

Mr. SESSIONS. I would ask an indulgence. It had nothing to do with discrimination. It had to do with a new policy.

And it is true that I did rule and put a self-executing rule in that did answer the question about the desire of the committee to handle this issue, and I did it accordingly. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, it appears that no one is going to be able to tell me what the schedule is for the week to come. I will tell you that that is unfortunate.

I hope there is a schedule for the week to come because there is a lot to be done. We haven't finalized Zika. We passed a bill here which we think was inadequate.

We haven't dealt with Flint.

We need to pass Puerto Rico restructuring. I think they have made some progress on that. I congratulate the Speaker and the leader for facilitating that progress.

We don't have a voting rights bill scheduled. We need to do that.

There are a number of other serious pieces of legislation this House needs to consider. We are going to go out next week, and we will have no colloquy next week, Mr. Speaker. There will be no opportunity to discuss the schedule for, obviously, the break, and we will have no schedule for June or the weeks thereafter to do some of the serious business that confronts us and to help some of the people in this country who need help.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, it is clear that nobody on the other side is going to have any response.

I yield back the balance of my time.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2814. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Sevierville, Tennessee, the Dannie A. Carr Veterans Outpatient Clinic.

□ 1230

COMMENDING COMMUNITIES BATTILING THE OPIOID AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend several communities in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District that are taking a stand in the battle against our Nation's opioid abuse and heroin epidemic.

Last evening I chaired a hearing here on Capitol Hill on this epidemic, and just this morning I learned of two townhall meetings, one held last night in Titusville in Crawford County and

the other held Tuesday evening in Ridgway in Elk County.

These communities, like countless others across Pennsylvania and our Nation, have witnessed firsthand the tragic impact of this epidemic. Elk County is ranked ninth in Pennsylvania in overdose deaths per population of 100,000 people, while Crawford County has seen its overdose deaths double in the past 4 years.

I am proud to see these communities come together to see what can be done to help turn the tide against the scourge of prescription drug abuse and heroin use.

I am also proud of the package passed last week—18 bills—here in the House which will make grant funding available to State and local governments for the creation of opioid reduction programs, create a task force to review prescribing practices, and care for babies who are born opioid dependent.

In the future, I look forward to further partnerships with Federal, State, and local officials, along with these communities, in winning this battle.

VA MEDICAL MARIJUANA

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, today the House did do one good thing, and that was to take a major step forward with the historic passage of an amendment that removes the barriers for our Veterans Administration health professionals to discuss alternative treatments—specifically, medical marijuana—with their patients in States like Nevada, where it is legal.

This comes on the heels of action last week addressing the opioid epidemic that is plaguing our Nation, and it is especially heartbreaking in our veteran community where these drugs are being overprescribed for pain treatment and PTSD.

The amendment passed today, which I was pleased to offer and to support, will provide additional tools for our medical professionals in the treatment of our veterans so they won't have to resort to opioids.

I am proud that this amendment did have bipartisan support; but moving forward, we must continue to reform our outdated policies and laws and bring Congress into step with the State legislatures in over half of the States in the country that have moved forward on this issue.

RECOGNIZING GREG PARKER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Greg Parker, founder and president of Parker's Market and gas stations in coastal Georgia and South Carolina.

Mr. Parker found his way to an immensely successful business through

hard work and dedication. Mr. Parker's father ran a gas station in Midway, Georgia, allowing Mr. Parker to learn the business through pumping gas and cleaning customers' windshields.

After graduation from the University of Georgia, Mr. Parker began to work relentlessly in his father's gas station. He managed a convenience store, cooked food for customers, and also pumped gas and cleaned windshields.

Now Parker's has 45 stores up and down the coast of Georgia and South Carolina, with a total of 600 employees. Furthermore, Parker's Market plans to build 17 new stores in the next 13 months. The Savannah Morning News even named him the 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year.

Mr. Parker's service to the First Congressional District of Georgia does not end with his successful business, as he also generously donates each year to local schools and hospitals.

PROVISIONS HARMFUL TO IMMIGRANTS AND AMERICA

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, last night we voted on the National Defense Authorization Act, and today we voted on a military construction and Veterans Affairs bill. Both contain provisions that are harmful to immigrants and America.

