

with a corresponding charitable deduction on their 2014 tax returns. We must continue to honor and remember the sacrifice of these officers and support this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1527.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH
D'AUGUSTINE UNITED STATES
POST OFFICE RENAMING

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

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of New Jersey's sons, Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine of Waldwick, New Jersey.

Staff Sergeant D'Augustine was killed almost 3 years ago this week, on March 27, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan. In the greatest act of sacrifice possible, he gave his life while protecting his fellow men and women in uniform. He was just 29 years old.

Today, I come to the floor of the House to introduce legislation that will ensure that Staff Sergeant D'Augustine's legacy lives on for generations to come.

This legislation will designate the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building.

Understandably, no action by this Congress could ever repay Staff Sergeant D'Augustine's sacrifice. This bill, however, will create a permanent and visible memory of his heroism.

Although this bill passed this House last Congress, unfortunately, my colleagues in the Senate did not take it up. So I come here tonight, hopeful that my colleagues in both the House and Senate will take action to get this bill passed and signed into law so that his legacy will live on.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN
TRAFFICKING ACT

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, sex trafficking is one of the world's most monstrous, pervasive, and underpenalized crimes. Up to 300,000 American children are at risk of being trafficked annually.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, which I coauthored with Congressman POE and which passed this House unanimously in January,

clarifies that the true criminals are the traffickers who enslave adolescents and the johns who prey upon them.

The bill would create stiffer penalties and enforcement for the demand side of human trafficking and provide restitution to the survivors.

The bill has strong support in the other body, but it is being complicated by a proposed expansion of the Hyde amendment, which I do not support.

We must pass this bill. The Senate should either take up the House-passed version or find some other compromise. The voiceless victims of modern-day slavery in its most horrific form of cruelty cannot afford to wait any longer.

REMEMBERING DAVID MARSH

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

Mrs. LOVE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to stand with others in my district—my constituents—and offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of David Marsh, who passed away early Monday.

David became the victim of a senseless act of violence as he stood behind the counter of Lee Mart, the convenience store where he worked for 25 years in Murray, Utah. He was shot during a robbery.

Many individuals are honored on this floor after receiving accolades and publicity, but I wish to honor David because of his consistent positive impact on others. He made a profound impression on those he met through his hard work and dedication. He was a wonderful father and role model who became a fixture in the community. His kind and loving nature made his family, friends, and acquaintances smile.

It is people like David who make our Nation great. I hope that we can all honor the life of David Marsh by being engaged citizens and connecting with love and understanding to the people around us.

GERMANWINGS FLIGHT 9525

(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 this evening with deep sadness in the wake of the terrible tragedy involving Germanwings Flight 9525.

While the investigation is still ongoing, it is believed that all 150 passengers on board have been lost, including three American citizens. Also on board were 16 German students who were on their way back to Germany following their 10th-grade class trip to Spain.

Mr. Speaker, every tragedy of this magnitude brings heartbreak, but we are especially saddened by the loss of so many young people full of hope and promise.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that investigators can quickly determine the cause of this tragedy for the victims' families.

As cochair of the bipartisan German-American Congressional Caucus, I want to offer my heartfelt thoughts and prayers to all the victims and their families, and our allies in the several countries currently addressing this tragedy.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE
CAUCUS: THE BUDGET'S IMPACT
ON WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, my colleagues and I debated and passed a budget about which I have quite a few concerns.

Budgets are statements of values. They should map out the priorities we have for our Nation. The resolution that the House adopted earlier suggests that our priorities are the interests of the top 1 percent of earners, the interests of corporations. Certainly, not the interests of working families.

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Mr. Speaker, according to a Pew Center analysis of census data, 4 out of every 10 households with children now have a mother who is either the sole or primary bread winner. That means that 40 percent of families are led by woman.

As we approach the end of Women's History Month, my Congressional Progressive Caucus colleague and I have come to the floor this evening to talk about the impacts of the Republican budget on women.

As I have said, women now lead 40 percent of our Nation's households with children, a huge socioeconomic shift for this country; but when you dig deeper, 25 percent of those households are single-parent homes where women are the only provider. Those women need health care to be able to keep going to work. As we know, Mr. Speaker, not every employer offers health care.

Fortunately, 5 years ago, we passed the Affordable Care Act, and now, more than 16 million Americans have access to health insurance, many of them for the first time.

The Affordable Care Act gave women more control over their health than

they have ever had before, with free preventative care, including annual screenings, and free coverage for contraceptives. There were also a host of benefits, economic and otherwise.

The Congressional Budget Office projects that combined Federal spending for Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program, commonly referred to as CHIP, will be \$682 billion less over the 2011–2020 period than projected in 2010 without the Affordable Care Act.

Our national healthcare costs have, indeed, slowed dramatically. The uninsured rate for working-age adults dropped 35 percent, from 20.3 to 13.2 percent; but it seems that all the bill's benefits don't mean much to my Republican colleagues who have found a huge and factually questionable portion of their budget's "savings" from repealing the law.

Mr. Speaker, we have just discussed the impact of health care and the Republicans' budget repeal of the ACA. Without access to the health care they need for themselves and their families, Republicans must be assuming that women will be able to take paid time off for work. Unfortunately, we passed the wrong budget for that.

To tell you a little more about this problem, it is my pleasure to yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE).

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this House to support the people's budget.

The Federal budget is not just a financial document; it is a moral document. The best way to grow our economy is to ensure that Americans have good jobs that pay a livable wage.

The numbers that you just heard is a fact. In 40 percent of households with children under 18, mothers are either the only or the primary source of income for the family. Many of these mothers do not have the support of affordable childcare, paid family leave, or paid sick days.

Increasing the minimum wage and providing paid medical or sick leave will have a direct positive impact on millions of working mothers. As of last month, 3 States and 17 cities will soon have or now have paid sick leave day laws. This is a good start, but, as Members of Congress, we need to set a national standard, and we need to do it now.

Our Nation's failure to establish a basic workplace standard of paid sick days is hurting workers, is hurting families and the public health. Nearly 4 in 10 private sector workers and 80 percent of the low wage workers do not have a single paid sick day. Is that what we want our budget to reflect?

The Republicans say they are for families; yet their budget represents more of the same. The budget that the Republicans have introduced doesn't invest in growing our infrastructure. It cuts vital programs like Medicaid and helps keep working families in poverty. This is totally unacceptable. Paid sick

days keep families financially secure, workplaces and communities healthy and productive.

The Institute for Women's Policy Research calculates that the Federal Government could prevent over 2,600 lost jobs for women. Why? Because 2,600 women left their jobs because they were not offered paid parental leave.

The people's budget will create over 8 million good-paying new jobs by 2018. The people's budget also ensures that our tax codes work for everyone by closing tax loopholes and expanding the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, I support the people's budget because deficit reduction should not be fixed on the backs of hard-working Americans. We must put people first. Do you pay your car note before you buy groceries for your family? No.

I agree that we must pay down the deficit; but at what cost?

There are many things we must cover in our Federal budget, but, Mr. Speaker, people must be first.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. I thank the gentlewoman from Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, with more women as the primary breadwinners than ever, it is important to point out that two-thirds of the minimum wage workers are women.

Women are notoriously underrepresented with equal pay for equal work. The Federal minimum wage right now is only \$7.25 per hour. A woman working full time would make just \$14,500. That is below the poverty line for a family of three.

If we want to make sure American families can work hard to get ahead, it seems that we would want to make sure they are getting paid enough to do so; yet this issue is completely absent from the Republican budget, and still, women will be notoriously underpaid for the work that they do.

Mr. Speaker, women are also notoriously underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. These are the jobs of tomorrow. These are the jobs that will grow our economy, that will make us globally competitive.

Unfortunately, we cannot address these issues of underrepresentation of women in those areas—science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—because the Republican budget that we passed today does not think it is important.

The people's budget, on the other hand, would lift the minimum wage, would increase the opportunities for women in educational fields where they have been underrepresented and would result in a raise for more than 27.8 million workers, including the 15.3 million women.

There are broader societal impacts to raising the minimum wage as well. For starters, since women are the majority of minimum wage workers, lifting that Federal minimum wage would close the pay gap by nearly 5 percent. I know it has been said time and again, Mr.

Speaker, but raising the minimum wage will also boost our economy.

For these workers, additional wages aren't dropping into savings accounts; they are paying for things they need right now. Research indicates that for every \$1 added to minimum wage, low wage worker households spent an additional \$2,800 the following year. That is a win-win situation.

Unfortunately, we didn't adopt the budget that included the minimum wage increase. We adopted the budget that included new tax cuts for the top 1 percent at the expense of the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, the point that we have tried to make here is that we have passed the wrong budget. The Republican budget is wrong for women. It is wrong for the middle class. It is wrong for the Nation's economy.

The foundations of the American Dream are crumbling beneath our feet just right as we speak, with stagnant wages, struggling schools, and a wealth gap that is only getting bigger.

We can't move forward with policies that are only going to make matters worse. We need to open our eyes and fight together for policies that will build an economy that works for everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE FUTURE FORUM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address one of the greatest moral crises of our time: student loan debt on my generation. Because of student loan debt, an entire generation is in financial quicksand.

Here are some startling facts of the student loan debt that our generation carries today. Approximately 40 million Americans had one or more student loans. The average amount owed on student loans is \$33,000, and 70 percent of students graduating this year will be burdened with this debt.

On average, it will take a student with this debt, graduating with a bachelor's degree, over 19 years to pay off their loans.

This evening, the House Democratic Caucus' Future Forum will address this moral crisis, and we have got a number of Members who will work with us this evening to talk about their personal stories or stories that they are hearing in their district.

We have also asked Americans across our country, including in my congressional district in the East Bay, to tweet or Facebook at us under #mystudentdebt or #futureforum; and we will answer some of their tweets this evening.

First, I am going to yield to a colleague of mine who came in, in the