

become little more than a sad and ineffective means of expressing dissatisfaction with the policies of the opposing party.

It has correctly been said that the object of the House in an impeachment proceeding is to create a full record upon which a verdict in the Senate can be fairly and efficiently adjudged.

Thanks to Chairman MARK GREEN's excellent work, this is exactly what has happened. Over the past 10 months, including important recent evidentiary hearings, Chairman MARK GREEN's Homeland Security Committee, using an open and deliberative process, has carefully created a full record reflecting Secretary Mayorkas' violation of statutory and constitutional standards upon which the Senate can and should deliberate.

That process has not only developed the facts and evidence of breaches of our laws, it has also allowed full debate and full disclosure to our Nation of what our law requires and the Secretary's intentional circumvention of those laws.

Had we not completed this investigative process, we would have not only weakened the impeachment remedy, but we would have also made it much easier for the Senate to ignore the excellent work the committee has now done.

Just a few words about Article I of the Homeland Security Committee's impeachment resolution:

United States Code 8 U.S.C. 1226(c) explicitly states that illegal aliens who have a criminal conviction shall be detained. Yet Secretary Mayorkas literally ordered DHS employees to not enforce this law. This is not mere neglect, nor can this violation be excused as a result of not having space available in the detention facilities. There were and are spaces available, and if there were not, the Secretary could and should have asked for increased funding in the DHS budget.

In fact, when Secretary Mayorkas appeared before the Judiciary Committee, on which I sit, I asked why he had not requested more money for his department's budget instead of less.

Because we Republicans followed regular order and completed the hearing process, we have met and exceeded the threshold of evidence necessary to justify a trial. The record established by Chairman MARK GREEN's Homeland Security Committee contains adequate evidence of the Secretary's breach of our laws, and this constitutes more than an adequate foundation for his impeachment.

Thus, when the Senate receives this impeachment resolution, it will have the evidence needed to render a fair and efficient verdict, and that verdict should be that the Secretary is guilty of breaking our Nation's laws and should be convicted and removed from office.

## LESS GUN VIOLENCE IN CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, last week law enforcement officials in Chester, Pennsylvania, announced that this community has seen a 72 percent decrease in shootings with victims since 2019.

2023 saw the fewest gun homicides in two decades and a 68 percent decrease in gun homicides since 2019.

Chester was once ranked among the most dangerous cities in the Nation for gun violence.

So how did this happen?

Since 2019, law enforcement, community members, faith groups, and local government have all been working together as the Chester Partnership for Safe Neighborhoods.

During a period when we saw gun violence spike across the Nation, we have seen year-over-year reductions in gun violence and other violent crimes as community partners have worked together to implement a community-based violence prevention program with support from State and Federal funding, including the American Rescue Plan and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

It is time to recognize the success of these pivotal programs with more than a pat on the back. Rather than offering sound bites and saber-rattling, the Chester community, a democratically led community I might add, rolled up its sleeves and did the work of identifying the resources and community partnerships needed to reduce gun violence and create a safer community.

I want to congratulate DA Stollsteimer, Police Chief Gretskey, Cory Long from Making a Change Group, and all of the community members who have been so important in this effort.

To those who say that there is nothing we can do about gun violence, I say: Shame on you.

Programs like this work, and we need to recognize and support them.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ANITA SANTOS SINGH

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Anita Santos Singh, a champion for access to justice.

At the age of 32, Anita became the founding executive director of Philadelphia Legal Assistance Center, the federally funded legal services program serving Philadelphia.

It is never easy to head up a program that provides legal services to the poor.

While legal aid is supposed to assure access to justice for low-income Americans, these programs are chronically underfunded and have been so since their inception. We spend more on Halloween costumes for our pets in this country than we do for legal services for the poor. It is no surprise that study after study shows that 80 percent

of low-income Americans cannot afford or access legal help for civil problems like eviction, child custody, or gaining access to their veterans' benefits.

Nonetheless, Anita faced additional challenges of leading a brand new program which had been formed in response to the drastic service and funding cutbacks imposed by Congress in the 1990s, and she did so in the poorest large city in the country, with a shoestring budget and a couple dozen attorneys to serve thousands of clients.

I headed up the search committee that hired Anita, and we knew she was up to the job. Under her leadership, Philadelphia Legal Assistance grew into a frontline organization that now helps over 6,000 clients a year fight systems of injustice and disparity.

Anita's colleagues describe her as a tireless advocate for access to justice who dedicated her life to helping Philadelphia's most vulnerable populations meet critical needs.

Anita constantly developed innovative projects to meet the ever-changing needs of Philadelphia's poorest citizens. She created the first low-income tax clinic in Philadelphia. She expanded legal services for migrant farm workers, including addressing issues of domestic abuse. She leveraged Federal funding sources to expand family law services which is one of the highest legal needs in Philadelphia. She created the Medical Legal Community Partnership which brings community-based legal assistance to low-income patients at 17 different sites.

During the 2008 recession, she developed programs to assist families in danger of losing their homes. In 2021 she helped develop an eviction diversion program for tenants which became part of a national model.

Until her premature death last month, Anita Santos Singh was a legal services champion and advocate for access to justice in Philadelphia for 34 years.

Because of her work, thousands of Philadelphians were able to stay in their homes, put food on the table, and live a life free of partner violence. Her legacy will live on through the thousands of lives she has touched through her efforts.

Her story is a reminder that access to legal aid remains a continuous challenge in this country. For many, a single legal problem can spiral into a mountain of debt, homelessness, or unemployment. Many Americans facing legal challenges are not aware of their rights or options which can lead to stress and confusion and can often exacerbate the legal challenges they face.

We have an obligation to ensure that all Americans are aware of their legal options, and, more importantly, that they have access to representation under the law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor Anita's work by ensuring that every American has access to quality legal assistance whenever they need it.

## AMERICA'S CREDIT UNIONS

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the importance of America's credit unions and the opportunities they provide for our communities.

Arizona is home to 35 credit unions with nearly 2 million members.

Credit unions fill a unique role in the financial services marketplace as they serve communities that do not have access to banks or larger financial institutions.

As not-for-profit financial cooperatives, credit unions exist to serve all their members without the involvement of shareholders or outside investors.

I remember that a credit union was my first account that I ever opened.

In stride, I want to recognize the new creation of America's Credit Unions. This organization unites the two existing national trade associations to create a single and strong voice promoting the ideals of credit unions across the country.

Moreover, I wish now, with this statement, America's Credit Unions the best as they advocate for credit unions as a crucial financial option for all Americans.

## CDO FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Canyon Del Oro football team for securing their first State football championship since 2009.

Their victory took place at ASU's Mountain America Stadium in Tempe where they went up against Yuma Catholic and came out with the win with a score of 35-27. This marks CDO's return on the State football titles game after more than a decade.

The 29 graduating seniors proudly brought the championship trophy home in their final year, contributing to the team's flawless 14-0 record. It was their first perfect season since the last State championship in 2009. This remarkable accomplishment stands as a testament to the dedication and skill of the entire team.

As we celebrate their success, we eagerly anticipate the bright future that lies ahead for our student athletes and the CDO football program.

## HONORING THE MEMORY OF VERN PELLMAN, JR.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Vern Pellman, Jr., as an esteemed member of the Oro Valley community who passed away last fall at the age of 82.

Vern's life can be defined by faith, family, and service. He was a loving husband, devoted member of his church, and retired Air Force colonel. In 1963 Vern graduated from the University of Notre Dame where he was an active member of the ROTC.

Following graduation, he was stationed with the Air Force at Vance Air Force Base in Oklahoma, a move that would kick-start a military career

spanning nearly three decades. While he served for nearly 30 years as a command pilot, Vern would tell people he never worked a day in his life.

His assignments took him across the globe, flying in and out of destinations that many can only dream of. Upon retiring with the rank of colonel in 1992, Vern transitioned to civilian life taking on a new role at the Evergreen Airline and eventually going on to serve as a Lear instructor.

He is remembered for his love for his family and leaves behind his wife, Connie, who is a dear friend of mine, as well; five children, whom I have met and who speak highly of their dad; and even more grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Laura and I continue to hold Connie and the entire Pellman family close to our hearts.

□ 1030

## HOLDING DELTA EXECUTIVES ACCOUNTABLE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Delta workers deserve the right to organize without intimidation from Delta executives. We know that when workers come together in solidarity, they create a strong, collective voice for safer work environments.

We must empower all the workers to speak out against injustice in their workplace, not silence them.

Recently, the Labor Caucus met with Delta flight attendants that are organizing with Delta AFA as well as Delta workers from Teamsters, machinists unions, to hear about their unionizing efforts.

I heard many of their stories, Mr. Speaker, about being targeted for union organizing efforts after decades of loyalty to the company.

This is unacceptable, and frankly, shameful. It is clear that Delta executives are engaging in bullying, union busting, retaliation, and even suspension of their employees for their union campaigns.

As a proud daughter of the UAW, I know the power of a union, and I will continue to fight for every worker to have the right to organize unions and collectively bargain for better working conditions and higher and fair pay without fear of being targeted or fired.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to stand with the workers and hold Delta executives accountable for their antiunion tactics.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF FAYE AWADA

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I knew the extraordinary woman named Faye Awada. She was a remarkable woman who left a legacy that has deeply impacted the community.

Faye Awada's work was rooted in compassion and resilience, and she dedicated her life to helping others. Born in Lebanon, Faye was the eldest

of 13. She immigrated to the United States in 1960.

Her early struggles as a young mother fueled her determination to uplift the needs of our community. She devoted her life and assisted over 500,000 families that we know of with translation and other services.

Faye was a trailblazer, emerging as one of Michigan's first female entrepreneurs. Her impact earned her the community spotlight award for unwavering dedication.

Mr. Speaker, let us please honor her legacy and achievements as we continue the work that she began. I am sending love and strength to Faye Awada's family.

"May she rest in power," "Allah Yerhama."

## VIOLATION OF THE LEAHY LAWS AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER POLICY

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, on January 5, National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby revealed that the Biden administration hasn't bothered to conduct a formal review of the Israeli Government's compliance with international law since the genocide in Gaza began.

Then on January 18, we learned that the State Department allegedly uses special mechanisms to review and shield the Government of Israel from consequences under U.S. law when reviewing violations of human rights committed by the government.

The level of support for Netanyahu's war crimes by the Biden administration and the majority of this body is beyond belief, especially when the majority of the American people want the war crimes to end.

I am proud to have led a letter with colleagues in requesting that the President and the nonpartisan group called the Government Accountability Office take the long overdue step of reviewing whether the U.S. security aid to Israel is violating Leahy laws and the President's own conventional arms transfer policy.

We should be consistent, but also relentless in assuring that the American weapons are not used to commit war crimes anywhere in the world. That is the bare minimum.

President Biden and the U.S. Government have the power to make sure that we are holding every government accountable that we are sending weapons to. We must facilitate a lasting ceasefire now to ensure the safety of everyone that lives there.

## RECOGNIZING ED CLARK OF THE WILDLIFE CENTER OF VIRGINIA

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I begin my remarks by stating that this body stands in support of the Nation of Israel, the only democratically-elected Nation in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ed Clark of the Wildlife Center of Virginia on his retirement after four decades.