

the House to act immediately and bring an emergency Zika package to the floor of this House. They can do it quickly. They can do it today. They can do it this week. But, unfortunately, there is no plan to do so. This is unconscionable.

My neighbors back home and all across the country need the tools to prevent this public health crisis from growing. The Centers for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health need the tools to prevent this public health crisis. To do otherwise would be unconscionable. We need action now.

#### TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL WILLIAM "BILL" COOPER

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of Corporal William "Bill" Cooper, a dedicated law enforcement officer in Arkansas.

Bill, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, served the Sebastian County Sheriff's Office since 2001, in addition to 5 years with the Fort Smith Police Department.

On August 10, Mr. Speaker, while responding to a domestic disturbance near Greenwood, Arkansas, Corporal Cooper was shot and killed in the line of duty. His is a great loss to Arkansas law enforcement and a reminder of the bravery of our men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to keep our citizens safe.

Sebastian County and the entire Third District of Arkansas mourns the loss of Corporal Cooper. My prayers are with his wife, Ruth, his son, Scott, his sister, Ginger Cox, his three grandchildren, and Corporal Cooper's fellow law enforcement officers. May God bless those he leaves behind as they search for peace and understanding through this terrible tragedy.

#### DUTIES OF A COMMANDER IN CHIEF

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I think we all know that now more than ever it is critical that our next Commander in Chief is ready to walk into the Oval Office and be ready to lead on day one.

Keeping Americans safe is the President's most solemn duty. That is why Americans need a strong and smart national security plan led by a Commander in Chief with experience, the highest respect for our troops, and with a level head.

However, the Republican nominee for President has repeatedly proven he lacks the qualities it takes to lead our Nation and our Armed Forces. He has insulted veterans and Gold Star families while claiming he knows more about how to protect this Nation than

our own military leadership. He has openly advocated torture, in contradiction to what our generals suggest.

When presented with a Purple Heart by a wounded veteran, he responded by saying: "I always wanted to get the Purple Heart. This was much easier."

Our military represents the absolute best of our country. In July, when we met the Khans, he ridiculed them. We need a Commander in Chief that commands the respect of the American people.

#### ASTRONAUT JEFF WILLIAMS

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I want to welcome home Jeff Williams and the crew of Expedition 48, which landed safely last night in Kazakhstan.

Jeff is a Wisconsin native and a West Point classmate of mine from the class of 1980. In fact, when he landed, he put a hat on that had our class crest and motto.

He holds the U.S. record for the most cumulative days in space by a United States astronaut. He has completed five space walks, including two on this last mission.

Jeff is a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Houston. He is also a noted and published photographer. He says: "It's a very humbling experience to view the Earth"—and everything it represents—"and to begin to imagine the creative power of our God."

I would like to end with Psalm 19:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Welcome home, Jeff. Have NASA update the photo in your biography, which is about 20 years old.

#### 21ST CENTURY HEARTLAND TOUR

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, during the past month, I have been to every corner of my congressional district as part of a 21st Century Heartland Tour. I have spoken with the hardworking men and women who truly make the Heartland the greatest place in America to live, work, and raise a family.

But our region faces serious challenges, and these challenges need to be addressed by Congress. That is why I held a roundtable in Monmouth, Illinois, to discuss rural broadband. In rural America, just over half of our families have access to high-speed Internet, as opposed to 90 percent in the more urban areas.

That is why I was in Stronghurst, Illinois, to talk about rural health care. Although one in four Americans live in rural America, we only have a tenth of the Nation's practicing physicians.

These are just a couple of the issues facing our families in rural America.

They can't wait for solutions. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together to support a thriving, modern 21st century heartland.

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#### SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as September is National Suicide Prevention Month, I am proud to join my colleague, EARL BLUMENAUER of Oregon, in introducing a resolution to address this silent epidemic which took the lives of near 43,000 Americans last year.

Last month, the CDC reported the suicide rate has increased across nearly all age groups. And over the past decade, while mortality rates decreased for homicide, AIDS, heart disease, stroke, auto accidents, and cancer, the overall suicide rate increased again for the 11th time in 14 years.

Last July, the House passed H.R. 2646, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act, by a near-unanimous vote of 422-2. This month alone, 826 Americans have died by suicide, and about 7,434 have died since we passed this bill.

We fervently hope the Senate does not delay in passing this bill. Lives hang in the balance. Every 12 minutes a person dies of suicide. Every 13 minutes a family mourns a lost life who will never go home again. The Senate needs to pass this bill before they go home again themselves.

Where there is help, there is hope.

#### MAKE THE INVESTMENT OUR ECONOMY NEEDS

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, the financial research firm of Standard & Poor's reports that for every \$1.3 billion invested in our infrastructure, 30,000 American jobs are created; it adds \$2 billion in economic growth; and reduces deficit by more than \$200 million.

Economists at the Council on Foreign Relations explained that "the compelling case is that a dollar in on a macro basis in our economy results in more than a dollar out;" which is to say, Mr. Speaker, that to shortchange infrastructure is to reject and undermine economic growth in this country.

Policies that create growth and reduce the deficit should be embraced by everybody, including conservatives. Indeed, it was the Republican President Eisenhower who initiated the National Highway System, and the Chamber of Commerce is a leading voice in calling for infrastructure spending today.

I urge this body to embrace sound economics and the tradition of bipartisan