

Our organization has been, is now, and will be in the future, a force for economic and social justice for all the workers in our state. We are the strongest countervailing force that stands up to the power of the business community with the goal of having a level playing field. We are truly the people's lobby. The legislation and issues for which we advocate improve the lives of all workers in our state.

We believe that there can be no democracy unless there is a vibrant free trade union movement. The way we have lived up to that ideal in Rhode Island is our commitment to participate in our democracy. We encourage union members to run for political office at every level. We have a process to endorse candidates based on labor issues. We mobilize voter registration efforts. We engage our members in assisting in our endorsed candidates' campaigns, and we hold elected leaders accountable.

Over the many years, we have adopted a perspective and philosophy that organized labor has a right and responsibility to exercise our voice when and where decisions are made at every level of government. These decisions impact the quality of life and economy of our state and we must be there.

Because of the commitment and dedication of the leaders and members that came before us, Rhode Island has always been a strong labor state. We achieve our maximum effectiveness when we are pro-business, pro-growth, pro-labor and pro-union. Because of your commitment and activity, it remains so today, and I strongly believe that as our labor movement goes forward with new leadership, it will be even stronger in the future.

We will continue to get stronger by organizing new members. We will continue to be among the states with the highest percentage of union members. We will continue to provide high quality and innovative education and training programs through our Institute for Labor Studies and Research. We will continue to champion innovative programs like Climate Jobs RI which enhance our image in the community and protect our future.

I am grateful and thankful that you have allowed me to be a part of this movement that has brought justice, prosperity, and hope to so many people.

In Solidarity,

*George H. Nee,
President.*

FINALIZED RULE OF THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, last year in California, the State's air pollution regulator, known as CARB, which stands for the California Air Resources Board, finalized a new rule that would require freight railroads in the State to adopt zero-emissions locomotives for industrial use, such as in local yards and ports, by 2030, and for normal, long-distance hauling by 2035. It is now requesting a waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency to proceed.

Madam Speaker, the EPA should deny this since this EPA CARB rule would effectively require all locomotives to operate in a zero-emissions configuration when operating in California, including out-of-state loco-

motives that would come into California and then proceed back out again. One of these noncompliant locomotives would have to unhitch at the border and bring other locomotives in just to drive into our State.

This regulation would limit the useful life of thousands of locomotives across the rail network and requires a transition to zero-emission technology. Even by CARB's own admission, this rule will drive many short-line railroad operators and rail lines out of business.

CARB also admits this rule will be shifting the transport of goods to trucks, which ultimately are going to raise highway miles traveled and likely raise emissions from trucks and the whole window of emissions because you can have many trucks hauling up to 80,000 pounds typically versus a railroad with the many, many tons they can haul efficiently. This is the opposite of the goal of CARB by causing a raise of emissions and vehicle miles traveled.

Rail operators have not yet been able to acquire the full tier 4 locomotives due to unavailability, and the technology isn't even fully developed yet on tier 4 locomotives. CARB, once again, is jumping the gun to move to even more stringent standards. Essentially, they are mandating tier 5 locomotives when tier 4 locomotives don't even fully exist yet. It is just amazing.

It would make more sense for the bureaucrats at CARB to take a break from their carbon-neutral crusade and let rail operators come up to tier 4 compliance standards. If they could make the tier 4, you would already see a dramatic cut in emissions across the board since these tier 4 locomotives are 85 percent cleaner than older technology, instead of pushing net-zero locomotives, which seems to be the holy grail, on such a ridiculous timeline.

Since they are obsessed with net zero and carbon reductions, they have actually worked against their own goals, as I mentioned, with forcing it onto trucks and on and on.

It is estimated that EPA approval would result in close to 65 percent of the Nation's class I railroad locomotive fleet being banned from operating in California by the year 2030. He notes that other States are going to do the monkey see, monkey do like California does.

General Van Ovost, the head of U.S. Transportation Command, expressed concerns that this regulation will negatively affect the economy and military readiness posture of moving military equipment as they need to. By reducing this ability to transport goods and military equipment in and out of the State from other parts of the country or having a lack of locomotives to do so, military operations could be severely impacted by this regulation. Imagine if we can't move the material we need in a timely fashion because of a California rule if the U.S. EPA gives them this waiver.

A large collection of national, State, and local agricultural groups have ex-

pressed great concern that this CARB rule poses a significant danger to U.S. agriculture and its ability to transport ag products domestically or to our ports. Members may remember a few years ago, there was a giant port problem in California. It was not an all-out strike, but a slowdown of work, where many ag products were left on the docks so long that the more perishable produce and agricultural food was rotting; it wasn't getting shipped out or, in some cases, even shipped in.

Do we want to add to that problem with, instead of the trucks at that time, having the railroads also be in that state?

It needs to be stated again that the technology required for these replacements does not yet exist for what would be called a tier 5 locomotive.

Freight railroads contribute only 0.5 percent to total U.S. emissions and about 1.7 percent to transportation-related emissions.

