

while enforcing our immigration laws and preventing illegal immigration.

This change would put dairy farmers on equal footing with other H-2A employers and adhere to the same rules and regulations in force today.

As larger reforms to the agriculture workforce are debated, I ask for the consideration of this urgent fix to ensure American dairy farmers can continue to provide for the American families and thrive for generations to come.

LABOR IS THE BACKBONE OF THE AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021.

The pandemic has made clear that we need to strengthen worker rights and expand union participation.

Across this Nation, frontline and essential workers have had to work in unsafe conditions with insufficient pay because of their inability to negotiate with their employers.

The economic fallout from the pandemic has laid bare the costs of severe income inequality in America, where corporations and the wealthiest individuals are able to thrive at the expense of everybody else.

Labor is the backbone of middle America and the key to addressing income inequality.

Protecting the right to organize and to collectively bargain ensures access to better wages, more robust benefits, and safer working conditions for hard-working Americans.

When workers are able to stand together and demand their fair share, we will all be better off.

I strongly support passage of the PRO Act and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, March is Women's History Month, and I am grateful to recognize inspirational women who have achieved success.

Inspirational women are the University of South Carolina's basketball team, who won a sixth SEC title in 7 years, the first time that has been done in SEC history. Congratulations to these talented women for remaining number one.

This game was also historic because it was the first time two Black head coaches met in a conference championship game with Coach Dawn Staley leading the Gamecocks and Coach Joni Taylor leading Georgia, an important milestone in American sports history.

Best wishes to the Gamecock women in the NCAA tournament.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our sympathy to the family of Hatsy Young, widow of former Congressman Ed Young from Florence.

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DELIVERING HELP THROUGH AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the American Rescue Plan.

Nearly 1 year ago, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in the district that I serve. Now, the virus has infected more than 100,000 people in my district. No family in our region, in our State, throughout our Nation has been left untouched. Our sense of urgency could not be stronger.

The American Rescue Plan is an opportunity to deliver help. My corner of Illinois has thousands of small businesses struggling to keep their doors open, 113,000 kids who have yet to return to the classroom, and 150 towns in the congressional district I serve that need help to keep essential services running.

Mr. Speaker, the bill would provide an estimated \$27 million to Rock Island County, \$55 million to Winnebago County, \$35 million to Peoria County, and more than \$85 million to the other 11 counties in between in the congressional district that I serve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support and vote for the American Rescue Plan.

ACT ON SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, our southern border is in crisis.

President Biden has been dodging the crisis they caused at our southern border, calling it a challenge, not a crisis. They have opened our borders but, at the same time, kept our schools closed.

The Democrat's approach of "come on in" has reversed sensible immigration control measures put in place by the previous administration and led to disastrous results.

Compared to pre-inauguration numbers, Customs and Border Protection is encountering five times the number of family units trying to cross the border. We are on pace to have over 100,000 unaccompanied minors cross the border illegally this year, up by 45 percent. Customs and Border Protection is projecting a 20,000-bed shortage for the children in their custody.

Under his rule, asylum seekers are now allowed to come into America to

wait. And even if they are COVID-positive, they are released into the country—many of whom will never be seen again.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge President Biden to reverse these disastrous actions and return to sensible immigration policies that were present to stem the tide of illegal immigration.

PROTECTING RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE

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

Mr. KAHELE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act.

The PRO Act empowers workers to exercise their right to organize and holds employers accountable for violating workers' rights.

In my home State of Hawaii, unions successfully raised the standard of living for thousands of our residents. I am proud to say that Hawaii has the highest union membership rate in the Nation, at 23.7 percent.

We must pass the PRO Act to make sure all workers have a free and fair choice to join a union.

Mr. Speaker, organized labor has opened the doors of opportunity for millions of Americans, to help them buy homes, secure healthcare, educate their children, and enjoy leisure time with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, as an 11-year card-carrying member of the Air Line Pilots Association, I know firsthand how unions can level the playing field. Unions give us a stronger voice to advocate for higher wages, better benefits, and improved workplace conditions. Unions put the power in the hands of the workers.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will lift up American workers and strengthen America's middle class. I urge my colleagues to support the PRO Act.

HONORING GHOST ARMY VETERANS

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you in support of awarding the Ghost Army veterans with the Congressional Gold Medal.

This is such a great story. In World War II, the Ghost Army had a mission unlike any other. They were recruited in one of the greatest counterintelligence operations of our time, fooling the Nazis with inflatable tanks, mannequins, and decoys.

It is estimated that they saved tens of thousands of American soldiers' lives. Their work was so groundbreaking that it remained classified for more than 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Ghost Army and their legacy have never been formally recognized. This bill is long overdue for the soldiers and their families. Of the

1,100 who served, only 11 of them are alive today. Among them, 103-year-old Staff Sergeant Stanley Nance, who lives in my home State of Utah. I have had a chance to get to know him.

