

fishing with his boys and father, traveling the world with his wife and close friends, and making a mess in his barn.

Captain Sagel is survived by his wife, Pam, and his two sons Spenser and Austin. I appreciate his lifetime of service to our community.

2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Monday I had the opportunity to announce my 2021 Legislative Agenda by hosting with my wife Roxane, press conferences across the Second District of South Carolina in West Columbia, Aiken, North Augusta, Barnwell, with presentations in Orangeburg and Lexington. My legislative priorities for this year begin with defeating the pandemic by working with the Governor Henry McMaster to improve testing and ensure fast access to a safe vaccine. This year's agenda also focuses on creating jobs and economic growth by protecting 'Right to Work' laws in South Carolina and advocating for current and future missions at the Savannah River Site.

This year more than ever before it is important to promote conservative, limited government solutions. The 2021 agenda includes supporting a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution and supporting our police. I will also continue to promote peace through strength and ensure the security of our country, strengthen alliances for information and medical resource sharing, and support military families.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

ROE V. WADE

SPEECH OF

HON. JAKE LATURNER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Mr. LATURNER. Madam Speaker, this past January 22 marked the 48th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision. Now more than ever, America must continue to unapologetically stand for the sanctity of all human life. As the representative of Kansas' Second Congressional District, my constituents can be assured that I will always protect pro-life values at home and in Washington. I promised that I would be a fearless pro-life advocate throughout my public service, and I will keep my word to those who elected me.

In Kansas, I am proud to put my full support behind the "Value Them Both Amendment" that recently passed the Kansas Legislature. Currently, there is a legal basis for an unrestricted, unlimited abortion access in Kansas due to the *Hodes & Nauser v. Schmidt* decision handed down by our liberal Kansas Supreme Court. The Value Them Both Amendment will allow for commonsense regulation on the abortion industry that protects babies and mothers. Thankfully, both the Kansas House and Senate passed the constitutional

amendment by a two-thirds vote. Now the voters of Kansas will have the final say during a statewide election in 2022, where I am confident Kansans will choose life.

I will always unapologetically defend the sanctity of all human life, especially the most vulnerable among us—the unborn. I promised that I would be a fearless pro-life advocate throughout my public service, and I will keep my word to those who elected me to serve in Congress. After being sworn into office on January 3rd, I immediately joined the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus as my first congressional caucus and cosponsored several key pieces legislation which would defund Planned Parenthood, prohibit any abortion after 20 weeks, and prohibit the use of federal tax dollars for abortion.

Despite all of this, we are already beginning to see the drastic consequences of the 2020 presidential election for the pro-life community. President Joe Biden is wasting no time to advance his radical pro-abortion agenda. The Biden administration announced that they intend to revoke the Mexico City Policy, which bans United States taxpayer funding to foreign organizations that provide abortions. President Biden and his Democrat counterparts will shamefully send Americans' hard-earned money to other countries with the intention of funding abortions—this is deeply wrong and sends a horrible message about our values to the rest of the world.

Unfortunately, it does not end there. President Biden also proudly campaigned on ending the Hyde Amendment, a bipartisan, pro-life public policy that has been in place for more than four decades that restricts federal funding for abortions. If you didn't know, President Biden had previously opposed taxpayer-funded abortion for nearly 50 years, until he decided to run for president and abandon his conviction on the issue. I pray that President Biden will appeal to his better angels and return to a commonsense support of the Hyde Amendment, especially if he truly wants to unite our country. Forcing American taxpayers to subsidize unrestricted, unlimited abortions will only further our divisions and isolate our fellow Americans.

We must reaffirm our commitment to defending the most vulnerable lives among us—the unborn. Pro-life Americans, especially pro-life Kansans, will not rest until innocent human life is protected from the abortion industry. Life will win.

DIVIDED FAMILIES REUNIFICATION ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the reintroduction of my Divided Families Reunification Act, and to raise the voices of families who have been separated for decades both across the DMZ and across the Pacific Ocean.

Over seventy years ago, millions of Koreans were plunged into a harrowing war that brought misery, death, and destruction to their lives. Since then, the war has been frozen by an armistice agreement—signed on July 27, 1953—that persists to today. The division of

the Korean Peninsula into South and North Korea separated millions of Koreans from their family members. Through the years, there have been some agreed upon reunions between South and North Koreans. For Korean Americans, however, there is no pathway for such reunions, as they have not been permitted to participate in these inter-Korean family reunions. Many of these Americans are in their 70s through 90s, and time is of the essence to be reunited with their families. I have had the honor to meet some of these divided Korean American family members, and it breaks my heart that their chance of a reunion with their loved ones grows less likely each day.

