

I thank you, again, for joining us in welcoming Pastor Ryoo who, I think, really is emblematic of the success of the immigrant population in the United States. He represents our future.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

ISRAEL

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to acknowledge the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

This year, we have witnessed yet another ugly chapter in the history of Israel's enduring fight to defend her sovereign borders and protect her people from terrorist attacks.

On August 1, Congress approved a measure to deliver an additional \$225 million in aid to Israel, with the aim of replenishing funds for the Iron Dome antimissile defense system in the midst of the conflict between Israel and Hamas.

It was absolutely the right thing to do because America's national security interests are directly tied to developments in the Middle East and specifically to Israel's own security. Strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel is vital to the well-being of both countries.

The simple truth is, throughout history, Israel has made numerous concessions in the pursuit of peace while seeking only the right to exist. The country is a beacon of democracy in a sea of violence and hostility, and its ability to function and defend itself against terrorism is in no small part due to the support from the United States.

GAS TAX PRESS CONFERENCE

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, I introduced the first gas tax increase in 21 years. The only thing that has changed in that year is that the need is greater and the path forward is even easier. Everyone knows that America is falling apart and falling behind while gas prices have dropped dramatically.

I am joined this afternoon by Ronald Reagan who 32 years ago, on Thanksgiving, made a powerful radio address, explaining why he more than doubled the gas tax—actually, a user fee, he pointed out. The same speech could and should be made by President Obama tomorrow.

I urge you, my colleagues, to join me and Ronald Reagan in fixing the bankrupt highway trust fund, increasing the gas tax so we can rebuild and renew America and put hundreds of thousands of people to work at family-wage jobs all across this great land.

With the need getting worse and gas prices falling, there will never be a better time. All it takes is a little leadership and courage from the President and Congress.

THE ABLE ACT

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

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the ABLE Act.

I am a cosponsor of this bill because I believe that we need to make it easier for families with individuals with disabilities to save money for their care and to not be penalized for doing so. This legislation also makes an important improvement to 529 plans that will give parents more control over their children's savings.

It is rare for a bill to gain as much bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate as the ABLE Act has. This is because advocates for the ABLE Act have worked tirelessly over the past several years to ensure that it crosses the finish line.

I am pleased that many of them are here today, and I congratulate them on their hard work.

HONORING ENI FALEOMAVEGA

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my colleague and friend, Congressman ENI FALEOMAVEGA of American Samoa.

ENI has served on Capitol Hill for nearly four decades, starting as a congressional staff member and eventually being elected to Congress for 13 straight terms.

Throughout his distinguished career, ENI has broken many barriers. He is the first Asian Pacific American ever to chair the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, and he is the longest-serving Samoan Member of Congress. He is also a Vietnam war veteran; an author; a musician; and a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Over the years, I have had the privilege to work with ENI through the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and I have witnessed firsthand his unwavering commitment to the well-being of his constituents and to the broader Asian Pacific American community.

Thank you, ENI, for your lifetime of leadership and service. I wish you all the best.

IN TRIBUTE TO MARION RAMSEY

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Marion Ramsey of Rogers, Arkansas, and the closing of her business, Marion's Donuts, that became part of my daily routine 35 years ago.

The "doughnut shop," as I affectionately called it, was my favorite place to catch up on the latest city news—oftentimes, just plain ole gossip—and hear about the aches and pains and the latest trials and tribulations of those who frequented the establishment over time.

I have taken my boys there since birth, and it was nostalgic for all three of them to join me last Sunday, her last day of business, for old times' sake.

The Bible tells us there is a season for everything. I am sad that the "season" has come and gone for Marion's Donuts because, while I will find another place for my morning coffee, I am not sure how I will fill the void on the friendships forged down through the years.

Enjoy your retirement, Marion. Your customers are grateful for our time together.

PEARL HARBOR DAY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, December 7, is the 73rd anniversary of the attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor. That day, over 2,000 American soldiers and sailors lost their lives, and another 1,000 were wounded.

South Buffalo native, Army Corporal Earl Wickett, witnessed the horrors of that day; fought bravely for this Nation; and was fortunate to make it back, raise a family, and serve his community as a Buffalo firefighter. Sadly, Earl passed away this year, but his stories and the bravery of all of those who served that day must always be remembered.

On Sunday, West Seneca American Legion Post 735 will be among those recognizing Pearl Harbor Day and honoring the promise to never forget the sacrifices and service of those who were there on that day.

Today, I join them and others in paying tribute to all of those who faced the unthinkable at Pearl Harbor, to survivors, like Earl Wickett, and to the many who never made it back.

THE ABLE ACT

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the ABLE Act, with over 380 cosponsors.

It is a wonderful piece of legislation that is going to help American families, and there is a key provision of this act which is going to fix a broken problem. I came to Congress to fix broken problems with commonsense solutions.

Earlier this year, this body, the Senate, and the President passed the water resources bill, which fundamentally fixed the problem of the inland waterway trust fund, but it was still underfunded.

I want to thank colleagues on both sides of this House for working with me—for working hard—to get an industry-supported user fee of 9 cents. What that will mean is that locks like the Chickamauga Lock in Chattanooga, which is near and dear to our district, and locks all over this country will now be able to be properly funded in the way in which they were intended.

Together, we can work hard to fix these problems. I urge the support of the ABLE Act, and I thank my colleagues for working hard to support this industry-supported user fee.

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IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, more than 18 months ago, the Senate passed a comprehensive and bipartisan immigration bill that would strengthen neighborhoods across the country, further secure our borders, inject certainty into our economy, boost our STEM and tech community, create jobs, protect employers, keep families together, our deficit would be reduced by nearly \$1 trillion, and fix our Nation's broken immigration system. That was 18 months ago.

More than a year ago, we introduced H.R. 15, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, which would have moved comprehensive immigration reform forward, a debate so far that has been dominated by partisan politics and obstruction.

All we are asking for is the chance to vote on the bill in this body, a simple up-or-down vote. That is all we ask. We are running out of time to act on immigration reform and pass legislation that an overwhelming majority of Americans have asked the House to approve for more than a year.

Again, I ask this body to put the interests of the country above those of party politics and give H.R. 15 the up-or-down vote it truly deserves.

McKINNEY, NUMBER 1 SMALL CITY IN AMERICA

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Money magazine recently

ranked America's best small cities. 781 cities were evaluated. The 35 top-scoring cities were visited by reporters. And wouldn't you know it, McKinney, Texas, was ranked number one as the best place in the United States to live.

It is worth noting that McKinney joined the list in 2008 and has steadily climbed each year. As Money magazine stated: "Underlying McKinney's homey southern charm is a thoroughly modern city. The area is a hotbed for growth-industry jobs."

McKinney certainly embodies its motto, "Unique by Nature." It is both a business-friendly and family-friendly place. And perhaps most significant, it places emphasis on both preserving history and ensuring a vibrant future.

I am proud to represent McKinney and the Third District of Texas. McKinney deserves this honor. It is my privilege to recognize their outstanding service to the community.

POLICE BODY CAMERAS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, hands up; don't shoot.

The recent events in Ferguson have brought to light many of the problems that still exist in our Nation: racial divides, mistrust of law enforcement, a judicial system that disproportionately incarcerates black men, and the unfortunate way that we view one another—not as Americans, but as us versus them.

I am encouraged by President Obama's initiative that will help purchase body cameras for police departments. This will increase accountability of law enforcement, and it will protect our officers by deterring wrongdoing.

I am proud that the two cities in my district, Newark and Jersey City, are taking the lead to acquire cameras for their police officers, because members of the community deserve to feel law enforcement is protecting them and not out to get them; and, in turn, our protectors deserve to be protected as well. This will be a step in the right direction.

TRIBUTE TO AIR FORCE CAPTAIN WILLIAM H. DUBOIS

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

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Air Force Captain William H. DuBois, whose life was tragically lost in support of Operation Inherent Resolve on December 1, 2014. Captain DuBois grew up in New Castle, Colorado.

On Monday, December 1, 2014, Captain DuBois took off from a U.S. coalition air base for a combat mission in Operation Inherent Resolve, when the

F-16 he was flying began to experience mechanical problems. Captain DuBois attempted to return to the air base and was unable to eject before his plane crashed.

Captain DuBois was only 30 years old and was recently married to his wife, Ashley. The number of lives touched by this courageous young man are innumerable, and the love and memories he shared with his friends and family still linger today.

The death of Captain DuBois is an unfortunate reminder of the dangers our servicemen and -women face every day as they defend our country, as well as many sacrifices made to protect freedoms and our way of life.

Captain DuBois served his country with great distinction and honor, something that he always had dreamed of. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and his squadron.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Captain William H. DuBois. His dedication to our country and the way he selflessly lived his life serve as an inspiration to a grateful Nation as well as the State of Colorado.

PORT NEGOTIATIONS

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the hardworking men and women employed at our west coast ports who are responsible for two-thirds of our Nation's international trade. Their hard work supports 5 million jobs nationwide and is the lifeblood of our economy.

But they have been working for months without a contract and without knowing what the future holds for them. Contract negotiations are ongoing, and I encourage both sides to stay at the table. Failure to resolve their differences could be traumatic for our economy, and I sincerely hope that it will not come to that.

Many people are aware that we still have congestion issues at our ports. There are clearly underlying problems that must be addressed, but it is important to keep in mind that these issues will still exist even if a contract agreement is reached today.

Our ports drive our Nation's economy, and it is critical that we find solutions to the congestion issues at our ports and in our overall freight network.

NATIONAL MINERS DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the proud grandson of Oscar Thompson, a surface miner, to recognize National Miners Day, which is celebrated on December 6. On this day, we recognize the important role our Nation's miners continue to play across the Nation.