

And Representatives TERRI SEWELL and ROSA DELAURO strengthened the all-important enforcement provisions in this deal.

While we can't fix NAFTA overnight, this is a good start, and it will help our farmers and manufacturers create jobs. So I am glad we came together and passed this deal.

HONORING TIMOTHY SWEZEY

(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 the life of Mr. Timothy Swezey, who passed away on January 11 at the age of 50.

At the time of his passing, he was serving as the city manager of Darien, in the First Congressional District of Georgia. In his own words, that position was the dream job he always wanted. And, as city manager, Mr. Swezey did an exceptional job managing the unique challenges in Darien, including multiple hurricanes, preserving historical buildings, and new developments in the downtown area.

But nobody reaches their dream job without hard work. Prior to his time with the City of Darien, he worked as a substitute teacher, led city recreation departments, and headed a marine institute, all of which prepared him for his excellent public service in coastal Georgia.

Mr. Swezey is certainly leaving Darien a better place than he found it, and his work in the city will be missed.

His family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

HONORING THE JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE MIGRANT FAMILY SHELTER

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the migrants and asylum-seekers who have been sheltered by Jewish Family Service of San Diego.

On October 1, 2018, Jewish Family Service, along with other members of the San Diego Rapid Response Network, heeded an important call. These organizations were alerted that, due to a drastic change in policy, women and children were being left on the side of the road. They were released with nowhere to go and no resources to get to their final destination.

These nonprofits decided that they would not stand idly by and would assist these deserted families. Despite all the obstacles the organizations faced, they dedicated themselves to welcoming the stranger.

Jewish Family Service Shelter is now in its seventh location, where it has served 21,000 individuals. The shelters have provided a safe and welcoming

place to sleep, fresh new clothes, warm meals, and travel assistance.

I have had the opportunity to tour some of the facilities and believe they follow the teaching of Leviticus 19: "You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you. . . ."

I thank Jewish Family Service and the organizations of the San Diego Rapid Response Network for their efforts.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BRIAN WINTER

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life and service of retired Yakima County Sheriff Brian Winter. Sheriff Winter spent his life dedicated to serving his community and his country.

After graduating from Central Washington University, he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he served honorably in Operations Desert Shield and Iraqi Freedom.

As Brian returned to central Washington and worked his way up in the police force, he became known for prioritizing safety and security in schools throughout the county, his ability to build lasting community relationships, and creating meaningful connections with the Yakama Nation.

Soon after being elected as sheriff, he was diagnosed with ALS. Despite his condition, he was determined to serve his full 4-year term, which he did.

Up until the day he passed away on January 25, 2020, Sheriff Winter prioritized others before himself.

I urge my colleagues to join me in keeping his wife and children in our prayers.

His legacy throughout the Yakima Valley will not be forgotten.

HONORING ANN ELIZABETH CHRISTIAN ABRAMSON

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, the Virgin Islands is known for its queens—powerful, dynamic, passionate women who lead. We had Queen Coziah, who led the coal strikes; Queen Mary and "Bottom Belly," who led the labor strikes.

We lost one of our queens last week, Ann Elizabeth Christian Abramson, who was a loyal, fearless, compassionate leader, an entrepreneur, and a stateswoman.

She was born in 1924, the last of 15 children. Ever industrious, even as a child, she left school for several years to help her family when they were in need and then went back.

She was a businesswoman extraordinaire—taxicab business, con-

struction company, bus company, aggregate owner, and the list goes on. She was appointed to our municipal council, where she was the only woman to serve during her time, as well as to our legislature.

She gave tremendously to our community, but I know she also gave to me. When I went to this fearless leader to ask her for support, she not only gave me her support, but she gave me her time.

I saw how she cared for her islands and her people. She was chair of the state Republican Party and helped the Girl Scouts, hospitals, and chamber of commerce. She did it all.

Mr. Speaker, we will remember her legacy and hope she rests well.

NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR 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, 50 years ago, President Richard Nixon designated January as National Blood Donor Month.

The decision to choose January for this occasion was no coincidence. There is often a shortage of blood in January. In the winter months, eligible donors don't give blood as frequently because both the holidays as well as the cold and flu season are quickly approaching.

No matter the time of year, donating blood can help save a life, and there is always a demand. According to the American Red Cross, someone in the United States needs blood every 2 seconds, and approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed each and every day.

However, less than 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, and only 3 percent of those individuals donate annually.

There are often opportunities to donate blood right here on Capitol Hill, and the Red Cross is hosting its next blood drive on Wednesday, February 5, in the Ford Building. I would like to encourage those eligible to take some time out of their day to make a difference in the lives of others by donating blood.

CLEAN ENERGY AGENDA

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, climate change poses a serious threat to virtually every aspect of our lives, particularly in my State of New Hampshire, where our economy is deeply tied to nature.