He and his fellow soldiers, those few, those 11 who are still alive, and their families, deserve recognition of their service and sacrifices.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to honor the Ghost Army and award them the Congressional Gold Medal.

BRINGING AMERICA BACK TO NORMAL WITH AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the incredible achievements of the American Rescue Plan, which will put shots in arms, money in pockets, children in schools, and people in jobs.

President Biden's American Rescue Plan will power our efforts to defeat this virus and move America forward. Significantly, experts agree that the American Rescue Plan will cut child poverty in half by expanding the child tax credit and sending \$300 per month per child to struggling families on top of the \$1,400 check that the American Rescue Plan will put in the pockets of every American.

The American Rescue Plan will give schools the resources they need to safely reopen and stay open. It will enable our businesses to hang on and safely cater to their customers while retaining their employees and planning for a better future.

Job one for this new Congress and the new administration was always to beat back the virus and lift up our Nation. The American Rescue Plan takes direct aim at COVID-19 and charts the course to bring America back to normal.

HONORING REVEREND KEVIN COX

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of our dear friend, Reverend Kevin Cox, as a longtime servant in the ministry.

Reverend Cox started out his journey as a CPA, but the Lord brought him quickly into the blessings of pastoral ministry. From his very first pastorate at First Pentecostal Church in a small town in Florida in 1980, to now retiring after 16 years as Louisiana's district superintendent for the United Pentecostal Church International, Reverend Cox has diligently answered the call of God.

He and his late wife, Delisa, and their two sons, who now have beautiful families of their own, were never afraid to move where the Lord led.

Psalm 37:23 states that "the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way."

Mr. Speaker, well done to Brother Cox. The Lord surely delights in his way. We are thankful for his years of service to the kingdom, and the blessings he has been to countless many people, including Louisiana's Fourth Congressional District. God bless him in his endeavors throughout retirement.

ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY FOR BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on the heels of Black History Month, at the beginning of Women's History Month, and 1 year into a pandemic, I rise today to bring attention to an urgent task: achieving health equity for Black women and girls.

Over the past year, we have watched firsthand as centuries-long systemic health and economic disparities have translated into higher rates of coronavirus and fewer resources to fight it in Black communities.

COVID-19 did not create these disparities. It has just made them plain for all to see.

Inequality comes in many forms, but health inequalities are among the most glaring. As it stands, Black women's life expectancy is nearly 3 years less than our White counterparts.

Recently, the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls unveiled our first-ever report on this pressing issue and others facing Black women and girls in our country. More importantly, we have laid out solutions to these problems.

It is incumbent upon Congress to take on these initiatives because we cannot be satisfied until every American, including Black women and girls, can lead a long and healthy life.

Mr. Speaker, to help to accomplish these things, we must pass the American Rescue Plan.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MICHAEL MAGLI

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of my constituent, Deputy Michael Magli of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

On February 17, Michael Magli kissed his wife and children good-bye for the last time as he embarked on what he likely believed to be a routine shift.

Mr. Speaker, sadly, we know now that he would not make it back home that particular night. He put his life on the line to take the hit from a drunk driver and save those down the road who might have been in the pathway of danger.

As Pinellas County Sheriff Paul Gualtieri so movingly put it at his funeral, Michael was at the right place at the right time.

Deputy Magli leaves behind a loving wife, two beautiful children, and the blue family as they struggle to make sense out of unimaginable grief. While Michael's earthly end-of-watch was February 17, 2021, his heavenly watch will endure forever.

STANDING WITH WORKERS BY PASSING PRO ACT

(Ms. SEWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, the PRO Act.

Just last weekend, I invited a number of our Democratic colleagues to come to my district and stand in solidarity with the Amazon workers in Bessemer, Alabama, who are voting this month on whether to join the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of unions that we have a 5-day workweek. It is because of unions that we have safer working conditions all across America. Congress must do more to protect the basic right to join a union.

If we pass the PRO Act, workers in Bessemer and workers across this country will have stronger collective bargaining rights and more streamlined union election processes. We would also have meaningful enforcement for companies that violate workers' rights.

The workers in my Alabama district deserve a fair election that is free of influence from management.

Mr. Speaker, the Amazon workers in Bessemer, Alabama, are following a rich tradition of ordinary Alabamians, standing up and fighting for civil rights and human rights. I am asking my colleagues to stand with the workers in Bessemer and around this country by passing the PRO Act.

RECOGNIZING IOWA'S STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of nine young men in my district.

Because schools in Iowa are open for in-person learning, our young men and women are able to participate in sports, and I am able to rise today to honor their recent achievements for winning Iowa's State championship in wrestling.

Dustin Bohren, Bradley Hill, and Griffin Liddle of Bettendorf; Hunter Gavin of Iowa City West; Ben Kueter of City High in Iowa City; Matthew Lewis