

with communities, engaging in dialogue and support, to address the root causes of hatred and prevent future acts of violence.

If we don't, these things will only get worse. It is for this reason that I make a commitment—a commitment made by Reverend Eric Manning, senior pastor of Mother Emanuel Church AME, when he visited Pittsburgh. Mother Emanuel was the site of a 2015 shooting, where a self-avowed white supremacist entered the Charleston, South Carolina, church during a Bible study and killed nine Black congregants.

When Reverend Manning spoke at the funeral of Rose Mallinger, the last of the 11 victims to be laid to rest, he said: "You are not alone. We mourn with you. We are here for you and that will never change."

I commit myself to building bridges between marginalized communities and fighting back. I want our Jewish siblings to know that we are in this fight together every day for as long as it takes.

I end with an excerpt from the Jewish prayer for peace that Rose Mallinger led every Saturday service:

May it be Your will . . .  
that You erase war and bloodshed from the world and  
in its place draw down a great and glorious peace so  
that nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore. . . .  
Let justice come in waves like water and  
righteousness flow like river, for the Earth shall  
be full of the knowledge of the Holy One as the  
waters covered the sea.  
So may it be.  
And we say:  
Amen.

#### STUDENT LOAN GIVEAWAY

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to President Biden's student loan scam and urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote to override President Biden's veto of H.J. Res. 45, which would overturn this ridiculous misuse of taxpayer dollars and transfer of wealth from the working class to our country's most wealthy and educated citizens.

Mr. Speaker, middle Tennessee is home to many hardworking, blue-collar workers who do everything they can to provide for their families and live within their means. Many of them made tough decisions to forego attending college to pursue careers in skilled trades like becoming an electrician, a plumber, or carpenter, each valuable skill sets and careers that keep our communities running and provide services we could never live without.

In fact, 66 percent of the folks in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District have no college degree. This, along

with those who responsibly took out student loans and paid them back, means that an estimated 759,000 people whom I represent are ineligible for the Biden administration's proposed student loan giveaway.

To put this into perspective, the total population of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District is 768,525. A whopping 98.7 percent of folks whom I represent will never see a penny of the billions being wasted on this ill-guided proposal. What is even worse is that it will cost the folks of my district an estimated \$1.53 billion, or almost \$2,000 per individual.

At a time when the U.S. national debt has surpassed \$32 trillion for the first time in our country's history, meaning that each citizen owes almost \$100,000 of the national debt, the last thing Americans need, and that Tennesseans need, is another 2,000 in debt to pay for other people's decisions to pursue college degrees.

Mr. Speaker, when we debated this legislation on the floor previously, I said that America is a country built on the idea of freedom. Freedom does not mean freedom from individual responsibility, but freedom from unreasonable constraints. By forcing Tennesseans to foot the bill for the college degrees of wealthy lawyers and doctors in New York and California, President Biden is chipping away at our freedom.

Back home in my district, where the median household income is \$57,373, President Biden's student loan bailout will cost almost an entire paycheck for the hardworking folks of Tennessee's Sixth District.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I encourage the President and those who support this transfer of wealth from blue-collar folks of Tennessee to coastal elites to take a visit to my constituents and tell them this news that their hard-earned paychecks will be going to some of the most well-educated and wealthy Americans in our country.

I have a feeling that a lot of folks who support this policy would have a hard time going door-to-door taking paychecks away from people without college degrees so that those with college degrees can reap the rewards and benefits of the President's policy.

Mr. Speaker, let's call this proposal what it is: An election-year gimmick that has no chance of ever becoming law through the normal procedures of being passed by the House and the Senate. Even some Democrats understand this policy is just plain wrong and that is why they joined Republicans to pass this legislation, which would have stopped this proposal in its track.

Now is our chance to override the President's veto. Let's hope more commonsense and fiscally responsible Democrats will join us to send a message to the President to reverse course on this disastrous decision.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF JACQUES "JAY" ROUGEAU

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

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jacques "Jay" Rougeau, a Pennsylvania State trooper who died in the line of duty just this past Saturday, June 17.

Trooper Rougeau was shot and fatally injured while responding to a call in Juniata, Pennsylvania. Trooper Rougeau was only 29 years old.

Now, Trooper Rougeau is a native of Corry, Pennsylvania, which is in my district where, today, he remains on the minds of so many family, friends, neighbors, and loved ones.

According to reports, a man had arrived at Troop G, Lewistown Station armed with a rifle and fired at patrol vehicles in the parking lot and shot one officer. After a search, troopers located the shooter where they exchanged gunfire. Both the shooter and Trooper Rougeau were shot and killed. Those who knew Trooper Rougeau say he knew from a young age that he always wanted to be a police officer. After graduating from Corry Area High School in 2012, he first interned with the city of Corry Police Department in 2014.

During the internship, Rougeau said his ultimate goal was to become a Pennsylvania State trooper. He enlisted in 2020 and started with Troop G just 3 months ago. Trooper Rougeau is the 104th member of the Pennsylvania State Police to make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

If we can, take a look at this picture. This is somebody that is in the prime of their life, just starting off, in the position that he so coveted being a part of this group. He wanted to be a police officer. He wanted to serve Pennsylvania's citizens by being a Pennsylvania State policeman.

Unfortunately, he is gone. He leaves behind a wife, Chloe, who I am told was his high school sweetheart. I know that he has made the city of Corry and the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania proud for so bravely serving in law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him for his service, and offer a moment of silence in honor of his memory. I ask if we could all please think for a moment about this young man, think about the un-lived part of his life, and all who serve in the line of duty.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will honor a moment of silence.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I wish his family could be here to see that the entire gallery just stood up and, even though you did not know Trooper Rougeau, you stood up to honor what he did in his line of duty.

