

Margo's approach to community service is an example of how each of us has the power, with a little creativity, to use our unique talents to make a difference. I am so proud to recognize Margo Carlin today, and I look forward to all she will accomplish in the future.

SUPPORT WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, since coming to Congress, my office has focused on forging closer connections between the jobs that we are developing in our region and the people who live here.

I have been proud to support a number of workforce training programs that bridge that gap, particularly for the jobs that are revitalizing the Philadelphia Shipyard, thanks to a contract we helped secure for the building of five national security multi-mission vessels.

Another sector of our local economy that is going to benefit immensely from investments in workforce training and public-private partnerships is biotech and life sciences.

Last week, the U.S. Economic Development Administration announced that the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia is receiving a STEM Talent Challenge Grant, one of only eight such grants awarded in the entire Nation.

The Wistar Institute will use this grant to support workforce training to address the demand for skilled workers from the life sciences industry which has been growing by leaps and bounds in our region.

For over 20 years, the Wistar Institute has been pioneering workforce training for young people attending high schools and community colleges in our region to enter this exciting field. And I am delighted that this new program is training students from Cheyney University, the oldest HBCU in the country, which is also located in my district.

The Quality Science Pathway Apprenticeship offers an earn-and-learn, hands-on training curriculum, taught by experts to uniquely address the critical need for a highly skilled, quality science labor force based in the Philadelphia region.

For the last decade, our regional economy has been driven by dynamic eds, meds, and tech sectors. Life sciences is a key part of that economy, so I am grateful that the EDA chose to invest in this model program at the Wistar Institute to help people from our region win these critical jobs and the opportunity to have careers in an expanding, in-demand industry.

FIGHTING GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR COUNTRY

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen an unprecedented rise in gun violence across the entire country.

While most conversations about gun violence are quickly overwhelmed by extremist rhetoric, one of the strategies to reduce gun violence that has widespread support is to make sure that law enforcement has the resources needed to investigate and clear cases

that get criminals and guns off of the streets. That is why I am proud to support an important piece of legislation introduced by former police chief and our colleague in Congress, Representative VAL DEMINGS.

The VICTIM Act targets resources to the things we know can help reduce gun violence. Grants would support the hiring, training, and retention of detectives and victim services personnel. These grants will also fund training, equipment, and personnel needed to process and analyze evidence in gun crimes.

In Philadelphia, our Police Department would like to use such funding to support a new unit dedicated to investigating non-fatal shootings.

One of the reasons I came to Congress was to fight for an end to gun violence, to protect our children, our families, and our communities.

In our country today, gun violence is hitting ever closer to home. Several of my employees have lost relatives to gun violence. In November, a constituent was killed in a carjacking near his college campus. A month later, I became the victim of carjacking, though I am extremely lucky that no one was injured in my case.

Then, just last week, I found myself embracing a mother devastated by the death of her daughter after she was struck by gunfire at a playground. This has to stop.

There is no one solution. But as a legislator, I want to pass laws to tackle the underlying issues driving this epidemic of violence, as well as providing the means to end it. That means commonsense gun safety reform, resources for law enforcement, support for mental health services, and investments in education and employment opportunities for all Americans.

The VICTIM Act can be an important part of this effort, and I hope we will soon be able to bring it to the floor for a vote.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MASTER SERGEANT ROBERT MAYNE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Master Sergeant Robert Mayne, who impacted lives of countless Lynchburg students throughout his nearly 40-year career at E.C. Glass High School.

Sarge, as he was known to those close to him, joined the military in 1941 and served as a tail gunner in the Martin B-26 bomber, where he flew 70 combat missions. After more than 27 of years of service, he retired from Active Duty in 1968.

That same year, Sarge joined E.C. Glass to teach and lead the school's newly formed Air Force Junior ROTC program. After spearheading the program for 20 years, he continued his work at the high school for another 19 as a special education teacher and as

an assistant to school administrators. Even after retiring in 2007, Sarge continued to serve as a role model, sharing his experiences with students.

Master Sergeant Robert Mayne passed away last week at the age of 98, and our community mourns his loss and thanks him for his many years of service.