As a member of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee on the House Appropriations Committee, I am proud to have secured provisions in the Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021 accompanying reports that support the reunification of Korean Americans and their families in North Korea.

The unresolved status of the war continues to impact multiple generations of Korean Americans, particularly women, in myriad ways. All these years later, many survivors of the war are still haunted by their trauma. And younger generations who are responsible for their caregiving often internalize this unresolved grief.

This is why I am proud to reintroduce the Divided Families Reunification Act with Congressman VAN TAYLOR, which requires the Secretary of State or a designee to consult with officials in South Korea on potential opportunities to reunite Korean American families with family members in North Korea. This bill will also require the Special Envoy on North Korean Human Rights to submit a report on the opportunities for video reunions between Korean Americans and family members in North Korea.

I encourage all my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan bill, which unanimously passed the House of Representatives during the 116th Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SHELDON ADELSON

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2021

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD an article honoring Sheldon Adelson, who was a truly great American. The following article, by Matt Brooks the Executive Director of the Republican Jewish Coalition, published in Newsweek on January 15, 2021, honors his incredible life and legacy.

Horatio Alger wrote rags-to-riches stories in the 1800s about poor boys who became wealthy through pluck, luck and good deeds. Sheldon Adelson did him one better, actually living a rags-to-riches story rooted in hard work, vision, courage—and good deeds. With Sheldon's passing, we have lost not only a remarkably successful business leader and an extraordinary philanthropist, but someone I was privileged to call a dear mentor and friend.

It is well known that Sheldon came from humble beginnings, as the child of immigrants living in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. More than 80 years later, he still

viewed the world through the eyes of a poor kid from Dorchester. As one of the richest men in America, he could afford the finest wines and any luxury foods he desired. But those who knew him knew that the best time to meet with Sheldon was on Friday over lunch in his office, because that was his favorite day, when his staff would bring him hot dogs and sliders for lunch and he was sure to be in a good mood. He never lost his enjoyment for those kinds of simple things.

More than that, Sheldon never lost touch with people. Most of those who achieve his level of success spend a lot of money on staff to serve as buffers between them and other people. Sheldon didn't do that. At Republican Jewish Coalition events, people would be lined up 20- or 30-deep to say hello and take pictures with him. He obliged them, even in the middle of eating his dinner. He gave out his cell phone number freely and enjoyed being with people, talking to them and listening to them.

Sheldon was a serial entrepreneur who created dozens of companies over the years. He was often called a visionary leader, which is true, but he had more than just vision. Hard work and courageous confidence (or outrageous confidence, to your detractors) are required to achieve great things. Sheldon had a vision of Las Vegas as more than just a gambling town. He knew that bringing in trade shows and business conventions and offering grand resorts with the finest amenities and big, beautiful rooms would make Las Vegas a top destination for millions of people. When he began building The Venetian, he was mocked and called a fool. But he never lost confidence in his vision of what Las Vegas could be, and today everyone is copying his integrated resort model.

The same was true in Asia, where Sheldon saw glittering potential in Macau, then a seedy, prostitution-ridden city. He turned it into Asia's own Las Vegas, on land reclaimed from the sea. People called him crazy, but once again he had the courage of his convictions and he was proven right. His confidence in his own vision and his willingness to take risks to bring that vision to fruition were the keys to his success.

That success made it possible for him and his beloved wife, Dr. Miriam Adelson, to engage in substantial and meaningful philanthropy—in the Jewish community and beyond. The Adelsons have been the largest funders of Taglit-Birthright Israel and supported Yad Vashem, United Hatzalah and Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, among other organizations in Israel. They built a \$65 million campus in Las Vegas for the Milton I. Schwartz Hebrew Academy and Adelson School, which serves students from preschool through high school. In addition, their Dr. Miriam and Sheldon G. Adelson Medical Research Foundation funds collaborative, cutting-edge medical research. Dr. Miriam Adelson has contributed enormously to drug addiction research and therapy, and the Adelsons built two major drug abuse treatment and research centers, in Las Vegas and in Israel.

The Adelsons have also extended tremendous kindness to friends and others in need. Sheldon showed the same compassion to his employees that he showed to everyone else. When COVID-19 hit, he refused to lay off his employees, and he continued to provide them with full pay and benefits throughout the pandemic.