I proposed two amendments to the NDAA, and I am disappointed that they were not given a chance to be voted on.

The NDAA bill that passed prohibits the use of unused military grounds to house unaccompanied immigrant children while their asylum case is being processed. My amendment would have allowed the Office of Refugee Resettlement to increase its shelter capacity by temporarily housing unaccompanied children in unused DOD facilities.

I also offered an amendment that would guarantee DACA recipients with in-demand skills to enlist in our military through the MAVNI program for as long as the program exists. To deny brave and dedicated men and women the opportunity to defend this great Nation is just un-American.

SUPPORTING OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend my colleagues for supporting and passing the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

The NDAA reaffirms our commitment to supporting our men and women in uniform by enhancing pay and benefits for our servicemembers and their families, providing not only for the country as a whole, but also for back home in the 12th Congressional District of Georgia.

It authorizes full funding requested by the Army for construction projects at Fort Gordon—projects that bring state-of-the-art technology and training to our troops—and authorizes funding for the Savannah River Site so that it can continue leading the globe in nuclear waste management.

I am very pleased the committee adopted the Allen amendment expanding Army cyber ROTC programs to those universities already working with our Nation's service academies, like Augusta University in my district.

Simply put, the NDAA is a key piece to our national security, and I was proud to wholeheartedly support it. Our troops deserve it, and our national security depends on it.

RECOGNIZING THE GREAT LOSS OF EMILIO NAVAIRA

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great loss of Grammy-winning Mexican American Tejano and country music star, Emilio Navaira.

Emilio was born in San Antonio, Texas, in 1962 and found musical inspiration in not only traditional Tejano legends, but also American country greats such as Willie Nelson and George Strait.

His passion and love for music grew and grew; and when he graduated from McCollum High School in 1980, he attended Texas State University, where he received a music scholarship and majored in music. Although he planned to become a teacher, he ultimately followed his passion and became an award-winning singer, songwriter, and performer in both the U.S. and Mexico markets.

He started his career with Tejano band David Lee Garza y Los Musicales in the late 1980s, and was remembered for sharing the stage several times with another Tejano music legend, Selena.

Emilio, lovingly known as the Garth Brooks of Tejano, was widely credited with introducing Tejano music into the mainstream that we know and love today. Although we mourn the loss of this Mexican American music legend, his memory will live on forever.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor, and I also rise to challenge.

My honoring is to acknowledge the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and to honor those who have fallen in battle, and to acknowledge the fact that an officer is killed somewhere in the United States every 60 hours, and there are also 58,930 assaults and 15,404 injuries.

So I salute those who have fallen and offer my sympathy to their families, but I recognize that it is important to honor them, and we do honor them.

That is why I rise today with sadness on what we did on the floor of the House, where we actually said to the LGBT community that serve in the United States military or by contracting work serve the United States Government, that you are not equal. How sad that is. I am looking forward to this House, next week, overturning that dastardly provision that says that one American who comes under the Constitution is not equal.

Finally, let me say that we are suffering from the possibility of the Zika virus, and this House must fully fund for the Zika virus epidemic that is coming.

Mr. Speaker, this week the nation observes National Police Week, as we have since President John F. Kennedy first proclaimed National Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15, 1962.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial is the nation's monument to law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

Dedicated on October 15, 1991, the Memorial honors federal, state and local law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and protection of our nation and its people.

Carved on its walls are the names of 20,789 officers who have been killed in the line of duty throughout U.S. history, dating back to the first known death in 1791.

Added to the Wall this year will be the names of the 123 police officers killed in the line of duty in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, enshrined on the Memorial Wall of Honor also are the names of 1,695 fallen peace officers from the state of Texas, the most of any state, including 114 members of the Houston Police Department who gave their lives to keep their city safe.

I include a list of these fallen heroes from Houston, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, today there are more than 900,000 law enforcement personnel serving the people of our country, the highest amount ever.

About 12 percent of them are female. These brave men and women risk their lives to keep the peace and keep us safe but they are too often taken by the violence they are working to prevent. Every year, a law enforcement officer is killed somewhere in the United States every 60 hours, and there are also 58,930 assaults against our law officers each year, resulting in 15,404 injuries.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Law Enforcement Caucus I am proud to represent the people of the 18th Congressional District of Texas in paying tribute to the 123 fallen heroes who will be joining the 20,789 gallant men and women who gave the last full measure of devotion to the communities they took an oath to protect and serve.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me pay tribute to one of the finest public servants America has produced, Lee Patrick Brown, who is perhaps best known to the law enforcement community as the "The Father of Community Policing."

Lee Brown was appointed in 1982 as the first African-American Chief of Police of the

Houston Police Department, where he pioneered techniques in community policing to reduce crime that still used throughout the country today.

Lee Brown enjoyed a long and distinguished career leading several of the nation's most important and largest police departments, including those of Atlanta, Georgia, and New York City, before becoming the first African American Mayor of Houston, Texas in 1997.

Following Lee Brown as Chief of the Houston Police Department were the following good and true public servants: Elizabeth Watson (1990–1992); Sam Nuchia (1992–1997); Clarence Bradford (1997–2004); Harold Hunt (2004–2009); and Charles McClelland (2010–2016).

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in memory of the officers whose names will be added to the National Peace Officers Memorial Wall of Honor.

HOUSTON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIALIZED ON THE WALL OF HONOR

1. TIMOTHY SCOTT ABERNETHY, End of Watch: December 7, 2008, Houston, Texas, P.D.
2. CHARLES H BAKER, End of Watch: August 16, 1979, Houston, Texas, P.D.
3. JOHNNY TERRELL BAMSCH, End of Watch: January 30, 1975, Houston, Texas, P.D.
4. CLAUDE R BECK, End of Watch: December 10, 1971, Houston, Texas, P.D.
5. JACK B BEETS, End of Watch: March 30, 1955, Houston, Texas, P.D.
6. TROY A BLANDO, End of Watch: May 19, 1999, Houston, Texas, P.D.
7. JAMES CHARLES BOSWELL, End of Watch: December 9, 1989, Houston, Texas, P.D.
8. C E BRANON, End of Watch: March 20, 1959, Houston, Texas, P.D.
9. JOHN M CAIN, End of Watch: August 3, 1911, Houston, Texas, P.D.
10. RICHARD H CALHOUN, End of Watch: October 10, 1975, Houston Texas Police Department.
11. DIONICIO M CAMACHO, End of Watch: October 23, 2009, Harris County, Texas, S.O.
12. HENRY CANALES, End of Watch: June 23, 2009, Houston, Texas, P.D.
13. FRANK MANUEL CANTU JR, End of Watch: March 25, 2004, Houston, Texas, P.D.
14. E C CHAVEZ, End of Watch: September 17, 1925, Houston, Texas, P.D.
15. CHARLES ROY CLARK, End of Watch: April 3, 2003, Houston, Texas, P.D.
16. CHARLES ROBERT COATES II, End of Watch: February 23, 1983, Houston, Texas, P.D.
17. PETE CORRALES, End of Watch: January 25, 1925, Houston, Texas, P.D.
18. RUFUS E DANIELS, End of Watch: August 23, 1917, Houston, Texas, P.D.
19. JOHNNIE DAVIDSON, End of Watch: February 19, 1921, Houston, Texas, P.D.
20. WORTH DAVIS, End of Watch: June 17, 1928, Houston, Texas, P.D.
21. KEITH ALAN DEES, End of Watch: March 7, 2002, Houston, Texas, P.D.
22. REUBEN BECERRA DELEON, JR, End of Watch: October 26, 2005, Houston, Texas, P.D.
23. WILLIAM EDWIN DELEON, End of Watch: March 29, 1982, Houston, Texas, P.D.
24. FLOYD T DELOACH JR, End of Watch: June 30, 1965, Houston, Texas, P.D.
25. GEORGE D EDWARDS, End of Watch: June 30, 1939, Houston, Texas, P.D.
26. DAWN SUZANNE ERICKSON, End of Watch: December 24, 1995, Houston, Texas, P.D.
27. J C ETHERIDGE, End of Watch: August 23, 1924, Houston, Texas, P.D.
28. JAMES E FENN, End of Watch: March 14, 1891, Houston, Texas, P.D.