That is why, earlier this week, I was proud to unveil my Clean Energy Agenda with climate experts from across my district to outline policies and bills that Congress can pass this year to move the United States toward a clean energy economy.

I have prioritized 25 bills, most of them bipartisan, that identify areas where Republicans and Democrats can work together to protect our planet and create good jobs.

From investing in energy efficiency to dramatically ramping up the deployment of renewable energy and decarbonizing our transportation sector, my agenda includes a wide range of bills that can be passed if we find the political will to act.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee to advance policies that pave a pathway toward a clean energy future.

HONORING EARL AND DORIS SORRELLS

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Earl and Doris Sorrells, a remarkable couple who dedicated their lives to bettering their community.

Earl passed away on January 2 and was preceded in death by his wife, Doris, last year, leaving a hole in the hearts of many. Since then, their beloved town of Raymond, Illinois, has shown a little less bright.

Almost everyone in town knew Earl. He ran a radio show that aired at 5:30 every morning, dedicated to the latest in Illinois agriculture. Off the air, Earl and Doris and their entire family worked hard running their small business in Raymond.

I knew Earl and Doris for over 25 years. They were some of the most generous people I have ever met, giving back in every way to their community, not only with their financial contributions, but with their time and talents as well. There is nothing that made them happier than their hometown of Raymond, Illinois—except, maybe, the St. Louis Cardinals.

Earl and Doris were very well loved by me and by everyone in central Illinois. They are missed immensely.

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MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 811, I call up the bill (H.R. 550) to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) 2019 marked the 74th anniversary of Allied victory in World War II.

(2) The United States Merchant Marine (in this section referred to as the “Merchant Marine”) was integral in providing the link between domestic production and the fighting forces overseas, providing combat equipment, fuel, food, commodities, and raw materials to troops stationed abroad.

(3) Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King acknowledged the indispensability of the Merchant Marine to the victory in a 1945 letter stating that, without the support of the Merchant Marine, “the Navy could not have accomplished its mission”.

(4) President, and former Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces, Dwight D. Eisenhower acknowledged that “through the prompt delivery of supplies and equipment to our armed forces overseas, and of cargoes representing economic and military aid to friendly nations, the American Merchant Marine has effectively helped to strengthen the forces of freedom throughout the world”.

(5) Military missions and war planning were contingent upon the availability of resources and the Merchant Marine played a vital role in this regard, ensuring the efficient and reliable transoceanic transport of military equipment and both military and civilian personnel.

(6) The Merchant Marine provided for the successful transport of resources and personnel despite consistent and ongoing exposure to enemy combatants from both the air and the sea, including from enemy bomber squadrons, submarines, and naval mines.

(7) The efforts of the Merchant Marine were not without sacrifices as the Merchant Marine likely bore a higher per-capita casualty rate than any of the military branches during the war.

(8) The Merchant Marine proved to be an instrumental asset on an untold number of occasions, participating in every landing operation by the United States Marine Corps, from Guadalcanal to Okinawa.

(9) The Merchant Marine provided the bulk tonnage of material necessary for the invasion of Normandy, an invasion which, according to a 1944 New York Times article, “would not have been possible without the Merchant Marine”.

(10) In assessing the performance of the Merchant Marine, General Eisenhower stated, “every man in this Allied command is quick to express his admiration for the loyalty, courage, and fortitude of the officers and men of the Merchant Marine. We count upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us”.

(11) During a September 1944 speech, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated that the Merchant Marine had “delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult, and dangerous transportation job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of our merchant fleet’s record during this war”.

(12) The feats and accomplishments of the Merchant Marine are deserving of broader public recognition.

(13) The United States will be forever grateful and indebted to these merchant mariners for their effective, reliable, and courageous transport of goods and resources in enemy territory throughout theaters of every variety in World War II.

(14) The goods and resources transported by the Merchant Marine saved thousands of lives

and enabled the Allied Powers to claim victory in World War II.

(15) The Congressional Gold Medal would be an appropriate way to shed further light on the service of the merchant mariners in World War II and the instrumental role they played in winning that war.

(16) Many students of the Merchant Marine Academy lost their lives as they sailed through enemy-controlled waters or unloaded cargo in overseas combat areas, and, as a result, the United States Merchant Marine Academy is the only institution among the 5 Federal academies to be authorized to carry a battle standard as part of its color guard.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE MUSEUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the American Merchant Marine Museum, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the American Merchant Marine Museum should make the gold medal given to the Museum under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the United States Merchant Marine and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the United States Merchant Marine.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. ENGEL moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 550 with the amendments specified in section 4 of House Resolution 811.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 811, the question shall be divided among two House amendments. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 811, the portion of the divided question comprising the amendment specified in section 4(a) of House Resolution 811 shall be considered first.

The text of House amendment to Senate amendment specified in section 4(a) of House Resolution 811 is as follows: