

## HONORING LINDA SARATE

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Linda Sarate, who passed away on Monday, February 3.

From a young age, Linda displayed incredible strength and courage, being diagnosed with polio at just 1 year old.

Despite this, her determination allowed her to walk by her preteen years and, in addition, became a camp counselor. This was an experience where she served as a role model for young people, offering them a supportive environment in which to grow.

It is that same determination that guided Linda throughout her life. Linda went on to join the AmeriCorps program and earned a certification in bilingual medical terminology. She dedicated herself to her community by serving on the local school council and becoming a board member for two organizations.

One of Linda's proudest achievements was her activism on behalf of Little Village High School, where she was one of the parents and grandparents who staged a 19-day hunger strike demanding the construction of the school that had been promised to the community, but not funded or constructed.

Linda embodied the power of courage and resilience. Her life is a testament to what can be achieved when one is driven by strength and conviction. May she rest in peace.

## HONORING ANNA PAYNE

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of the extraordinary Anna Payne, a woman whose impact on Bucks County, Pennsylvania, will endure for generations.

Mr. Speaker, Anna dedicated herself to service, not for recognition but because she believed in the power of uplifting others. Diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at a young age, Anna understood struggle but she refused to let it define her.

Instead, she worked tirelessly to make life better for those facing challenges of their own. Anna was a fierce advocate for better healthcare and stronger support for families navigating rare diseases just like herself.

Through her leadership as vice chair of the Pennsylvania Rare Disease Council and as the founder of the Bucks County Cystic Fibrosis Alliance, Anna gave hope and a voice to so many in our community and across America.

Anna remained resolute in the face of a stage IV cancer diagnosis in 2021. This was an especially heartbreaking

and all-too familiar diagnosis, as a year before her battle began, I lost my brother, Mike, who fought bravely but was taken by the same advanced stage cancer.

Anna continued serving as an elected official, advocating for policies that would ease the burden of others. Whether through her relentless work and healthcare advocacy, her commitment to local initiatives, or her ability to bring people together, Anna embodied the very best of our Bucks County community.

Mr. Speaker, today we mourn a profound loss, but we also celebrate a legacy and honor a life of service, of sacrifice, and of unyielding determination. Mr. Speaker, Anna's spirit remains woven into the fabric of our community. We honor her not just by words but with action by ensuring that her legacy is not only remembered but lived.

RECOGNIZING RANCHO VERDE  
CRIMSON REGIMENT

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rancho Verde Crimson Regiment from Moreno Valley and their participation in the Rose Parade on January 1, 2025. This marks the second time that the Rancho Verde Crimson Regiment has participated in this iconic event in California.

As a former high school educator, I know firsthand the dedication, discipline, and talent required to perform at this level. I congratulate all of the students and the band director, Honglac Hathuc, for their hard work and successful performance.

I also wish to recognize the citizens who inhabit the Val Verde Unified School District for supporting, with their taxpayer dollars, the tremendous music education program that begins in the elementary schools.

## TRUE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the Ivanpah Solar Plant in southern California was sold to the taxpayers and to the people as a shining example of green energy innovation.

But what did the taxpayers actually get? A \$2.2 billion price tag propped up by massive government loans for a solar plant that has underdelivered from the start. It is supposed to power 130,000 homes, but it never met expectations, struggling to produce consistent energy while relying on natural gas just to get the plant running each morning.

Let's not forget the environmental cost that the left claims to care so much about. Thousands of birds have

literally incinerated as they happen to fly over this project mid-flight. This is what happens when the government throws billions at feel-good projects instead of letting the free market drive innovation.

The plant was erected in 2014. Mr. Speaker, next year, 10 years later, two-thirds of it is going to be shut down. We will see what happens to the other third soon after that.

If we want true energy independence, we need to do what we can to develop reliable American energy with nuclear power, hydroelectric power, and oil and natural gas from the miracle of hydraulic fracturing.

## TRUMP 2.0

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, shuttering USAID, gutting the Department of Education, threatening the Department of Labor, firing FBI agents, buying out civil servants, vilifying workforces over grotesque DEI concerns, stripping away legal protected status of refugees, giving an unelected billionaire access to the most sensitive information of everyday Americans, and unchecked control of our institutions.

Just 2 weeks into the second Trump Presidency and every executive order, every administrative move has been a methodical step to sow chaos, confusion, and fear.

Back home in Pennsylvania and here in Washington, my offices have been flooded with calls and messages from my constituents. People are afraid for their jobs, their health, their hard-earned benefits, their children, and their very futures.

Every day begs the same question: What is next? Whatever your stance on government reform, our hope is for more efficiency, lower costs, and stronger opportunities. It is clear that these policies are hurting everyday Americans. Mr. Speaker, this is not normal. It is immoral, and it is unlawful.

□ 0915

## GET MEN BACK IN FAMILIES

(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, as we wrap up this week, we will go home. If it were me, I would read books or read various topics. Last night, I saw a book I read many years ago and am going to read again. It is called: "Fatherless America: Confronting Our Most Urgent Social Problem."

Right now, we have a huge problem in that men are being kept out of their families. Now is the time to address this problem, with Republicans having the Senate, House, and Presidency.

We cannot seriously say we are taking on the fentanyl crisis, the crime crisis, and the education crisis unless we do something about getting men back in the family.

There have been powerful forces in this country. There are a lot of people and important people who, sadly, follow Karl Marx. The feminists in the sixties followed Kate Millett, the mother of women's studies. Later on, it was Black Lives Matter. All of them wanted to destroy the nuclear family.

Now is the time we have to undertake policies to get men back in the family.

#### CELEBRATING CHANCELLOR MARIO K. CASTILLO

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the new chancellor of the Lone Star College System, Mario K. Castillo, the first Latino to ever hold this position.

Mario's journey began as a first-generation college and law school graduate. After nearly a decade as an attorney, he joined the Lone Star College System and quickly rose through the ranks from general counsel to vice chancellor to interim president.

The fancy titles never kept him from his mission, which was connecting with students and always making sure they had a seat at the table.

Leading the college system is no small feat, but Mario has the endurance. He is not just a champion for education. He is also an accomplished ironman, conquering miles of open water and road. If anyone is built for this challenge, it is him.

As a chancellor, I know he will keep mentoring students, improving processes, and pushing the next generation to dream big.

I congratulate Chancellor Mario Castillo.

#### COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF FRANK TOPPINO

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to commemorate the life of Frank Toppino, a leader and pillar of strength of the Florida Keys who passed away at the age of 101.

Born in Winter Park, Florida, Mr. Frank, as he was more commonly known, lived a life of service with deep dedication to his family, faith, and community. At just 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served during World War II. He built a life alongside his wife, Betty Rose, and they raised three children together.

Mr. Frank served as the president of the Key West Chamber of Commerce and served for 33 continuous years on

the Key West Housing Authority board. Mr. Frank's acts of service are a true testament to his character.

Let us remember his legacy of lifelong dedication to family and to the community. Mr. Frank will be deeply missed, but his lessons will serve as an example to us all.

We thank Mr. Frank for his service to our Nation. May he rest in peace.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF GRECIA NUNEZ

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

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Grecia Nunez, a former intern in my office who recently passed away and joined our Lord in Heaven.

Grecia was a force in southern New Mexico. She was passionate about conservation, and she brought her talents to organizations like New Mexico Wild. She also worked as a park ranger and helped young people experience the outdoors. She served in the Peace Corps abroad and was active in her church at home.

Grecia's faith was her guiding light, and she was never shy about sharing that. When she came to my office, Grecia was studying to be an environmental lawyer. She was smart, kind, and passionate about public service.

Grecia's warmth and enthusiasm affected everybody she worked with. Despite her own struggles, she arrived every day with the mindset to serve New Mexicans. Her work was truly inspirational, and her family is so incredibly proud of her.

Grecia's light will forever shine in the hearts of her family and her many friends. I am grateful to have known her as she continues to inspire me to improve the lives of all New Mexicans. If we all shared in Grecia's grit and determination, we would all be much better off.

#### PROTECTING AMERICAN ENERGY PRODUCTION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 5, I call up the bill (H.R. 26) to prohibit a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIMENEZ). Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 26

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting American Energy Production Act".

##### SEC. 2. PROTECTING AMERICAN ENERGY PRODUCTION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that States should maintain pri-

macy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing for oil and natural gas production on State and private lands.

(b) PROHIBITION ON DECLARATION OF A MORATORIUM ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may not declare a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing unless such moratorium is authorized by an Act of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader, or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 26.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 26, the Protecting American Energy Production Act.

H.R. 26, introduced by Congressman PFLUGER, would prevent any President from issuing a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing while also establishing a sense of Congress that States should regulate the practice on State and private land.

Hydraulic fracturing has been around for nearly 100 years. With other advancements in the industry, such as horizontal drilling, hydraulic fracturing has become a staple of the oil and gas industry. The practice has propelled the United States to energy superpower status. In fact, fracking in the United States provides 64 percent of American crude oil and 78 percent of the country's natural gas.

This surge in supply has contributed to lower energy prices for consumers, stimulated economic and job growth, and improved the quality of life for Americans.

In truth, a ban on hydraulic fracturing would devastate the American economy while surrendering world energy leadership to adversary nations with large oil and gas reserves, such as Russia, Iran, Venezuela, and China.

Federal efforts to regulate fracking, which is adequately regulated by the States, could have an equally detrimental impact. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 clarified that Congress never intended the Federal Government to regulate fracking under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

There is even precedent from the courts to not allow the Federal Government to regulate fracking. In the Obama administration, the Bureau of