

provide training to school personnel and students.

Codification of the SchoolSafety.gov clearinghouse, which provides evidence-based resources to improve school safety and prohibits use of funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to train or equip any person with dangerous weapons in schools.

I also think we must do more to address the mental health challenges that officers inevitably face, due to the harrowing nature of their work.

We cannot expect qualified officers to remain in such a dangerous profession if we do not give them the resources, they need to address the toll that police work takes on them.

It is time we come together and truly support law enforcement through legislative efforts that will provide resources and tools to address the myriad of issues facing law enforcement, rather than politicizing what has traditionally been a bipartisan effort.

And so, during this special week and every day in the work I do here in Congress, I am proud to support and recognize law enforcement officers for the tremendous work they do each day, and to uplift in special reverence the names of all those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for us and the Nation.

It is equally just as important to acknowledge those officers we have lost—our fallen heroes who have given their last full measure of devotion to the communities they swore to protect and serve—some who gave their lives as far back as 1857.

How excellent it is that the stories of these courageous individuals have been brought to light and were not left untold.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2024 PATHFINDER SCHOLARSHIP FIRST PLACE WINNER SHANIA GRANT IN THE HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE CATEGORY

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Shania Grant, the first-place winner of the prestigious Pathfinder Scholarship in the History and Political Science category. This scholarship is awarded to Palm Beach and Martin County students who have displayed excellence in their academic and communal endeavors in a multitude of categories.

Shania, a student at FAU High School, is a shining example of academic excellence and community engagement. Her dedication has earned her a place on the FAU President's Honor Roll three times, a role as managing editor for FAU's law journal, and an internship at the school district's General Council office. As a first-generation student, she aspires to use her passion to make a difference in the legal realm, with plans to attend law school and specialize in immigration or employment law.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing Ms. Shania Grant as an excellent student and notable contributor to the fields of history and political science.

RECOGNIZING LEVI SAENZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Levi Saenz for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Levi has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Levi, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Levi's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Warren Tech North and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Levi Saenz on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING DR. DOROTHY SIMPSON-TAYLOR

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to present Dr. Dorothy "Doty" Simpson-Taylor, founder of the Sister Soldier Network, with the Sheila Corcoran Hoosier Hero Award for her service to country and community. Inspired by its namesake, this award was created to highlight exemplary Hoosier women veterans whose service to their community and nation is unparalleled.

Well-known throughout the Indianapolis and surrounding communities, Doty's service began in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and has continued over the span of five decades as a former American Legion Indiana District 11 Women Veterans Representative and Commander of AMVETS Post 99 in Indianapolis. A retired psychologist and former faculty member and administrator at multiple universities, Doty uses her unique blend of skills to give back to the community.

Doty is guided by her belief that "everybody ought to provide some service to the community of humanity." With this in mind, she has always been an outspoken trailblazer for the Black community. In 2010, Doty founded the Sister Soldier Network, a veteran organization that helps women transition from the military back into society. Combining her passion to uplift others with tangible actions, the Sister Soldier Network sheds a well-deserved light on women veterans, while also serving as a resource to help guide her peers in topics such as homelessness, discrimination, and community involvement.

In 2019, Doty was presented the Jefferson Award in recognition of her community service. In 2022, she was inducted into the Indiana Military Hall of Fame. She also received the Congressional Black Caucus Award for leadership in veteran issues with the Congressional Black Caucus Brain Trust and is a member of the Cedar Valley Coalition of Black Veterans.

Doty's commitment to service has led her to be an impactful leader, mentor, and wise

counsel. She has created a legacy of compassion, care, and healing for her fellow veterans and has served as a voice of her peers in the military and veteran communities.

Doty continues to uplift the incredible women veterans around her, and it brings me great joy to commemorate and uplift her in the same manner. As we celebrate National Military Appreciation Month, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Dorothy "Doty" Simpson-Taylor. We celebrate her legacy of outstanding accomplishments and advocacy.

POLICE OUR BORDER ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak in opposition to H.R. 8146, the "Police Our Border Act".

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Crime Subcommittee and as Senior Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am deeply disappointed in this harmful and misguided bill. Yet again, House Republicans are wasting time with another bill that does nothing to solve any issues at the border.

Instead of trying to pass thoughtful and bipartisan legislation to address the problems in our immigration system, they have once again brought forward a bill that has no chance of becoming law and accomplishes absolutely nothing.

This legislation is purportedly a reporting bill that simply requires the Attorney General to submit a report to Congress on the impact the number of migrants coming to the border is having on law enforcement officers at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal level.

Upon closer inspection however, this bill seeks to codify Republican attacks on the President's immigration policies and the fearmongering and demonization of immigrants.

For example, the bill requires the Attorney General to submit a report to Congress on the impact the "Biden border crisis" is having on law enforcement officers at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal level.

Additionally, the report must include information on the exposure of law enforcement officers to fentanyl as a result of encounters with illegal aliens."

Both of these reporting requirements contain politically motivated rhetoric disguised as fact.

This bill is also very poorly drafted.

Despite the fact the entire bill is focused on reporting requirements related to the "Biden border crisis," this term is not defined in the legislation.

The failure to define this key term provides little guidance to the Attorney General on the required report, and it is further evidence that this bill is more about messaging than congressional oversight of the executive branch.

Additionally, the Secretary of Homeland Security would almost certainly be much better situated to assess issues related to border security.

However, it appears Republicans chose to request this bill's report from the Attorney General to ensure the Judiciary Committee would have jurisdiction over this bill, so they

would have an immigration-related bill to offer for "Police Week."

Instead of trying to pass thoughtful and bipartisan legislation to address the problems in our immigration system, this bill fails in such endeavor and offers no viable action.

It is also important to state the fact that the border is not open.

Let us look at the facts.

In the Fiscal Year 24 appropriations bill, Congress appropriated over \$3.4 billion for DHS to maintain and use 41,500 detention beds.

These are levels of detention similar to those during under the Trump administration.

Despite the claims of this bill, the Biden administration has significantly expanded expedited removal, and in ways that many in our caucus worry violates due process."

Since the end of Title 42 last year, the Biden administration has removed or returned over 660,000 individuals, including over 102,000 individual members of family units, including children.

This is more than the number of people removed or returned in any year under the Trump administration.

Yet, time and again, Republicans have refused to take yes for an answer.

In addition to rejecting the bipartisan Senate border bill, Republicans have consistently refused to support providing additional resources and personnel for the border.

In 2021, all but six current House Republicans voted against the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, which provided additional funding to ports of entry to combat smuggling of people and drugs.

All but two current House Republicans voted against providing robust funding for border security operations in the FY2023 appropriations omnibus legislation.

That bill provided more than \$17 billion to Customs and Border Protection (CBP), including funding for an additional 300 Border Patrol agents.

The omnibus also included \$60 million to hire 125 CBP officers and \$70 million for non-intrusive inspection technology to detect narcotics and firearms at ports of entry.

In October of 2023, the Biden administration sent Congress a supplemental funding request, which included an additional \$13.6 billion for border security.

My Republican colleagues have refused to schedule a vote on this funding request, which would provide the Biden administration the resources it needs to secure the border and provide additional support for communities receiving migrants.

More specifically, this supplemental funding would pay for an additional 1,300 Border Patrol agents; 375 immigration judges and 1,600 asylum officers to speed up processing of asylum claims; 1,000 CBP officers with a focus on countering fentanyl; new detection technology for ports of entry; additional investigative capabilities to combat fentanyl trafficking; and \$1.4 billion more in grants to help communities receiving migrants, among other investments.

By forcing a vote on this bill, Republicans are showing they have no real solutions to address the border.

I urge Members to not take the bait, and to vote no on this bill.

RECOGNIZING FREDON TOWNSHIP'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to Fredon Township on its 120th anniversary. I am truly grateful to be celebrating this monumental milestone with them. Over the past 120 years, Fredon Township has flourished into a lively town with vibrant natural scenery and rich history. As the youngest township in Sussex County, Fredon Township was formed from parts of Andover, Green, Hampton, and Stillwater Townships and is home to approximately 3,450 residents and 1,203 residential dwellings. Once a dusty, rutted, narrow dirt road on Route 94, traveling through a busy little village in the 1800s, can now be found as the core of the township. I am proud to have such a remarkable town within the 7th District, and I look forward to watching it continue to thrive in the coming decades. I wish Fredon Township a wonderful 120th anniversary. May its next 120 years be filled with as much success as this one.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS PRESIDENT NEAL J. SMATRESK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor University of North Texas (UNT) President Neal J. Smatresk, PhD who has dedicated his career to advancing education and transforming institutions. President Smatresk's tenure at UNT has been marked by innovation, growth, and a relentless commitment to excellence.

President Smatresk's journey in academia has been distinguished by his unwavering dedication to fostering academic success and research excellence. Before assuming his role at UNT, President Smatresk held pivotal leadership positions at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and the University of Texas at Arlington.

Prior to his roles in Administration, Dr. Smatresk was a distinguished biologist and researcher. His scholarly pursuits focused on advancing our understanding of respiratory neurobiology, garnering substantial grant support, and resulting in numerous publications. His dedication to STEM education and outreach left an indelible mark on countless aspiring scientists and scholars.

President Smatresk's leadership at UNT has been nothing short of transformative and has propelled UNT to unprecedented heights, fostering a culture of achievement and inclusivity. Under his guidance, UNT has achieved a remarkable five-year record of continued enrollment growth, now serving almost 47,000 students; reflecting President Smatresk's dedication to expanding access to higher education and empowering students to pursue their academic aspirations. Additionally, President

Smatresk led UNT to becoming a Carnegie-ranked Tier One institution that has emerged as a top 10 U.S. public university on the rise. While his strategic vision and commitment to student success has propelled UNT to new heights, earning recognition as both a Minority-Serving and Hispanic-Serving Institution and securing its place as one of only 22 Carnegie-ranked Tier One research universities designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

President Smatresk's impact extends far beyond the realm of academia. Through strategic partnerships with industry leaders and innovative program offerings, such as UNT's groundbreaking M.B.A. program in sport entertainment management in collaboration with the Dallas Cowboys, President Smatresk has positioned UNT as a pioneer in higher education. His innovative approach to fostering partnerships between academia and industry has positioned UNT as a leader in addressing the evolving needs of the workforce. Through strategic collaborations with companies such as American Airlines, Liberty Mutual, Google, and JP Morgan Chase, President Smatresk has created new avenues for experiential learning and professional development, ensuring that UNT graduates are well-equipped to thrive in today's competitive job market.

Moreover, his commitment to expanding UNT's presence in Collin County through the establishment of the UNT at Frisco branch campus underscores his dedication to expanding UNT's reach across the growing DFW region and fostering economic development through education. President Smatresk has also overseen a commitment to athletic investments and facility expansions that has transformed UNT's athletic program into a powerhouse of excellence and helped to secure UNT's membership into Conference USA. The Mean Green student-athletes and teams, under his leadership, have flourished, exemplifying the university's spirit of determination and achievement.

President Neal J. Smatresk's visionary leadership, unwavering dedication, and profound impact on higher education will leave an enduring legacy at the University of North Texas and beyond. On behalf of the constituents of the 26th Congressional District of Texas, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to President Smatresk for his exemplary service and wish him a fulfilling and rewarding retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AT JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER AND RIVERVIEW MEDICAL CENTER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Hackensack Meridian Health in commemorating the 50th anniversary of Behavioral Health Services at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center. The hospitals' vision and commitment to supporting the well-being of Monmouth and Ocean County's communities is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Since 1974, Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center