

This 23-year-old traveled 12 hours, out of her mind, if you will, to get to a place.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me.

#### TRANSPARENCY IS NONNEGOTIABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the American people are rightfully concerned about the ambiguity of the Biden Administration's ongoing negotiations with Iran.

Are these negotiations being conducted in good faith? What concessions are being made? How would this deal impact America's standing within the international community and our ally, Israel?

These are precisely the questions that are being asked, and yet, the only response coming from the administration is the sound of crickets chirping. The same can be said for Congress.

The Biden administration has already expressed its intent to keep Congress in the dark about this potential nuclear deal. And according to new reporting, the Biden administration is trying to hide the facts on their ongoing negotiations with Iran until after the midterm elections to avoid scrutiny.

Here is the thing, Madam Speaker, the administration is already required to submit information to Congress pursuant to the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act or INARA.

INARA requires that the administration keep Congress fully and currently informed of any new or amended agreement with Iran. Those words couldn't be any clearer.

In 2015, many Members on the opposite side of the aisle voted for INARA, and yet, we have heard nothing but crickets from them about holding this administration accountable.

If INARA had not passed 7 years ago, Congress could have found itself completely blind to former President Obama's deal with Iran at the time.

Madam Speaker, 400 Members of the House, along with 98 senators voted to force President Obama to submit his deal to Congress for Congressional review. Given the profound silence as of late on these ongoing negotiations, are we to believe that good governance and effective oversight are no longer tenets of this body?

Madam Speaker, we cannot let accountability and transparency become relics of a bygone era. That is why I have introduced H. Res. 1266 alongside my colleague from South Carolina, Representative JOE WILSON.

This resolution of inquiry requests that President Biden turn over to the House copies of documents, memos, and other communications related to any initiative or negotiations regarding Iran's nuclear program.

It could also expose any side agreements—such as the episode of the Obama administration leaving cash on a tarmac in 2016—that are offered as part of negotiations with Iran.

Today, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs will be marking up my legislation, and the American people will find out who still supports increased transparency and oversight and who does not.

Congress must do its job and exercise its explicit oversight authorities to hold this administration accountable. If this body upheld its commitment to good governance and effective oversight 7 years ago, we should certainly do the same now. There is no excuse not to.

Congress should not be sitting back and kicking its feet up while there is work to be done.

#### LOWERING COSTS TO AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the recent passage of the Inflation Reduction Act. My fellow colleagues, yesterday, I joined many of my House Democrats alongside Democratic President Biden as we celebrated the passage of this new law at the White House.

During the White House visit, I kept thinking of the millions of Americans this monumental law will help. I also kept thinking about the Texans and constituents across my district who will benefit significantly from the impact of this law. The Inflation Reduction Act will lower families' costs with savings ranging from healthcare to energy costs. But if we look closely, we see just how important and lifesaving this law is. This law lowers prescription drug prices, like insulin, which is critical, by finally giving Medicare the ability to negotiate prices of prescription drugs—not just simply accept what Big Pharma says but negotiate prices.

It also prevents greedy price hikes and caps out-of-pocket costs to \$2,000 to Medicare beneficiaries—capping out-of-pocket at \$2,000.

Madam Speaker, for residents like those in my district, Texas' 29th District, these savings can literally save lives.

My district is 77 percent Latino. Studies from the CDC show that Latinos are 70 percent more likely than white non-Hispanics to be diagnosed with diabetes, and they are 1.3 times more likely to die from diabetes complications. On top of this, about 11 percent of Texans have diabetes.

Shockingly, studies show that one in four diabetics in Texas have rationed their insulin to make ends meet. They are literally putting themselves at risk of death and more complications because of the price of insulin.

Let's just let that sink in, Madam Speaker. One in four diabetics ration a

lifesaving drug simply because the prices are high and because our country has higher prescription drug prices than any other developed country in the world.

This simply breaks my heart. It is tough to think about this because this issue also does hit very close to home. I know all too well people who have family members that are suffering from diabetes. I know their pain, and I know how it impacts their livelihoods and their pocketbooks.

My mother faced uphill battles with diabetes before passing away from complications due to diabetes.

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Now, I am 1 of 10 children. Five of us are also affected by diabetes and are on insulin, and a brother is on dialysis. So, I know firsthand how important insulin is to one's health, and I can't fathom a country where people can't afford this lifesaving drug.

While more must be done for those diabetic patients not on Medicare, this law is a monumental, great step forward in making insulin accessible to all. But I promise to keep fighting for those who are not on Medicare, those who are not insured, and those who are too poor to get access to insulin.

The Inflation Reduction Act also reduces the cost of health insurance for millions by extending the Affordable Care Act subsidies for 3 more years. This will lock in lower healthcare prices that will save 13 million people across our country an average of \$800.

Now, \$800 may not sound like a lot to some people, but in my district and across America, hardworking families know the value of \$800. In my district, Madam Speaker, there are about 55,000 people who are enrolled in health insurance plans through the Affordable Care Act. That is about \$800 for these Texas families to use for school supplies, for food, for gas, and for other basic necessities.

So, the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act is a massive victory for the people in my district and districts across America.

This is what happens when we have strong leadership in the White House and when House Democrats work together, because they put people first.

Madam Speaker, it is all about putting people first.

#### CONNECTIVITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, earlier this year, my friend Mark Shlanta died at age 57. He had been a South Dakota telecommunications leader since 1998.

Earlier this year, my friend Greg Dean died at age 58. He had been a South Dakota telecommunications leader since 1999.

Earlier this year, my friend Rod Bowar died at age 60. He had been a

South Dakota telecommunications leader since 1976.

Earlier this year, my friend Bryan Roth died at age 59. He had been a South Dakota telecommunications leader since 1998.