This is a tragic loss not only for the community of Corry, but the entire

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This morning, I am praying for the family, friends, and colleagues of Trooper Rougeau, another person in law enforcement who died while responding to help others in danger.

#### STANDING UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, in March, I introduced H.R. 1736, also known as the Equality and Fiscal Accountability Protection Act of 2023.

This bill will cut off the cash faucet the U.S. Government gives away to countries such as Uganda that persecutes, criminalizes, or discriminates against individuals based on their sexual orientation.

Since June is Pride Month, I thought this bill would be a great way to remind the American people and this body that the best way to celebrate the history and achievements of gay rights is to stand up to countries actively oppressing the LGBT community. Many countries are light-years behind everything we have worked for to be treated civilly and humanely in this country.

In fact, many countries are still persecuting their citizens for the simple fact that they are gay. Uganda is just one of many countries executing and prosecuting its people based on their sexual orientation; however, they received hundreds of millions of dollars in 2022 alone from President Biden's emergency plan for AIDS relief, or PEPFAR.

While waving rainbow flags and changing corporate logos is pleasant enough lipservice and virtue signaling, we need to send a clear message that the United States will not offer Federal aid to countries that habitually violate basic human rights based on sexual orientation.

We, as a Nation, have a responsibility to stand up for the human rights of all people, regardless of race, religion, or sexual orientation.

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#### CONGRATULATING HARDIN VALLEY ACADEMY AEROHAWKS

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Hardin Valley Academy AeroHAWKS for their achievements at the American Rocketry Challenge.

AeroHAWKS Team 1 came in first place, and Team 2 came in 10th place. Both teams scored high enough that they were invited to participate in NASA's Student Launch Initiative, and Team 1 has just headed to Paris, France, to represent the United States in the International Rocketry Challenge.

I say "Paris, France," because many of you realize there is a Paris, Tennessee, and that is home to the world's largest fish fry. I wanted to clarify that.

This was Hardin Valley's first appearance in this competition, and they competed alongside nearly 800 teams from 45 States. The fact they did so well demonstrates their intelligence, dedication, and teamwork abilities. They rose to the challenge and brought pride to east Tennessee.

My office gave these students a tour of the U.S. Capitol before their competition here in Washington, and it is clear these students are passionate and bright and will do great things with their future.

I congratulate everyone from Hardin Valley Academy who competed in the American Rocketry Challenge. I wish the best of luck to Team 1 as they compete in Paris for the world title. They are making east Tennessee and the entire Nation proud.

Mr. Speaker, on a personal note, from my days of rocketry with my Estes rocket, I believe my V2 rocket is still in the tree of my neighbor's house. I will state for the record that if any of these young people would like to climb up and get it, I would gladly reward them.

#### HONORING CORPORAL JOE ALLEN VINYARD

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an American hero who has finally been laid to rest in Blount County.

Corporal Joe Allen Vinyard was part of the 774th Tank Battalion during World War II. He tragically lost his life in the Battle of Hurtgen Forest, an important battle on the European front right before the Battle of the Bulge. Many of the men who sacrificed their lives for our freedom that day were not identified, including Corporal Vinyard.

In 2021, folks working at the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency figured out one set of remains could have been Corporal Vinyard's. Thanks to DNA testing from samples the family provided, scientists were able to identify his remains. By September 2022, the family had been notified that he would be brought back to Blount County.

Corporal Vinyard was laid to rest in Grandview Cemetery in Maryville this past weekend. He is buried beside his parents, just a few miles from his home. After almost 80 years, Corporal Joe Allen Vinyard has finally come home.

#### HONORING SERGEANT DANIEL CLIFFORD BRITTON

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant Daniel Clifford Britton, who served our country during the Gulf war.

Daniel graduated from Temple Baptist Academy in 2006. He went on to the University of Tennessee and participated in the Army ROTC program and enlisted in the Army on September 3, 2008.

Sergeant Britton attended his initial Active-Duty training at Fort Benning,

Georgia. After graduation, he was assigned to the 15th Infantry Regiment. He graduated from the air assault course in September 2009, and in 2010, he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he earned his Combat Infantry Badge. During his service, he was awarded the Iraq Campaign Medal with two stars, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal twice, and many others. He was a patriot and loved this country to its core.

Sergeant Britton passed away in May and left behind a daughter who he loved with his whole being. I offer my condolences to his daughter and all his friends and family who knew and loved him.

It is my honor to recognize Sergeant Daniel Britton as the Tennessee Second District's June 2023 Veteran of the Month. His service to this country, his community, and his family will never be forgotten.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, as a Christian, I am not a very good one, but I owe everything in my life, except for my salvation, to the men and women who wore our country's uniform. I thank you for this opportunity. I appreciate your testimony here on the floor about that man, one of our brave officers, who lost his life. I thank the people in the gallery for standing up and showing him that respect.

This is a great country we have, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, brother, for your friendship.

#### RECOGNIZING 10TH DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN'S DISTRICT OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, we had a slogan in Army aviation: "High Above the Best." It was a reminder that the American people entrusted us, me and my men, to provide air support for the soldiers fighting for their lives on the ground each and every single day. Likewise, in Congress, our constituents, our customers, have entrusted our staff and myself to provide air support to the good people in our district fighting for their livelihoods each and every single day.

I stand here to say that my district staff has exemplified this slogan, "High Above the Best." In under 6 months in this office, my team has already delivered on a monumental constituent casework milestone in a freshman office.

Earlier this month, my team surpassed \$100,000 in Federal casework dollars returned to our constituents, to our customers. They are providing that air support to Michigan's 10th Congressional District, just like Army aviators.

It is a lot of work setting up a congressional office. Both our D.C. and district teams have burned the midnight oil to get everything up and running so