

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Senate to take up the bill we just passed, H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

With title 42 having expired, we are seeing a surge of migrants approaching our border that will add to a crisis in New York State that has seen New York City take in over 60,000 migrants so far. Now, Mayor Eric Adams has resorted to busing migrants into the Hudson Valley, despite previously decrying southern States from doing that to New York City.

This is a completely untenable situation and demands immediate Federal action, which is why the House Republican majority passed H.R. 2.

As the husband of an immigrant, I know why so many people immigrate to our Nation. We are the greatest Nation in the world. But we simply cannot continue to let our borders be wide open as they are now. We are seeing tens of thousands of people cross our borders illegally every single day.

I urge the Senate to pass this legislation. Having spoken with the President yesterday in my district, I know he understands the need to act on our border.

We have to work together to secure our border, end this broken system, and ensure the safety of our residents.

COMMEMORATING DOROTHY LEVIN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Ms. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent and proud Californian, Dorothy Levin. Dorothy is celebrating her 100th birthday, and I am thrilled to join her friends and family in commemorating this remarkable milestone.

Dorothy was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 12, 1923, and moved to southern California with her family in 1952.

In 1958, while raising her three young children, Dorothy decided to attend law school. She graduated and passed the California Bar exam but was unable to find a job in a male-dominated field, so she opened her own firm, where she practiced until her retirement in 1994.

Dorothy's unwavering dedication, tenacity, and courage have helped pave the way for generations of women in the legal profession.

I wish Dorothy a happy 100th birthday. I am so thankful for her trailblazing work, and I am proud to honor her today.

IMPEACH SECRETARY MAYORKAS

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

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to believe that after 2 years of record-breaking migrant encounters at the southern border, things continue to get worse with absolutely no end in sight.

I always say, to fix a problem, you first have to admit there is a problem. But the guy who is supposed to be in charge, the leader of border security, just cannot admit there is a problem.

DHS Secretary Mayorkas has time and time again failed to take responsibility, as the leader, as the boss, as the man in charge. He has the audacity to tell MSNBC that the open border is Congress' fault, and that Congress should do something about it.

Okay. Well, then I think it is time to do something about it. Let's impeach Secretary Mayorkas. His blatant failures have resulted in the deaths of American citizens and has made fentanyl the number one killer of 18- to 45-year-olds.

Enough is enough. We need real leadership, not some Biden puppet.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today calling for the impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas.

STOCK BUYBACKS IN DEFENSE

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, the defense industrial base is dominated by a handful of massive corporations that have gobbled up competitors. These five companies have a lot of power and responsibility to supply our military. But what are they doing with that power? Are they investing in innovation?

They are enriching themselves with stock buybacks and shareholder dividends, fueled by public money, while shrinking their investments to innovation.

The Pentagon has reported that over the past decade, research and development is down, but corporate payouts for prime contractors are up.

Meanwhile, they are lobbying Congress for more cash every year.

Top brass warn that late, over-budget defense orders threaten our readiness. National security shouldn't be subject to the whims of Wall Street or crazy ideas of shareholder primacy. Public money shouldn't bankroll stock buybacks.

It doesn't have to be this way. We should, once again, ban buybacks. They used to be illegal, and should be again.

We need smarter industrial policy to break up these monopolies so we have got real competition in the defense industry.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF MICHAEL SHORT

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, I rise to celebrate Michael Short on his retirement after 44 years of inspiring students in music in Orange Unified School District.

A Chapman University and Cal State Fullerton graduate, Mr. Short has been involved in Orange Unified School District music since the mid-1970s, from elementary and middle schools to Orange High School, to Santiago Canyon College, and much more.

He has directed several musicals, led choirs, and received several awards for his work as an outstanding music educator.

Mr. Short has inspired generations of students in California's 40th District across Orange County and beyond.

I thank Mr. Short for his dedication and his outstanding career to the community, teaching and inspiring students through music.

I wish him the best in his retirement, and much enjoyment spending time with his family; his wife, Vicki, his kids, and his grandkids.

BORDER SECURITY

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2, House Republicans' so-called border security bill, is yet another glaring example of the false outrage exhibited by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

As they speak blatant mistruths about concerns over Americans' safety, they turn a blind eye to the deadly epidemic of gun violence within our borders.

Instead, House Republicans clamor around a bill that guts the U.S. asylum process and eliminates any realistic pathways to legal immigration.

Their proposal costs the American people \$6.1 billion and does nothing to increase border security personnel. In fact, the bill would pay for the former President's vanity project, an expensive and ineffective wall that would make our Nation more vulnerable to drug and human trafficking.

It is with a deep understanding that we are a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants that House Democrats are working to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will protect our communities, the American people, and the American Dream.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COMMANDER MIKE SMITH

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, but to honor the life of a friend, retired United States Coast Guard Commander, Mike Smith.

Mike is fondly remembered by many as the director of the annual Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan, also known as Coast Guard City USA, a cherished event where our west Michigan community comes together to celebrate the Coast Guard's service

and sacrifice on the lakeshore and across the country.

Mike lived a life of service, both in the Coast Guard and outside of it. In fact, in 2016, he received the Department of Defense's annual Spirit of Hope Award, an honor that is presented to individuals who embody Bob Hope's core values of serving and supporting our military members. He was so proud of that he actually put it on his own challenge coin.

Mike exemplified the bold character of the Coast Guard and its motto, "Semper Paratus," always prepared, and his influential impact will be forever felt.

Mike is survived by his wife, Cathy, and their six children: Maxwell, Mollie, Moira, Maggie, Matteson, and McHale.

I, and so many others, remember Mike for his service, but we cherish his friendship and his contribution to the Grand Haven community, to the U.S. Coast Guard, and to our Nation.

Rest well, my friend. Rest well.

□ 1700

RECOGNIZING BEN FERENCZ

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month by sharing a story of my personal Jewish American hero, Ben Ferencz.

Ben was recently awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. He was the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, who recently passed away at age 103.

Ben enlisted in the U.S. Army straight out of law school. He was assigned to collect evidence of Nazi war crimes, which he later used to prosecute the biggest murder case in the history of the world. At age 27, he convicted 22 Nazi leaders for their roles in the deaths of over 1 million people.

Ben later dedicated his life to creating a world of acceptance and compassion, becoming a tireless advocate for the rule of law and international justice.

Ben Ferencz is a real Jewish-American hero. His legacy is one of peace, justice, and humility. May his memory be a blessing.

REMEMBERING SHAWN SOARES

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

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Shawn Soares, a young public servant and former congressional staffer from my district, who was tragically killed in a traffic accident last week.

I first met Shawn during my time as a State legislator. He was a genuinely kind person who always had a smile on his face.

Shawn was a bright light everywhere, and he was well known in the Rich-

mond community for his commitment to climate advocacy and his desire to better the Commonwealth.

He accomplished so much in his short life. He served under my predecessor, the late Donald McEachin, and in State government under former Governor Ralph Northam and Delegate Suhas Subramanyam.

He was a leadership member in the Virginia Young Democrats and most recently worked for the Virginia Conservation Network while pursuing his graduate degree at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Shawn's commitment to having a positive impact on his community was evident in his life and work, and he will be sorely missed by many.

My sincere condolences to the Soares family, his loved ones, and every community he touched.

HONORING ALAINA SLIFE

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and advocacy of someone so many in the Orlando community considered a friend and loved one, Alaina Slife, who lost her life 2 weeks ago, which has left a hole in Central Florida.

Alaina was a daughter, a sister, a partner, and a friend to so many.

I actually had the honor of meeting her through the clouds of tear gas during the Black Lives Matter protests of 2020, where she was an accomplice and an ally and a fighter in the fight for justice for every single person.

She seemed to wake up every day with a mission in her heart to help people, and she devoted her life to empowering others and fighting for a better State and a better world for all central Floridians and everybody.

Today, I honor and remember her life's work and offer my deep condolences to her family and loved ones. She was a warrior in our community and will be greatly missed, but she lives forever through the joy, and the shared fight and struggle of our people. I thank her so much for her work.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate a constituent, a resident of the 13th District of Michigan, Candice Jackson, for winning the Teacher of the Year award.

As we observe Teacher Appreciation Week, I also want to draw attention to over 36,000 teaching posts left vacant this year. The newest figures show that the top income a teacher might earn in 17 percent of the school districts, even with 30 years of service and a Ph.D., is only \$60,000. This is intolerable.

As a cosponsor of the American Teacher Act, I am proud to advocate for our teachers. We must ensure that our educators earn at least \$60,000, not at most. Our teachers deserve our gratitude, respect, and just compensation. Together, we will make this a reality for them.

IN MEMORY OF LIVES LOST IN ALLEN, TEXAS

(Ms. CROCKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in memory of the eight Texans who lost their lives last weekend during a shooting in Allen, Texas. These eight Texans should be the future of Texas: Young, diverse, full of life and promise. Instead, they represent the tragedy of Texas today: A Texas where a family must prepare for a trip to the mall as if it is an active war zone. A Texas where lives of kindergartners have less value than the right of Neo-Nazis to own AR-15s.

Mr. Speaker, I rise and ask the question: Aren't you tired of grieving? Is this what your constituents sent you here to do, to send thoughts and prayers?

Texans are tired of grieving.

El Paso, Uvalde, Cleveland, Allen, and the list goes on. We simply can't accept this. For the eight lives lost in Allen, we will not accept this. For the five lives lost in Cleveland, we will not accept this. For the 19 children and two teachers murdered in Uvalde, we will not accept this. For the 23 lives lost in El Paso, we will not accept this.

We must honor our fellow Texans with action. It is the very least that we can do.

RECOGNIZING ELLA BENNETT

(Ms. SCHOLTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, this May, students from across west Michigan and the Nation will graduate from high school and college. I am honored to recognize one of these outstanding and incredibly bright graduates who hails from Michigan's Third Congressional District today.

Elle Bennett from Ada, Michigan, will graduate first in her class from the United States Military Academy at West Point later this month. After graduating, she will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army.

While at West Point, Elle majored in environmental science and researched wastewater resilience, even having the opportunity to publish and present on her findings. Drawing on her passions, she served as an energy and environment officer at West Point, where she led initiatives to increase recycling and pressed the institution to choose greener options.