

ASSESSING FAST FASHION

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

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, satellite images have identified a pile of discarded clothing in Chili, sent there from Europe, Asia, and America. It is so large it can be seen from space.

This mountain of textile waste illustrates the environmental toll of what is called fast fashion. Unfortunately, fast fashion has become very popular with consumers, but it comes at a high cost to our planet.

Fast fashion relies on cheap manufacturing, frequent consumption, and short-lived garment use. This constant cycle of production and disposal is exemplified by these mountains of discarded shirts and skirts.

Textile waste has increased dramatically over the last two decades and, in the process, has become a massive environmental challenge. In 2018, 17 million tons of textiles were generated in the U.S. and 11.3 million tons were thrown into landfills.

As the rate that clothing is produced and discarded increases, only 15 percent of the clothing in the U.S. is recycled or reused, with the rest either incinerated or sent to landfills for disposal.

I am formally calling on the GAO to assess what actions the EPA has taken and can take to combat fast fashion waste.

In Maine, we have a deeply ingrained sense that you can always get a little more use out of something. I agree. The Federal Government can and must do more to stop waste and pollution. Fast fashion should be sustainable fashion.

SECURING THE BORDER

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I have been to the border several times now. When I visited in 2019 under President Trump, it was orderly, and the situation was contained. It brings me no pleasure to say when I visited last time, under the Joe Biden administration, it was an unmitigated disaster.

We watched migrants flow over the border and saw holding facilities far past capacity. We saw guardsmen pulled away from their border posts to go buy diapers and other supplies. We saw mountains of drugs that had been confiscated, which left everyone wondering how many had gone through undetected.

On any visit to the border, CBP will inform you that where there is a barrier, the border is secure, and the portions without are not.

Yet, sadly, this administration has done nothing over the past 2½ years to curb illegal immigration. Inversely,

they have actually encouraged it, which has strengthened the cartels. It has gotten so bad we are having illegals fill up school gymnasiums.

Yes, we need comprehensive immigration reform, but we need to stop the bleeding first by securing the border. We know how to do it.

COMMEMORATING PRIDE MONTH

(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, I rise today to commemorate Pride Month for the good people of west Michigan.

Even as we celebrate this month as a time of joy, allowing individuals to be their authentic selves, it has been marked by communications from back home about the challenges and direct harm individuals face just for being a member of the LGBTQ community. Far, far too often, this harm is inflicted directly and intentionally in the name of God.

West Michigan has not had a countervoice in Congress, but they do now. I rise today as a lawmaker to express my commitment to championing freedom and justice for all in this country. I also rise today as a woman of deep and unwavering faith to reaffirm the equality that we all experience as precious human beings created with love, with joy, in the image and likeness of God. No scheme of man can change that.

To all of you in west Michigan who have felt unseen, unheard, or, even worse, bullied, this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is for you. My votes are for you. My presence here on the House floor is for you.

We are bending the arc toward justice, toward inclusion, toward equality. Happy Pride.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LARRY DOCKINS

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

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Larry Dockins, a Wyomingite who courageously served our country and who was and remains a beloved hero by all who knew him.

After receiving his GED, Larry made the decision to join the Army National Guard in 1962, where he began his lifetime career in service to his country.

Throughout his time in the Army National Guard, he prioritized the needs of his community and that of his fellow residents. Plowing snow and hauling hay were just a few of the ways in which Larry was able to assist those around him.

He was also a proud member of the Command Maintenance Evaluation and Training team, which sought to solve logistical and equipment-related issues experienced by National Guard units

through assistance and training. Upon the conclusion of his service, Larry retired as a master sergeant.

Despite his love for public service, Larry valued family above all else and cherished every minute he was able to spend with both his grandkids and great-grandkids.

Larry, sadly, passed away on January 4, 2023. His selfless service will always be remembered by his family and friends and will leave a lasting impression on the communities he dedicated his life to assisting.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of Larry Dockins, honoring his service to our Nation and standing with his family in these difficult times.

STOPPING CRIMINAL FENTANYL SALES

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we move toward the Fourth of July, after celebrating and commemorating Juneteenth, I want to talk a bit about freedom.

I ask my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring my legislation, the STOP Fentanyl Now Act, to prevent the rise in the criminal selling of fentanyl and the death that comes to our children and to stop the online sales. Join me in stating to America that we will not give up on the fight against eliminating fentanyl in our streets and in our homes.

Then, Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to take note that a Member stood on the floor and utilized the Constitution about impeaching the President of the United States, Joe Biden. There is no basis in this Constitution for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Isn't it interesting that border crossings are down, but because they disagree with immigration policies that they have helped contribute to, they want to impeach him?

Finally, happy Pride Month and happy understanding that we all are created equal. The LGBTQ+ community stands tall as Americans in this Nation. Happy Pride.

HONORING HENRY WILLIAMSON

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry Williamson, an aviation mechanic with 50 years of dedicated service, most of which he spent working at the Conway-Horry County Airport.

Mr. Williamson, of Horry County, began his career in aviation after receiving a degree in aircraft maintenance from the Florence-Darlington Technical College.

In honor of his dedication to the industry as an aviation mechanic, Mr.

Williamson was recently awarded the Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award from the Federal Aviation Administration. This is an award that only 40 South Carolinians have ever received.

I want to express my sincerest congratulations to Mr. Williamson for this much-deserved recognition and thank him for his dedication to keeping his customers safe in the skies.

ANTI-SEMITISM IS A THREAT TO ALL AMERICANS

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, this week, horrific anti-Semitic flyers were distributed across my district in Pennsylvania. I heard from friends and neighbors who found flyers in their front yards or in their driveways. These hateful flyers were found in some cases by children.

I am not going to show nor repeat the flyers' disgusting words because that is what those who spread hate want, for people to amplify their insidious message, one that is on the rise as the Anti-Defamation League records year-to-year increases in anti-Semitism.

I am a proud Jewish American, but anti-Semitism isn't just a threat to those of us who are Jewish. It is a threat to all of us because anti-Semitism, like other forms of bigotry that spread lies and stock hatred, is an existential threat to our values as Americans.

It takes all of us, drawing strength and community from one another, to stand up to those who want to divide us. Let's keep standing together so that, united as neighbors, we can root out the anti-Semitism and hate that endangers our fundamental American values.

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FLYING THE PRIDE FLAG AT EMBASSIES

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I point out that every month in this country, if you include the people who come over here kind of administratively, we hit new records of people who I think are here illegally. That is not going down if you compare month after month.

In any event, currently the Biden administration is encouraging our embassies abroad to fly the so-called pride flag on our embassies, including the Vatican. This is completely inappropriate, and the Biden administration should immediately stop this policy.

America is a blessed Nation that has, I think, been the light of the world. Rather than sending a message to the world that America stands for and is

great because of its freedoms guaranteed under our Constitution and the bravery, faith, purity, and respect for the law of its people, it sends the message that America stands for the LGBT sexual agenda.

Leaving aside the absurdity that any sexually related flag should stand with Old Glory—how ridiculous—this is not the message we want to send to the countries around the world. It is also an insult to the hundreds of millions of Americans who oppose this agenda as well as the hundreds of thousands who made our country great and would be appalled by this.

President Biden, please take down this flag.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

FIGHTING FOR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, one year ago tomorrow, the Supreme Court overturned a half century of precedent by ending the nationwide guarantee that women be allowed to make choices over their bodies.

Since then, we have seen the devastating result: Numerous States enacting bans that deny a woman's ability to make decisions over her body, oftentimes without any exception.

In the face of this new wave of attacks on reproductive freedom, I have fought with many of my colleagues to preserve access to abortions and to restore a nationwide right to abortion access.

House Democrats produced and passed legislation to ensure women can travel safely and freely to States in which abortion is still legal, have access to contraception, and cover abortions regardless of income or health status.

We will not stop there.

We will continue to push for legislation that will once again allow women everywhere in America to be in charge of their own health decisions.

ALFREDO AND JANE CALVO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my constituents, Alfredo and Jane Calvo, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30 this year.

They will be spending this milestone anniversary with their family: Al, Michael, Kari, Leigh, and their young grandson, Tucker.

Jane served in the Henderson County PTA, the North Carolina General Federation of Women's Clubs, and spent 16

years of her career as a staffer for one of my predecessors, the Honorable Congressman Charles Taylor. Jane has also worked for the Social Security Administration.

Alfredo was a volunteer soccer coach at Flat Rock Middle School and East Henderson High School and served in the Social Security Administration for more than a decade.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Alfredo and Jane Calvo on their 50th wedding anniversary. Here is to many more.

HONORING THE LIFE OF IRA SHARP

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

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Ira Sharp, a beloved member of the greater San Diego community who passed away this month.

Ira was a native of St. Louis, where he came of age organizing sit-ins at segregated restaurants, activating students in support of civil rights, and eventually practicing law.

He later lived here in Washington, D.C., where he and his wife Rose Ann ran a successful small business in legal services and court reporting, and in Naples, Florida, until they retired for good in San Diego.

After their grandson was born and after the Parkland shooting, Ira and Rose Ann cofounded NeverAgainCA, and Ira served on the national board of the Brady Campaign. His fingerprints are on nearly every piece of gun safety legislation in San Diego County and California in the past decade.

Beyond his immense advocacy, Ira was a good friend. If he was proud of you, he would tell you. If you had a cause for him to support, he was there.

May his legacy live on as we continue the work to end gun violence, and may his memory be a blessing.

REJECTING INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO

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

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reject attempts by the United Nations Special Committee for Decolonization calling for the independence of Puerto Rico.

It is no surprise that Cuba, Nicaragua, Russia, Syria, and Venezuela, who are among the worst human rights violators and antidemocratic regimes in the world are the ones calling for Puerto Rico's independence in an attempt to advance their anti-American agenda and grow their influence in the region.

For 106 years, Puerto Ricans have been proud American citizens, participating in the U.S. Armed Forces in