AMERICA CONCEDES ACT

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the America COMPETES Act, which would more appropriately be called the America concedes act. At 2,900 pages, and with a price tag of \$325 billion, the Democrats' legislation does nothing to counter China's malign actions and, instead, lines the pockets of the country's Communist Party.

The bill appeases Chairman Xi, fails to hold China accountable for its role in the COVID-19 pandemic, and is even being used by the left to push their Green New Deal agenda.

There is \$8 billion for the UN Green Climate Fund, \$2 billion for a new Climate Leadership in International Mitigation, Adaptation, and Technology program, \$2 million in foreign aid for other countries to address climate change, and the list goes on.

In fact, the bill mentions climate change 156 times, and it mentions coral reefs more times than it does China.

This bill is not only weak on China, but it is harmful to the United States, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

AMERICA IS COMPETING WITH CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the COMPETES Act. And quite frankly, I am stunned to hear some of the rhetoric coming from the other side around a bill that finally, after decades, recognizes that we are in a very stiff competition with China, and for the longest time America didn't know it.

China was in this competition. China was doing everything they could to dump steel in our country. They spend 7 to 9 percent of their GDP on infrastructure every year. They got islands in the South China Sea. They told us they weren't going to militarize them; now they have.

They have bases in Africa, long-term raw material contracts in African countries to solidify their control of precious metals so that our phones, our weapons systems, our computers, they have a plan.

This is not complicated. But it is being seen through the prism of our current, broken, insane political system.

And so what we are trying to do here is recognize that they are winning. Seventy percent of chip manufacturing comes out of China. The cargo ships along the California ports, those aren't coming from Kansas. They are coming

from China. Over 50 percent of the electric vehicle market is dominated by China.

And so the thoughtful thing, the smart, strategic thing for us to do in the United States is one, recognize this, and two, make sure we reinvest back into the United States, which is what we did with the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

Twenty Republicans in the Senate, led by Senator PORTMAN from Ohio—who I commend for his leadership—said we have got to rebuild our country. Broadband, infrastructure, bridges are collapsing in Pittsburgh. We have got to fix this stuff.

Workforce development, we have got to plug these communities in, if we are going to win. And so that is what we did in a bipartisan way.

And so the next step is: How do we bring the chip manufacturing back? How do we rebuild the industrial base here in places like Ohio? That means we have to have a strategy that invests into the country. That is what the COMPETES Act does. \$52 billion to move these chip manufacturers back.

And what is stunning to me about how radical the right wing has become in this country, is that this isn't: Oh, we are going to invest this money and maybe we will get a deal; maybe someone will locate in the industrial Midwest. Last week, Intel announced a \$20 billion investment north of Columbus, Ohio, with over 100 suppliers in that State that will benefit from locating there: thousands of construction jobs.

And you know what they said? If we pass the COMPETES Act, if we pass this bill, it is going to become a \$100 billion investment in the Midwest.

And all we are saying is: If there is nothing else we can agree on in the United States Congress, I hope that it is this bill. I hope it is infrastructure. But it is culture war du jour. I mean, what a joke.

China has a 10-year plan, 50-year plan, 100-year plan. We live in a 24-hour news cycle talking about Dr. Seuss, Big Bird, M&Ms, Sponge Bob, and we are getting our clock cleaned.

And this is an attempt, by us, hopefully, in a bipartisan way—doesn't look that way, but hopefully, in a bipartisan way—to actually prepare America, post-pandemic, post-economic collapse, to bring back manufacturing. And it is already happening. This is already happening.

We saw all the leaders in Ohio: Democrat, Republican, Governor DeWine, Lieutenant Governor Husted, JobsOhio, under a Republican Governor, J.P. Nauseef, the Columbus Partnership, Kenny McDonald, the business leaders, everybody, the unions—and this bill creates 1 million union apprentices in the next 5 years to build this stuff.

Wake up. Wake up. We are losing. And this is a step forward for America to start leading the way and leading the country again.

DAMNED IF YOU DO, DAMNED IF YOU DON'T

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, COVID-19 originated in the Communist Chinese Party's Wuhan bio-weapons lab, and forces Americans into a damned if you do, damned if you don't choice.

