

permanent and ensure that pro-growth policies such as full R&D expensing are included.

In God we trust.

STOPPING THE FENTANYL CRISIS

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. Across America, countless families have lost loved ones to the fentanyl crisis. In my home State of Oregon, it is now estimated that five people die every week from this dangerous drug.

We are expecting an epidemic of massive proportions, and in order to stop it, we need an all-hands-on-deck approach.

Just last week, I held a roundtable with law enforcement officers, community organizations, and local elected officials to understand how we can confront this crisis head on.

I participated in many other discussions like this one, and I always hear a common theme—more resources and more flexibility.

Congress needs to deliver more funding to help our communities fight back against fentanyl, and I will keep working to ensure our police and local leaders have the tools they need to get these drugs off the streets and more people into treatment.

No more families torn apart by addiction. No more suffering and loss. It is time we put an end to this epidemic once and for all.

□ 1700

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

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

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, there are few people in the world who can say they impacted their community as much as Eddie Bernice Johnson.

She dedicated 50 years of her life to public service. She took care of her patients, veterans, and the people of Texas' 30th Congressional District.

EBJ embodied a no-nonsense approach that you would expect from a woman born in Waco, Texas. She didn't care who you were, where you were from, or what party you represented. Her open arms extended a welcoming embrace to everyone, a trait that I experienced firsthand when I showed up as the junior Member of the United States House in the summer of 2021. As the dean of the Texas delegation, she made it clear that regardless of which side of the aisle I was on, she saw me as a Texan, first and foremost.

Chairwoman Johnson welcomed me to the Texas delegation and her Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. She ran a very tight ship, and

she also guided me through the intricacies of becoming an effective member of her committee.

I will forever be grateful to Congresswoman Johnson for her support for her country, her State, and the Texas congressional delegation. She will be missed.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO ADDRESS THE HOUSING CRISIS

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, we have a housing crisis in this country. People are struggling to afford rent, and many can't even think of buying a house.

Basic housing is an economic and human right.

Here are five things we must do:

First, we need 7 million new housing units to fill the gap and a \$445 billion investment in the housing trust fund.

Second, we need to pass my Stop Wall Street Landlords Act to help prevent Wall Street from buying up single-family homes.

Third, we need to provide down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers.

Fourth, we need to—as Representative CORI BUSH called for—provide protection for tenants and provide financial assistance before tenants get evicted.

Finally, we need to provide grants for neighborhood stabilization, like the culinary union did, so rent doesn't increase beyond inflation.

We need to address the Housing crisis.

RECOGNIZING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

(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 recognize Human Trafficking Awareness Day, which is today, January 11.

Last year alone, nearly 28 million individuals were victims of human trafficking worldwide. These inhumane crimes don't just happen in the far nether regions of the world, they are happening right here in communities across this country.

In fact, Horry County, where I grew up, reside in, and represent, is one of the top five counties in South Carolina in reported human trafficking.

Today, and throughout the month of January, which is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, I aim to raise awareness and support victims of these horrible crimes and their families.

I am firmly committed to working to find solutions to prevent this modern-day form of slavery and to support those who have suffered.

CELEBRATING BERNIE SINGER'S 101ST BIRTHDAY

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Mr. Bernie Singer, who just celebrated his 101st birthday.

Bernie is a living testament to courage and resilience. He fought for democracy in World War II, embodying the values of the Greatest Generation.

During the Battle of the Bulge, he was captured on his birthday and was later held in Stalag 9B in Germany. While in captivity, Bernie displayed unparalleled bravery and sacrifice in serving our Nation.

After serving in the military, Bernie ran his own family business for over 70 years, driven by an entrepreneurial spirit and the promise of the American Dream. He married his beloved wife, Marilyn, whom he has called his spouse for over 70 wonderful years.

In addition to being a devoted husband, Bernie is known as a loving father, grandfather, father-in-law, and uncle. In all these roles, he has enriched the lives of those around him with kindness and wisdom.

On behalf of Florida's 20th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Bernie for his exceptional life marked by valor and an enduring love for others.

QUESTIONING DIVERSITY IN THE MILITARY

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today we had a subcommittee hearing in the Oversight Committee regarding foreign affairs, the border, and the military. We had an interesting topic that the press ought to follow up on, and that is the progressive march through our military.

It can be kind of summarized as an obsession with race in our military, an obsession with dividing people, and it was also summed up by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Charles Q. Brown, Jr., who believes we ought to cut the number of White officers in the military to 42 percent from where it is now at over 60 percent.

The supposed reason for this is diversity, which I think has an entirely racist connotation itself. We ought to be spending more time wondering what exactly do these people mean by people from different ethnic backgrounds going back generations will add something to a unit if we pick them by where they are from. If I have one of my four grandparents from Mexico, how do I carry a different viewpoint toward being in the military or being at an engineering firm or being at a law firm.

The press has to ask these diversity experts to give us examples of how you

improve the makeup of a decision by having people who are one-quarter from different parts of the world.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL LLOYD AUSTIN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay acknowledgment and have my colleagues recognize a medaled combat veteran in the name of our Secretary of Defense, and that is General Lloyd Austin.

Over the last couple of weeks, there have been enormous criticism of the nature of his health condition and the alleged communication or noncommunication in the chain of command.

I rise today only to be able to acknowledge the work of a soldier and one who has, through his years of service, continued to act excellently and with excellence.

With that in mind, I hope that all Members of this body will allow the process to proceed, will allow a person to achieve the health services that they need, and will allow respect to be given to a medaled combat officer who now serves this Nation as the Secretary of Defense. Let us do that for his family, for the Secretary, for the men and women of the military, and for this Nation.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRECHEEN). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Public Interest Declassification Board for a term of 3 years:

Mr. Ezra Cohen, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. CROCKETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, for the past 12 days, the people of Texas and those serving in this Chamber have been mourning the loss of a leader, a colleague, and an advocate for change—the late Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.

She was a leader who never let political differences come at the expense of public service and regularly reached across the aisle to promote policies that advanced access to healthcare and helped our Nation dominate in technological and scientific innovation.

Chairwoman Johnson was a champion of bipartisanship, and from the Texas delegation to her colleagues on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, there are many people in this building that have benefited from her wisdom, experience, generosity, and mentorship.

I can personally say that the Texas delegation has a well-earned reputation for bipartisanship, and we continue to honor the chairwoman's legacy by finding areas where we can meet each other halfway to get things done for the 30 million Texans we are blessed to represent.

While I never served with her, I was humbled to be tapped by her as her hand-picked successor. This honor is and will continually be a reminder that I have big shoes—or in the case of the great EBBJ, a fancy pair of St. John's—to fill. She believed I could; therefore, I will. Her legacy will continually be held up by me all the days that I serve in this Chamber.

There is no better way to give tribute to the chairwoman than by giving space to some of her colleagues to speak about her life and legacy in the many ways she impacted the people's House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker Emerita.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for calling this Special Order in honor of the very special person that many of us have had the privilege to serve with—in my case for over three decades. She was so proud that Congresswoman CROCKETT would be following in her footsteps, so it is so appropriate that she is bringing us together now for this formidable force in public service.

Eddie Bernice Johnson sat in that chair reigning for the whole time. She reigned. We always went to her for guidance and advice. Not only did Eddie Bernice make history. Mr. Speaker, she did make a difference as the first African American and the first woman to wield the gavel of the powerful Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Not only did she make history and make a difference, she enabled our country to make progress. We marveled at the respect that she commanded in the scientific community, the academic community, in industry, from her constituents, and from her colleagues on Capitol Hill. The capstone of her career, our Chips and Science Act in her last term in Congress, will drive decades of scientific discovery while recruiting a diverse, inclusive workforce for the industries of tomorrow.

Indeed, she insisted on it. She insisted on investing in STEM education so American minds of all kinds could solve our greatest challenges, the challenges of our time.

Eddie Bernice was always talking about taking our Nation into the future. We chatted quite a bit—she was

soft-spoken toward the end but with great force. And we chatted and laughed about and admired what is written on the walls of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, a quote from the poet Tennyson, and it is so much about Eddie Bernice:

For I dipt into the future,
far as human eye could see,
Saw a vision of the world,
and all the wonder that would be

She understood that wonder. May it be a comfort to her beloved son, Kirk; dear grandchildren Kirk, II, David, and James and her entire family that we mourn their loss. We pray for them during this sad time. We thank them for sharing Eddie Bernice Johnson with us in this Congress, but, more importantly, with our country. May our darling Eddie Bernice Johnson, whom we all loved so dearly, rest in peace.

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our late former colleague, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson. I am honored to have served with and to have been able to learn from such a legend in our Congress.

She was a true trailblazer, becoming the first registered nurse to serve in this body. She was the first Black woman ever elected to public office from the city of Dallas when she was elected to the Texas State House and the first woman to ever lead a committee in the Texas chamber. She was also a Presidential appointee appointed by then-President Jimmy Carter as a regional director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

□ 1715

She then returned to the Texas Legislature as a State senator, becoming the first Black senator from the Dallas area since Reconstruction.

Mr. Speaker, she acknowledged the challenges of being both Black and a woman, once telling a reporter: "Being a woman and being Black is perhaps a double handicap. When you see who is in the important huddles, who is making the important decisions, it is men." That drove her to fight for equity and to give women and people of color more opportunity and access.

She came to Congress in 1993 and would later serve as the 17th chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. During her tenure, one of the things that she helped establish is the Tri-Caucus, represented through the coalitions of the Congressional Black, Hispanic, and Asian Pacific American Caucuses that exist to this day.

She became the first African American and the first woman to be the ranking member of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and subsequently became the chairwoman of that committee.