Sheldon did what he thought was right, in business and in every other part of his life. If you wanted to argue with him, you had better know your stuff. Sheldon never got a college degree, but he was one of the smartest people I've ever known. He hated yes-men and respected people who were not intimidated by him or his wealth—people who would give him honest and sound counsel.

I have a very vivid memory of the first time I met Sheldon. I traveled to Las Vegas to tell him about the Republican Jewish Coalition (RJC) and try to get him involved in the organization. We had a wide-ranging conversation and, at one point, he asked me what I thought about something he'd said. I said I disagreed with him. You could have heard a pin drop in that room. Sheldon cocked his head and asked, "Why?" I answered him honestly, sure that I had lost all chance of getting him interested in the RJC, but he replied, "Yeah, I think you might be right." After that, Sheldon was very involved in the RJC and gave generously not only his money, but more importantly, his time and good counsel. Much of the RJC's innovation and impact over the last few years were made possible by his vision and leadership.

Sheldon was an American patriot, a dedicated defender of Israel and a living example of the American dream. His passing truly leaves an empty place where a vibrant, courageous and caring man once stood. He will be sorely missed.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, on the Budget, and as the Member of Congress for a congressional district that has experienced the worst of COVID-19 as a public health emergency and economic catastrophe, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 11, 447, which reorders budgetary priorities to provide \$1.9 trillion to allow Congress to take immediate and decisive action to crush the virus and vaccinate our people, build the economy back better, reopen schools, and provide needed support and assistance to state and local governments that have been asked to do too much with too little for far too long.

Mr. Speaker, by an overwhelming margin (79 percent), the public wants and is demanding that we act to provide more economic relief to address the damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents believe an additional relief package is necessary, while more than nine in ten (92 percent) Democrats and Democratic leaners say more coronavirus aid will be needed.

Even the most conservative Republicans favor more relief by a 56 percent-44 percent margin.

Nearly nine in ten of all adults (88 percent) in lower-income households say an additional package is necessary, while 81 percent of Republicans in lower-income households (81 percent) say additional aid is needed now.

Let me make clear at the outset Mr. Speaker, that nothing in this resolution precludes the reaching of a bipartisan and bicameral agreement to pass and fund the President's America Rescue Plan, which in nearly all material respects mirrors the Heroes Act passed by the House Democratic majority on May 15, 2020, nearly nine months ago, only to languish on

the Republican Senate Majority Leader's desk while hundreds of thousands of our fellow Americans succumbed to the virus and millions of others lost their livelihoods and businesses, and everyone faced an uncertain future.

It would send a powerful signal to the American people if our colleagues across the aisle would join us in this effort because nothing would better show them that their elected representatives can set partisanship aside and put America first.

And that bipartisan achievement would portend success for similar initiatives in the area of infrastructure, energy, national and homeland security, and criminal justice and immigration reform, all of which I am ready and willing to reach across the aisle to find common ground.

So, if our Republican colleagues are amenable to reaching an agreement on a legislative response that is commensurate to the challenge facing Americans, nothing in the legislation before us will preclude that from happening.

But have no doubt, if they refuse to be part of the solution, the unified and bicameral Democratic congressional majority, in coordination with the new Democratic Administration, will take the lead and act boldly to address and overcome the present crisis.

I would urge my Republican colleagues to heed the words of Republican Governor Jim Justice of West Virginia who said colorfully just a few days ago, "At this point in time in this nation, we need to go big. We need to quit counting the egg-sucking legs on the cows and count the cows and just move. And move forward and move right now."

The same sentiment was expressed more eloquently by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 when he memorably wrote:

The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country.

Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan action we took last December was a step in the right direction but only a long-delayed down payment; we cannot afford any more delays, especially since Republican stalling already caused a painful lapse in critical unemployment assistance last year, and additional unemployment assistance is set to expire on March 14, 2021.

That is why this resolution, which creates a failsafe alternative so that the American Rescue Plan can be debated, voted on, and passed, is absolutely crucial and the right thing to do and to do right now.

The American Rescue Plan proposed by President Biden takes a multipronged approach to tackling the public health and economic crises stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

No one is better prepared or more experienced to lead the American rescue than President Biden, who as Vice-President oversaw the implementation of the Recovery Act, which saved millions of jobs and rescued our economy from the Great Recession the Obama Administration and the nation inherited from a previous Republican administration.

And let us not forget that President Obama also placed his confidence in his vice-president to oversee the rescue of the automotive industry, which he did so well that the American car industry fully recovered its status as the world leader.