You can refuse to take the COVID-19 vaccine and face the risk of death and debilitating injury when you catch COVID-19. Or you can take the COVID-19 vaccine and face the risk of death or debilitating injury from the vaccine's side effects, as described in a letter by Mary Constance Seibert, who honorably served America in the United States Navy.

Ms. Seibert states: "Dear Congressman Mo BROOKS: This is my explanation and statement regarding the impact of the vaccine that was being given as a result of extreme pressure but now is mandated by the Armed Forces. This has resulted in my partial paralysis that has confined me to a wheelchair.

"On March 22, 2021, I received my second shot of the COVID-19 vaccine supplied by Pfizer. Shortly after, I became sick for a few days, as expected. A few weeks later, I got sick again, and was so ill I was out for 2 weeks. Medical staff were unable to determine what I had caught. I developed ringing in my ears, which I still have.

"After, I started to develop medical problems where muscles would inflame along with severe restless leg syndrome, which sent me screaming from pain in the dead of sleep. I went to physical therapists and Navy doctors alike to no avail to stop it. Shortly proceeding, my knees started to give out, and I'd need—and still need—to pop them to terminate the pain. I also experienced the development of digestive problems like IBS and joints that would become so painful that I would cry from the pain in my hips and feet just from standing for 30 minutes.

"All these symptoms developed in 2 months with no explanation. Eventually, they would level out as I was put into a command to focus on medical problems.

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"By May, I started losing vision in my right eye and slight vision in my left. This was accompanied by pain and my vision going from 20/20 in my right eye to 20/25 and from 20/17 in my left eye to 20/20. They assumed I had optic neuritis in my right eye but were wrong and still do not know why the pressure was off in my eye.

"On July 2, I experienced my first painful set of convulsions. They started small but grew as the days went on.

"On July 5, I was sent to the ER as I was no longer functional and the feeling of electricity going through my body would not stop. I went into the ER walking and on July 8, I came out in a wheelchair as I slowly lost my

ability to walk as the days went by and the spasms kept happening. They never did figure out what was wrong with me. I only knew my copper was high, my white blood cells were high, and my inflammation levels were very high, with no explanation. My current symptoms have been trouble breathing, joint pain, migraines, unknown convulsions, vision loss, unsteady gait, vomiting, nausea, mouth ulcers, frequent heavy nose bleeds, tremors, slurred speech, heat aversion, and lack of motor coordination.

"I am now reliant on a wheelchair and now await separation from the military. I have been told there is no other explanation other than a reaction from within my body due to the vaccine."

Let me repeat that.

"I have been told there is no other explanation other than a reaction from within my body due to the vaccine.

"Respectfully submitted, Mary Constance Seibert."

Mr. Speaker, I stand for freedom and liberty and against vaccine mandates because in America, Americans should have the freedom to choose which of two bad COVID-19 options is best for them, vaccination or no vaccination. I stand against dictatorial government vaccine mandates because mandates are the antithesis of the liberty and freedom on which America is based.

DENOUNCEMENT OF DOMESTIC TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, sadly I rise to indicate that domestic terrorism is on the rise in America. We have all faced the tragedies of terroristic acts by our fellow Americans, chiefly, of course, the January 6 insurrection, which it is so striking to me that people want to dumb down the language used. It was insurrection by terrorists who happened to be Americans.

We focused on 9/11. The very action of terrorism was associated internationally. I was in this place, in this Capitol on 9/11, in a meeting on 9/11. As we fled this building, clearly looking, as I went to the right to escape what we thought was an imminent attack on this building by foreign terrorists, I could see the building, the black smoke of the plane that had just hit the Pentagon. It is real, and January 6 is real as well.

So it is important that we as Members of Congress address this for the Nation. One, it was real in Colleyville for my fellow Texans as they were attacked in their synagogue, their place of worship. How horrific anti-Semitism is. I stand against it, as I stand against the horrors of representing what critical race theory is, which it is not in any way an attempt to create racist divide. It is a college phenomenon. It is a higher-grad phenomenon. It is not teaching our elementary school children about George Washington Carver