Now, losing one friend, losing one industry leader, is not easy. When you lose four over the past few months, it can be almost more than their friends and family can bear.

These were real leaders. Everybody around here talks about broadband. It has been a hot topic in Congress for the last 2 years, every day—broadband, high-speed internet, broadband, connectivity.

But I tell you, Madam Speaker, those four gentlemen were involved in broadband long before it was cool and long before it was the hot topic in Washington, D.C.

Mark spent 20 years as the CEO of SDN. Originally, it was the South Dakota Network. He turned this into one of the most sophisticated State networks in the country, and he expanded it by 50,000 miles of fiber-optic cable.

For 20 years, Greg, in his work with the South Dakota Telecommunications Act, was probably the most influential person to help set rural broadband policy in the halls of the State capital.

For 30 or 40 years, Rod, in his work as the CEO of Kennebec Telephone Company, made sure that two small towns, Kennebec with 281 residents and Presheo with 472, had high-speed internet that would be the envy of the largest and most cosmopolitan urban areas in the world.

For more than 20 years as CEO of TrioTel, Bryan worked to make sure that that cooperative was the first telephone company in South Dakota, all the way back in 2013, to have 100 percent of its customers connected with fiber.

So, yes, Madam Speaker, these were titans of the rural broadband arena.

But when I think about connectivity and these gentlemen's contribution to it, I don't just think about rural broadband. I think about the connections they made with their families and their communities. It would have been hard to do more for Sioux Falls or for Scouting or for his family than Mark did. It would have been hard to do more for the Pierre community or Pierre athletics or his family than Greg did. It would have been hard to do more for his church or the outdoors or the Salem community than Bryan did. It would have been hard to do more for Kennebec or for Presheo or for the fire department or for his family than Rod did.

The contributions of these gentlemen in their communities were absolutely staggering. So, Madam Speaker, it is altogether appropriate that we focus on the contributions to rural broadband of these four titans of the industry. But I also think it is important to recognize that when they thought of connectivity and when they made a contribution to connectivity, it was about the human connection.

No one could have done more for the people and the places they loved than Mark, Greg, Rod, and Bryan did.

#### COMMEMORATING THE LEGACIES OF ADDIE MAE COLLINS, DENISE MCNAIR, CAROLE ROBERTSON, AND CYNTHIA MORRIS WESLEY ON THE 59TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the lives and legacies of four precious little girls—Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Morris Wesley—who died within the sacred walls of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, 59 years ago.

On September 15, 1963, as the four little girls were getting dressed in the bathroom of the church basement, preparing to sing in the choir, 19 sticks of dynamite placed under the church detonated and totally exploded, causing the interior walls to actually cave in.

The crowd of about 200 people who gathered for the 11 a.m. service evacuated the church. But the church was filled with smoke, and underneath the debris lie four little girls.

Along with the little girls who lost their lives, dozens of others were injured that day, including Sarah Collins Rudolph, the younger sister of Addie Mae Collins, who was in the basement with her sister and the other girls preparing for church that day.

Due to the violently racist nature of the attack, thousands of African Americans protested across the State of Alabama. In response, George Wallace called the police to break up the demonstrations.

The violent clashes between protesters and police resulted in massive arrests and the tragic loss of two more lives, two little boys who died that day, Johnny Robinson and Virgil Ware. The two boys, one 16 and the other 13, were killed within hours of the church bombing.

Following the attack, several people, many of whom were members of the KKK, were arrested, but none of them—none of them—were actually prosecuted until 34 years later.

Described by Dr. Martin Luther King as one of the most vicious and tragic crimes ever perpetrated against humanity, this racially motivated act of terrorism focused America's eyes on Birmingham, Alabama, bringing into sharp clarity the injustices that sparked the civil rights movement.

Although we will never replace the lives lost or injuries suffered, the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 proved that their sacrifices were not in vain.

Today, as we reflect on our painful history, we are reminded that every gain in the battle for civil rights has come at a high cost paid by those who

sacrificed everything for a vision and a dream bigger than themselves.

As a direct beneficiary of the legacy of the four little girls, I was honored that the very first bill that I passed in this body posthumously bestowed upon them the Congressional Gold Medal to ensure that this Nation will never forget their sacrifice.

I not only question where I would be today without the influence of the four little girls, but more importantly, I question where America would be today. The premature and senseless deaths of these four little girls awakened the slumbering conscience of America and galvanized the civil rights movement.

It was their memory that carried John Lewis and those brave foot soldiers, unarmed and unafraid, across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in my hometown of Selma, Alabama.

It was their sacrifice which burned in the mind of President Lyndon Johnson as he signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

It was their sacrifice that inspired a generation of freedom fighters to move this Nation closer to its highest ideals of equality and justice for all.

Madam Speaker, as we commemorate the 59th year since the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, we, as Americans, are called upon to reflect on the legacy of the four little girls and to know them by name: Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robertson, Denise McNair, and Cynthia Morris Wesley. These four little girls and the loss of their lives have changed America forever.

The legacy of the four little girls paved the way for a more equitable and more just future. For that, we owe it to them to pick up the baton and carry it forward.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 59th anniversary of the lives of Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Morris Wesley.

May we always remember their names: Addie Mae, Denise, Carole, and Cynthia.

#### REMEMBERING SANDRA DEAL

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Sandra Deal, a woman whose legacy as a lifelong champion of education will not soon be forgotten.

On August 23, Mrs. Deal passed away surrounded by family after a 4-year battle with cancer. Sandra was the daughter of two educators and was raised in Gainesville, Georgia. After earning both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in elementary education, she went on to teach language arts in public schools for over 15 years.

As Georgia's first lady, she made childhood literacy improvements her top priority. Through this initiative,