All of this is to reduce the amount of CO₂ in our atmosphere, which I will remind my colleagues once again, which I have done many times on this floor, CO₂ is only 0.04 percent of the gases of our atmosphere. When Members look at the pie chart, it is that tiny, little wedge in there that is typically listed as trace gases or other, along with krypton and water vapor.

This rule will slow the food our farmers grow getting to our tables and ports for trade and, indeed, as I mentioned, rotting while sitting at the ports. It will delay and raise in price the materials used to build and heat our homes. Every stage, of course, of automobile production, including EVs, will be slowed down as well by not being able to move these materials. The rule causes lots of problems. EPA, deny this rule.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ZINKE) at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Lisa Wink Schultz, Office of the Senate Chaplain, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within us, bless Your holy name. For You alone are holy and all who live and breathe find their purpose in You.

Let the light of Your glory illuminate the paths we take today, that

our feet will not go astray from Your purpose. Send Your light into the shadows of our lives, that we would turn from the darkness of our ill intent and choose the righteousness of Your grace plan.

Let the depth of Your mercy seep into our souls, that we would be transformed by Your love. In Your compassion, may we discover who You have called us to be and be inspired to want to live lives in response to Your steadfast loving-kindness.

Let the peace found only in You rule in our hearts and dwell in us richly, that with gratitude we would strive to live in harmony with one another, giving thanks to You in the living of this day, doing so in Your most holy name.

For it is in the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANGWORTHY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rhea County's 18 years of participation in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Parton first founded the program in 1995 in Sevier County where she grew up. The library provides a monthly book to children from birth until age 5 as a way to promote early literacy.

In 2004, Dolly Parton worked with the Governor and the Tennessee State Legislature to expand the program statewide.

Tennessee is celebrating 20 years of public-private partnership between the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation and Dolly Parton's Imagination Li-

brary to help children across our great State develop a solid foundation for literacy and love of reading from an early age.

On September 11, 2006, the program was brought to Rhea County and in that time has graduated over 4,500 children.

I congratulate the Rhea County Library on this wonderful accomplishment and thank them for all they do to help the children of their community learn necessary foundational literary skills that will set them up for future success.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF BRUCE KENDALL

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary service of Bruce Kendall, a man who has served as the president and CEO of the Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County.

There are so many things I could say to recognize Bruce. I could speak to the phenomenal way in which he developed partnerships both within Pierce County and with neighbors in our region. I could praise the leadership he showed to shepherd our community through the pandemic and to ensure small businesses had the information and resources that they needed.

I could express my gratitude personally for the role he played to me as a mentor when I worked with him at the EDB for 10 years before coming to Congress.

However, the main thing I want to convey today is that Bruce Kendall has changed lives. There are people in our region who have jobs today because of Bruce. There are families able to put food on their tables because of Bruce. Our community is stronger and more prosperous because of Bruce. Bruce Kendall has been a real difference maker, and for that today on the House floor I thank him.

U.S. STEEL CHINA WEEK

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight something President Biden and I agree on for once: U.S. Steel must remain an American company.

Steel is the backbone of our economy and is crucial to America's national and economic security. American bridges, railways, highways, and buildings are all built with, you guessed it, steel.

U.S. Steel is American steel at its core, and it was once the largest steel producer in the world, a symbol of our global competitiveness.

United States Steel should be owned by Americans. United States Steel

should provide jobs to American workers. United States Steel should be here to forge America forward.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear. This is not about being anti-Japan or any other nation for that matter. Instead, this is about being pro-America and protecting our economic future and our national security.

A strong steel industry means a strong middle class with good-paying jobs that support American families. We shouldn't sell out our workers or our future to foreign corporations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. SEGUNDO ARMANDO GONZALEZ TAMAYO

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Dr. Segundo Armando Gonzalez Tamayo. He played a vital role in shaping the history of the Dominican Republic.

Dr. Tamayo was a distinguished cardiologist and a committed patriot during a pivotal moment of that country in its fight for democracy. He was elected as vice president in the first national elections after the fall of the Trujillo dictatorship.

His service alongside President Bosch in 1962 to 1963 symbolizes a time of great hope and transformation for the Dominican people. Though their tenure was cut short by a coup, their legacy remains.

Dr. Tamayo's life was defined by service to his country, to medicine, and to democracy. We must remember his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, his life's work continues to inspire all of us, and I want to thank his family, Dr. Patria Gonzalez, his daughter, and my good friend, Fernando Oliver, and their children for sharing this story with all of us.

THREE GEORGIA RESERVISTS KILLED

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on January 28 of this year, three patriotic Americans, Specialist Kennedy Ladon Sanders, Sergeant William Jerome Rivers, and Specialist Breonna Alexsondria Moffett, Georgia Army reservists, were murdered by an Iranian drone attack in Jordan by Iranian puppet Hezbollah. Sadly, on June 27, Biden denied their deaths.

On March 13, I sent a letter requesting the level of severity and number of injured in that attack. On July 19, nearly 4 months later by delay, the response was that with these three courageous American reservists from Georgia, an additional 74 servicemembers were injured, including 68 diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries.