job in prosecuting the Vietnam war, his personal life was a hodgepodge, but of all the bad things he did, I think his programs aimed at destroying the family was the worst thing.

So I guess to illustrate that Members of the other party are also a little bit concerned about these programs that penalize what they refer to as the traditional western family, though it is the traditional family used by people who are not western European at all, I would like to ask for such a hearing.

HONORING NEW YORK STATE SENATOR BETTY LITTLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) for 5 minutes.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of New York State Senator Betty Little, an extraordinarily dedicated and effective public servant for the north country, to congratulate her on her upcoming retirement.

Betty has dedicated decades of her life to representing the hardworking families of upstate New York, both during her time in the New York State Assembly and the State Senate.

Senator Little first began her career in public service at the local level, and served in many capacities while also working as a teacher before her election to the New York State Assembly in 1995. She was later elected to the State Senate in 2002.

Betty has accomplished countless legislative results over the years, expanding benefits for military families, saving hardworking taxpayer dollars, protecting jobs in the Adirondacks, and always standing up for the people of the north country.

While petite in stature, Betty is truly a giant among public servants.

Senator Little sought election to public office as a working mother, a time when this was a lot harder and less in vogue. She quietly shattered innumerable glass ceilings and paved the way for generations of women to come.

I am proud to call Betty Little a legislative partner, a role model, and a dear friend.

I offer Betty my most sincere congratulations and gratitude, and I wish her and her family all the best in this next chapter.

It is my privilege to highlight her accomplishments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 33 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send Your spirit of wisdom upon the Members of the people's House as they move toward the completion of their work in the 116th Congress. After a long year of stress in our Nation, due to a plague which continues to swell, give them the resolve to address the needs of all our citizens and communities.

Bless those many heroic men and women who continue to labor, at great danger to themselves, to care for those who suffer from COVID. Bring healing to those who do suffer, and comfort those who mourn the loss of so much this past year. Lord, have mercy.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF DANIEL MILLER

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Daniel Miller, the eldest of six children, from Galesburg, Illinois.

A member of the varsity football team, his principal described him as "always smiling" and "caring about everyone."

In 2004, he joined the Air Force and continued to lead as a senior airman. With great courage, he defused explosive devices and worked with chemical and biological weapons.

On January 7, 2007, Senior Airman Miller, Senior Airman Elizabeth A. Loncki, and Technical Sergeant Timothy R. Weiner all made the ultimate sacrifice, attempting to defuse a car bomb in Iraq.

Our Nation will never be able to repay them, but it is our duty to remember their service. It is my honor today to commemorate the service of Senior Airman Miller with the dedication of the U.S. Post Office on East Main Street in Galesburg, Illinois, as the Senior Airman Daniel Miller Post Office Building.

STUDENT DEBT

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to address the crippling cost of student debt.

Although my Democratic colleagues and I agree substantially on the issue, we disagree substantially on the solution. We need to cure the disease, not just put a Band-Aid on it.

Absolving student debt or making college free altogether does not address