

then became part of the major leagues following Jackie Robinson.

There are lots of players you will learn a lot about at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City. The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City tells this story and tells it well. They don't just tell the story of African-American organized baseball, but they really tell the story of a thriving community beyond that, which is an important part of our legacy.

Obviously, a more important part of our legacy is to bring everybody together, but in those years, around the time the Negro leagues were formed, African-American communities in arts and entertainment and in businesses were significant. Part of that story is told there as well.

The 100th anniversary of the founding of the Negro leagues is an opportunity for us to talk about that. These leagues had great talent. In fact, the Pittsburgh Grays would play here in Washington half of the time. Half of their games—their so-called home games—they played in Washington at Griffith Stadium, where the Washington Senators played. I don't think there is any argument that when the Grays played here—the African-American team, the Negro leagues team played here—there was a greater crowd than there was when the Senators played, and there was better baseball. These were great and exciting times in baseball. I think that is well told at the museum.

TIM KAINÉ, a Kansas Citian who now represents Virginia in Congress, and I are working together to commemorate the centennial of the Negro Leagues with the minting of a new coin by the Treasury. We are joined over in the House by Congressman EMANUEL CLEAVER, from Kansas City in my State of Missouri, and Congressman STEVE STIVERS from Ohio.

The way the minting of this coin works, of course, is that there is no cost to the taxpayers. You print a coin. Congress decides that this is an issue worthy of recognizing, and you mint the coin. I think I said print. Mint is more accurate. Once all of the costs of minting those coins have been met—and there is no taxpayer cost—then the money goes to the recipient organization from that point on. There would be a gold coin and a silver coin and a bronze coin at different levels available for people to buy.

Now, 75 of our Senate colleagues, including the Presiding Officer and me, have cosponsored this legislation. I think we will get it passed very soon. With any luck, we might even pass it right here in the next day or so during Black History Month.

I want to recognize Bob Kendrick, the president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, for his support in encouraging us to see if we could make this coin a reality and all that he and his board have done to preserve the history of Negro leagues baseball.

I have been certainly glad to take my son Charlie to the museum. I go there with some frequency. A few years ago, I encouraged Major League Baseball to have an event there when they were having the All-Star Game in Kansas City. I don't think there was a player who went to that event at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum who wasn't both impressed and touched by what they saw there. It is an important part of our history.

Another part of our history that very closely relates to this is something I will be a part of later this afternoon. Congressman DAVID TRONE of Maryland, over on the House side, and I, along with Senator DURBIN and Congresswoman CLAY from St. Louis and Congresswoman WAGNER from St. Louis, are sending a letter to the Baseball Hall of Fame telling them that they need to include Curt Flood in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Curt Flood was a great player and should be part of the Baseball Hall of Fame just on his playing skills alone. He played with the Cardinals most of his entire career—7 consecutive years. That included two World Series pennants in 1964 and 1967. He won seven Gold Gloves in those 7 years and was designated the best center fielder in the National League.

I remember that team well. We were Cardinals fans in my house. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, you didn't have many sports on TV. We listened to virtually every Cardinals game we could hear on the radio. My mom and dad were dairy farmers. I remember being out hauling hay at night, and whoever was driving the truck should have been almost deaf because if there was a Cardinals game going on, the radio would be as loud as it possibly could be so those of us out tossing the bales on the hay truck could hear the Cardinals game.

I also remember—and I checked myself yesterday to be sure I was accurate—but on that Curt Flood team, that 1964 team, it was Bill White at first base; Julian Javier at second base, Dick Groat, short stop; Ken Boyer, third base, and Tim McCarver catching. Most of the time, and always if available, Bob Gibson was pitching. In the outfield was Lou Brock—the great Lou Brock. Curt Flood was in center field, and Mike Shannon in right field. By the way, Mike Shannon still announces the Cardinals games on the radio and occasionally on television.

It was a great team, and Curt Flood was an important part of that team. Frankly, he should be in the Hall of Fame just because of that—the two World Series, Most Valuable Player, the best center fielder in baseball, at least in the National League, for 7 years straight.

In late 1969, the Cardinals decided they were going to trade Curt Flood to the Phillies. I don't think Curt Flood necessarily had anything against the Phillies, but he didn't want to be traded against his will. So he wrote a letter

to the commissioner of baseball. In that letter he said: "After 12 years in the Major Leagues, I do not feel that I am a piece of property to be bought and sold irrespective of my wishes." That began the challenge of the reserve clause in baseball. Maybe it is particularly significant here in Black History Month that an African-American player was the one who challenged the reserve clause.

With the reserve clause in baseball, you would play for your team's owner as long as you wanted to play unless your team's owner decided you would play for someone else. Then you would play for that person as long as they wanted you to play, unless you decided you didn't want to play baseball anymore.

It was Curt Flood who challenged that. He lost his Supreme Court case. It was a 5-to-4 loss in the Supreme Court. But it didn't take too many years before not only was the reserve clause reversed but Curt Flood was recognized in Federal legislation.

There is a copy of that single-page letter filed as part of the 1970 case at the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown. If there is a copy of Curt Flood's letter in the Hall of Fame, then, Curt Flood should be in the Hall of Fame.

I hope those looking back at what is called the golden years of baseball look at players who didn't get into the Hall of Fame, take our advice, look at Curt Flood, look at the difference he has made for players playing the game today, and put him in the Hall of Fame.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

IMMIGRATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I come to the floor today to say that we have gotten some good news this week from our Southern border. We are making progress on the wall that President Trump has fought so hard for, and that progress will be further supported by billions of dollars in new appropriations funding to reach the President's goal of 450 miles by 2021. Think about it—450 miles that have been secured.

What we do know is that as a result of all of these ramped-up security efforts, border apprehensions are down 78 percent from last May's high of over 130,000. We have had falling—falling—numbers every single month for the last 8 months. This is a very good thing. It shows the word is getting out that we are serious about our sovereignty, about securing our border, about ending the access that traffickers—human traffickers, drug traffickers—have had on that border. That is a good thing.

This good news is clouded a little bit by the reality that all is still not well. Border Patrol officials estimate that nearly 1 million migrants—I want you to think about that number: nearly 1 million migrants—crossed our border illegally and evaded apprehension in

fiscal 2019. That is the severity of this problem. Think about it—1 million people, additional people. Think about the size of a population of 1 million people. That is the number that moved into our country. We do not know who they are. We do not know where they have come from. We do not know if they are traffickers. We do not know if they wish us well or their intent for coming into our country.

While things are trending in the right direction, I think it is fair to say we are not out of the woods yet on this issue of illegal immigration. Until we get this influx of illegal aliens under control and manage the fallout of allowing so many people to come into this country and live illegally, this is what we have.

Every town is a border town and every State will remain a border State because of the problems they have to face every single day.

Let me give an example. On December 29, 2018, Knoxville, TN, fire chief D. J. Corcoran and his wife Wendy's lives were changed forever, and their happy, healthy family was brutally transformed into a grieving Angel Family. On that day, an illegal alien in Tennessee struck and killed their 22-year-old son, Pierce Corcoran. It was a head-on car crash. Pierce died that day. A few months later, that illegal alien was deported to Mexico.

I have to tell you, for me, as I have worked with the Corcorans since this time and shared their grief, this is an unsatisfying end to a tragic series of events that never should have happened because the man responsible for Pierce's death never should have been in Tennessee in the first place.

That story is heartbreaking. Unfortunately, it is not unique. In 2019, another Tennessean, named Debbie Burgess, was killed in a hit-and-run accident caused by an illegal alien with a lengthy criminal record.

Just last week in Sevier County, TN—and this is something that has shaken the entire community—two elementary school children walking to school were hit by an illegal alien who fled the scene. Tragic.

Every Member of this body is well aware that our country's permissive attitude toward illegal immigration has real-life consequences. Our constant debate over policy and funding does not exist solely in the abstraction of politics. Starting right now, we must look internally and ask ourselves what changes we can make to disincentivize illegal entry into the United States. What can we do?

It seems so easy to people: Come across the border illegally. You might be able to get benefits. You can have access to education. You can work. There is a way to do this and live in the shadows.

How do we disincentivize this?

While Tennessee, along with a majority of States, prohibits driver's licenses for illegal aliens, a growing number of States are moving in the opposite di-

rection and allowing dangerous, open-border-style policies.

This month, I introduced the Stop Greenlighting Driver Licenses for Illegal Immigrants Act, and its purpose is precisely what the title of this bill says it will do. You can see from the poster, there are some States in red. If you live in one of those States, your State—your State—has agreed to give driver's licenses to illegal aliens.

Let me tell you a little bit more about this. Once it is signed into law, the bill will halt certain Department of Justice grant funding to States that defy Federal immigration law, non-complying States—that means those States that say: We are not going to comply with Federal law. Oh, no, not us. We are going to be a sanctuary for those who are illegally in the country and are choosing to break the law.

They decided they are going to be a sanctuary for illegal aliens. That is what you call a noncomplying State. Those States will no longer enjoy access to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. This is a program that was created to fund local law enforcement and criminal justice initiatives.

In 2019, States that issued driver's licenses to illegal immigrants received over \$50 million from this program, so their choice to defy the law will result in no small sacrifice. It is their choice. They can choose, if they want to, to say: We refuse to comply with Federal law. They can make that choice, but they are not going to get taxpayer money through law enforcement grants. This is common sense.

I want to encourage my colleagues to think back to the fear and confusion that we all experienced in the weeks after 9/11. I am sure you remember that time. I remember that time. I remember that feeling of, what can we do? Not only had we known tremendous loss, we had discovered that we were not nearly as secure as we thought we were in this country.

One of the loopholes we discovered came about because people said: How in the world could these terrorists, hijackers, have so easily obtained a State-issued driver's license that allowed them to board those planes and carry out those deadly attacks? People said: How could this have happened? How could they have done this?

We found a loophole. What did we do? We closed that loophole. We passed the REAL ID Act. This isn't done as a form of repression; it is a practical way of managing a vulnerability that was found in State agency paperwork. The REAL ID Act is something we are all complying with now. You have to take a Social Security number. You have to take proof of residence. You have to take other documentation that shows you are who you claim to be.

Less than 20 years later, look at where we are. Thirteen States and the District of Columbia have regressed into more lax policies—pre-9/11 policies. Often, they only require a pass-

port or a consular card as proof of identity.

Here is the kicker: If you do not have the right documents—meaning you don't have a passport, you don't have a birth certificate, you don't have a Social Security number, you don't have proof of residency, you don't have proof of employment—these States are saying: Never mind; doesn't matter. We are going to let you sign an affidavit—an affidavit—to say you are not able to secure a Social Security number.

What are these States doing? They are creating, again, a vulnerability in the system. There are people who will go sign an affidavit. Guess what. All of a sudden, they have a REAL ID. These States say: Oh, we are going to stamp it for State-use only. I think they say that with a wink-wink, nod-nod because they know they are putting a vulnerability in that system. They are letting people that—we do not know who they are, we do not know their intent for being in this country, but they are going to allow this reckless policy to go into effect. And it is reckless. It goes hand in hand with other broad sanctuary rules that increase crime and that frustrate the efforts of our local law enforcement officials.

Here is another bit of good news: The courts are coming down on the side of security. Yesterday, a Federal appeals court—the Second Circuit Court in New York—upheld President Trump's authority to enact anti-illegal immigration, anti-sanctuary policies similar to what would be codified in my legislation. It would allow for those funds to be restricted for those entities that are making a choice, taking a vote, and deciding they don't want to comply with Federal law.

I will tell you, I should not have to stand on the floor of the Senate and beg our colleagues to support policies that stand with the rule of law and prevent tragedies like the deaths of Pierce Corcoran and Debbie Burgess.

I ask my colleagues to join me in this effort, join me in standing with the rule of law. Join me in standing with these Angel Families who know grief that I wish no one had to know and experience. Join me in supporting the Stop Greenlighting Driver Licenses for Illegal Immigrants Act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. GARDNER pertaining to the introduction of S. Res. 514 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. GARDNER. I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.