

measures to prevent the proliferation of invasive species in our nation's waterways and surface water infrastructure like reservoirs.

Specifically, our bipartisan bill targets the inadvertent introduction by recreational boating of invasive species from one federal reservoir to another. I thank former Congressman Ben McAdams (D-UT) for sponsoring this bill last Congress, which I have now taken over and improved. I also want to thank the following organizations for endorsing our bill: Western Governors' Association, National Wildlife Federation, National Marine Manufacturers Association, American Sportfishing Association, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Invasive species not only crowd out native wildlife but also cause billions of dollars in avoidable damage to our nation's critical water infrastructure, particularly in western states like California. In the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, I have seen the damage caused by invasive water hyacinth so dense you can literally walk on water. Proliferate quagga and zebra mussels clog water pipelines, reduce the capacity of canals, and damage dam operations for hydropower, water storage, and flood control. In 2007, California's Department of Water Resources detected invasive quagga mussels in the State Water Project and the Colorado River Aqueduct, which supply water for communities in southern California. All it takes for these mussels to invade a new lake or waterway is a cup of contaminated water containing their microscopic larvae carried inadvertently by a motorboat or recreational watercraft that has not been decontaminated properly.

The best defense against spreading invasive aquatic species is simple: inspection and dry-docking or similarly effective treatment of contaminated watercraft for a few days until they are no longer a threat. Mandatory inspections by state wildlife agencies have proven effective at keeping these invasive mussels out of Lake Tahoe, one of the most popular recreational areas in the American West. Under current law, federal agencies lack a similar inspection authority to state wildlife agencies, which cannot conduct inspections on federal land such as National Parks and National Forests.

Our bipartisan "Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels Act" would ensure that federal land management agencies like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service have the authority to conduct these inspections. In addition, our bill would establish a new U.S. Bureau of Reclamation grant program for inspection stations at federally managed reservoirs.

Madam Speaker, Congress can help to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species, protect our native wildlife, and reduce the need for more expensive remediation efforts. I urge all Members of the House to join us in cosponsoring the "Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels Act."

CELEBRATING TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE'S 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 22, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Texas Southmost College (TSC) as they celebrate their 95th anniversary, making it the oldest institution of higher learning in the Rio Grande Valley.

Texas Southmost College is the first accredited community college in the State of Texas. Originally named The Junior College of the Rio Grande Valley, TSC was established on August 9, 1926, with 84 students attending classes. In 1931 it was renamed the Brownsville Junior College, before its final renaming to Texas Southmost College in 1949. After a 20-year partnership with University of Texas at Brownsville, TSC's Board of Trustees voted to reestablish the college as an independent institution in 2011 and it was operating independently by 2013. The campus, spanning over 48 acres, is located in Brownsville, Texas on the historic site of Fort Brown, the first United States military post in Texas.

TSC was selected as a "Bright Spot" by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics in 2015 for its efforts to bridge the achievement gap and expand access to quality higher education. In addition to offering high-quality programs that lead to careers that are in demand, TSC is the most affordable institution of higher learning in the Rio Grande Valley, thanks to TSC's Board of Trustees decision in 2013 to reduce tuition by 40 percent. TSC currently offers two-year academic credential progression in over 50 programs of study for students pursuing bachelor's degrees, and career and technical education leading to industry certifications and associate degrees. They also offer dual-credit academic, career, and technical courses at no cost to students, saving families in the Lower Grande Valley \$28 million in tuition and related fees since 2017.

With a growth rate of 72 percent in the past four years, TSC is the fastest-growing community college in the state of Texas, and their graduation rate outpaces the Texas state average by more than three percent. The Board of Trustees, along with TSC President Jesus Roberto Rodriguez, Ph.D., continue to set goals to ensure the long-term viability of the institution with a focus on fostering student success, leading regional workforce development, enriching student experiences, enhancing community connections, and investing in each other.

Texas Southmost College prides itself on fostering a welcoming environment and a sense of belonging for all. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating TSC on 95 years of invaluable service to the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Through education, community outreach and the promotion of individual success, Texas Southmost College continues to strengthen the state of Texas' prosperity and talent.

HONORING STEVE KLINSKY'S LEADERSHIP

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 22, 2021

Mr. ZELDIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Klinsky for his commitment to our Nation's prosperity and the education of our youth. Steve has served as Chairman of the Board of the American Investment Council for four years. Upon the conclusion of his term of leadership of the Council, we recognize Steve for his service, his philanthropy to his community, and his tremendous commitment to education reform.

Steve founded New Mountain Capital in 1999 and continues to lead the organization to help build better businesses, create jobs, and strengthen pensions. In fact, New Mountain's responsible management strategy has led to the creation of over 49,500 jobs.

Additionally, for nearly 30 years, Mr Klinsky has served children in New York City and beyond by supporting afterschool programs and advocating for charter schools. Most notably, he founded the "Modern States" program which makes college educations accessible and free. Mr. Klinsky's understanding of the importance of education to achieve the American Dream fuels his commitment to ensuring enrollment in Modern States' courses are open to all people without regard to age, location, family income, nationality, prior education or other barriers. Thanks to Mr. Klinsky's passion for access to a college education, Modern States has helped more than 280,000 students take free courses and work toward college degrees.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Steve Klinsky for his leadership.

RECOGNIZING MRS. CAROL CHANDLER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 22, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Carol Chandler for her contributions to the agricultural community.

Carol Chandler was called to give back to her community from an early age. After receiving degrees from the University of California at Davis and California State University at Fresno, she began teaching in the Central Valley, including at Fresno City College. She continued her passion for agriculture and community as a partner of Chandler Farms, a fourth-generation family farming operation in Selma, California.

Chandler has continued her philanthropic work throughout her life. She belongs to the La Feliz Guild of Valley Children's Hospital and received the Tapestry Award by Common Threads for her outstanding achievements in agriculture.

Chandler has earned several awards and recognitions during her career. She was named Woman of the Year by the California State Legislature in 1992 and 2002, Agriculturist of the Year by the Fresno Chamber of Commerce in 2004, and Agriculturist of the

Year by the California State Fair Board of Directors in 2020.

This year, Chandler was recognized by Western Growers with the 2021 Award of Honor.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mrs. Carol Chandler on this award and recognizing her contributions to the Central Valley community.

RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE
FIND STEPHEN K. BANNON IN
CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, I rise in support of the rule governing debate for H. Res. 730, "Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find Stephen K. Bannon in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol."

On January 6th the domestic terrorists who beat law enforcement officers and breached the Citadel of democracy of the United States wore insignias of White supremacist groups, waved Confederate flags, hung a noose on the lawn, and they were shouting racial epithets.

According to published reports and his own public statements, Mr. Bannon had specific knowledge about the events planned for January 6th before they occurred: just before the day of the attack, Mr. Bannon told his listeners:

All hell is going to break loose tomorrow. . . . It's not going to happen like you think it's going to happen. OK, it's going to be quite extraordinarily different. All I can say is, strap in . . . You made this happen and tomorrow it's game day. So strap in. Let's get ready. So many people said, 'Man, if I was in a revolution, I would be in Washington.' Well this is your time in history.

At 12:15 p.m. on January 6th he said to the assembled multitude on the Ellipse: "You will never take back our country with weakness."

Less than an hour later, at 1:10 p.m., he admonished the crowd: "We fight like hell, and if you don't fight like hell you will not have a country anymore."

At 2:11 p.m. the Trump-incited mob breached police lines on the west side of the Capitol.

Madam Speaker, the assault on the U.S. Capitol by domestic terrorists and insurrectionists rightly takes its place as one of the darkest moments in our Nation's history since the Civil War.

Madam Speaker, the January 6th insurrection caused tragic loss of life and many injuries, while leaving behind widespread physical damage to the Capitol Complex and emotional trauma for Members, Congressional employees, and the Capitol Police.

It bears repeating often that the Congress and the Nation owe undying gratitude to the

men and women who answered the call of constitutional duty and heroically won the day on that bloody and deadly afternoon.

Madam Speaker, the domestic terrorists and seditionists who attacked the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were not, as some of their ardent defenders and apologists across the aisle have stated falsely, on a "normal tour visit"; nor was their effort to lay siege to the Capitol and disrupt the processes of government an act of persons who love their country.

And it is absurd to suggest that it was a celebration of the United States and what it stands for when the leading edge of terrorists desecrated the Capitol by offensively parading the treasonous Confederate flag through the building and when, because of their insurrection, several members of law enforcement made the supreme sacrifice and scores more were seriously injured.

Madam Speaker, we owe it not just to those who lost their lives during that day, but to all Americans to figure out exactly what happened and how that day came to be.

We must understand that day in order to prevent the intended purpose of the January 6th insurrection—to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the Nation and the world—from ever occurring again, because it was the greatest threat to the American Experiment since the Civil War when the pro-slavery forces decided to make war rather than let the Nation survive and the pro-freedom forces would accept war rather than let the Nation perish.

The Select Committee has diligently continued in their duty to determine the causes and events that transpired during the insurrectionist attack.

Specifically, the Select Committee's purposes include:

To investigate and report upon the facts, circumstances, and causes "relating to the January 6, 2021 domestic terrorist attack upon the United States Capitol Complex;"

To investigate and report upon the facts, circumstances, and causes "relating to the interference with the peaceful transfer of power;" and

To investigate and report upon the facts, circumstances, and causes relating to "the influencing factors that fomented such an attack on American representative democracy while engaged in a constitutional process."

In line with these purposes, the Select Committee requested information from Mr. Bannon central to its legislative purpose:

On September 23, 2021, Chairman THOMPSON signed and transmitted a subpoena to Mr. Bannon, ordering the production of both documents and testimony relevant to the January 6th attack on the Capitol.

The subpoena required Mr. Bannon to produce the documents on October 7 and required his presence for deposition testimony on October 14.

Mr. Bannon simply defied the subpoena—failing to produce the documents on October 7 and failing to show up for the deposition on October 14.

In a letter to Mr. Bannon's counsel on October 15, Chairman THOMPSON noted that Mr. Bannon had not even attempted to provide the Select Committee any explanation for refusing to comply with the Select Committee's demand for documents and testimony on a range of subjects that do not involve communications with the former President.

An individual who fails or refuses to comply with a House subpoena may be cited for contempt of Congress, and in his October 8th letter to Mr. Bannon's counsel, Chairman THOMPSON warned Mr. Bannon that his continued non-compliance would put him in jeopardy of a vote to refer him to the House to consider a criminal contempt referral.

Mr. Bannon's failure to appear for deposition or produce responsive documents in the face of this clear advisement and warning by the Chairman constitutes willful failure to comply with the subpoena.

The purpose behind seeking this information is because Mr. Bannon played a central role in organizing the January 6th attack on the Capitol, and understanding this role is essential to understanding the context in which the January 6th attack occurred.

Mr. Bannon constructed and participated in the "stop the steal" public relations effort that motivated the January 6th attack.

Mr. Bannon planned political and other activities in advance of January 6th.

Mr. Bannon participated in a "war room" of promoters and prominent supporters of the "stop the steal" movement that met on January 5th.

Mr. Bannon communicated with President Trump several times in advance of the January 6th attack, urging him to take measures to interfere with the count of electoral votes and to make January 6th a day of reckoning.

In fact, according to published reports and his own public statements, Mr. Bannon had specific knowledge about the events planned for January 6th before they occurred: just before the day of the attack, Mr. Bannon urged his listeners:

All hell is going to break loose tomorrow. . . . It's not going to happen like you think it's going to happen. OK, it's going to be quite extraordinarily different. All I can say is, strap in . . . You made this happen and tomorrow it's game day. So strap in. Let's get ready. So many people said, 'Man, if I was in a revolution, I would be in Washington.' Well this is your time in history.

In sum, Mr. Bannon appears to have played a multi-faceted role in the events of the January 6th attack and the American people are entitled to hear his first-hand testimony regarding his actions.

As recognized by the Supreme Court, "The power of the Congress to conduct investigations is inherent in the legislative process," and that the subpoena power is a "public duty, which every person within the jurisdiction of the Government is bound to perform when properly summoned."

The contempt of Congress statute makes clear that a witness summoned before Congress must appear or be "deemed guilty of a misdemeanor" punishable by a fine of up to \$100,000 and imprisonment for up to one year.

Further, the Supreme Court has emphasized that the subpoena power is a "public duty, which every person within the jurisdiction of the Government is bound to perform when properly summoned."

The Supreme Court also recently reinforced this clear obligation by stating that "when Congress seeks information needed for intelligent legislative action, it unquestionably remains the duty of all citizens to cooperate."

Mr. Bannon has relied on no legal authority to support his refusal to comply in any fashion with the subpoena.