

across this great Nation, including those in my district, our Nation honors and celebrates you.

#### HONORING ETHAN EDELMAN

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Army veteran Ethan Edelman of Highlands Ranch, Colorado.

Ethan Edelman served for 3 years in the United States infantry. His military service included a combat tour of duty in Afghanistan. His personal awards include the United States Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

Like so many other veterans before him, Ethan Edelman served his country with honor, with dedication, and with courage.

Ethan Edelman left the United States Army to enroll as a student at Metropolitan State University in Denver, Colorado.

Last year, Ethan Edelman, tragically, took his own life on Veterans Day, a day that carries so much emotion for those of us who have served this great Nation in uniform.

Ethan Edelman will always be remembered for his service to this country. He will forever be missed by his family, his friends, and by the soldiers who served by his side in combat.

#### RECOGNIZING GABRIELLA MELENDEZ, TORIANA CORNWELL, AND SHANIYLAH WELCH

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, three students from the Hamlin Park Academy—Gabriella Melendez, Toriana Cornwell, and Shaniyah Welch—will participate in the Fourth Annual State of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Address hosted by the White House.

After months of planning, fundraising, and research, these three bright women partnered with Western New York STEM Hub to develop and fine-tune their experiment, “Tumor Growth in Microgravity,” which earned them the nickname “Spud Launchers.”

Through collaborative efforts with NASA, these spud launchers will test the ability of potatoes to grow in microgravity, toward the goal of learning about how plants might grow on other planets.

Their experiment won the national competition held by the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program and will be conducted abroad at the International Space Station this year.

These three young women are role models to all of the bright young minds in our community. Their success is a

result of their curiosity and their hard work. It is a testament to their families, the Buffalo Public Schools system, Western New York STEM Hub, and, most importantly, their teachers.

#### CONGRATULATING VINCENT “ZIPPY” DUVALL

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

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Vincent “Zippy” Duvall on his election yesterday as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Zippy is a third-generation farmer from Greene County, Georgia, and has been a Farm Bureau member since 1977. For the past 9 years, he has served as president of the Georgia Farm Bureau, while producing poultry, cattle, and hay on his family farm.

I am so proud to have Zippy and his wife, Bonnie, as constituents of the Tenth District of Georgia. He has done an extraordinary job serving as the voice of agriculture in Georgia, and I can think of no better leader than Zippy Duvall to serve as the new president of the American Farm Bureau.

#### KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Korean American Day, a day that commemorates the first Korean immigrants to arrive in the United States on January 13, 1903. On that day, the S.S. *Gaelic* brought 56 men, 21 women, and 25 children across the Pacific Ocean from Korea to America in search of a better future.

On Korean American Day, our Nation celebrates a community that has made tremendous contributions to this country. Since 1903, the Korean American population has grown to almost 2 million and has become intricately woven in the fabric of our country.

Korean Americans have made contributions in all aspects of American life. They are our servicemembers, our doctors, businessmen, teachers, and community leaders. They are our neighbors and, most importantly, our friends.

For centuries, Korean immigrants and their descendants have helped build America's prosperity. Their culture enriches our lives in so many ways as they uphold the important values of community, hard work, and family that make America strong.

I am proud to be a part of New York State, which has the second largest Korean American population in the U.S. I am honored to join my colleagues and friends in celebrating all that the Korean Americans have done for our great Nation.

#### SMALL BUSINESS HURT BY FEDERAL OVERREACH

(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, last night the President said that he is finally ready to work with us here in Congress. Today we will send him a measure blocking the EPA's waters of the United States power grab, a proposal rejected by both Houses of Congress, two Federal courts, the Government Accountability Office, and many States.

The EPA's plan would grant jurisdiction over fully 95 percent of my home State of California, allowing an unaccountable Federal agency to insert itself into land use decisions once again across our State.

Mr. Speaker, the President spoke glowingly of small business America last night. Between waters of the United States, his rejection of health options plans for Americans, and forcing minimum wage proposals upon small businesses and their employees, small businesses don't have a chance. They don't have a chance to survive and thrive in this country.

If the President really wants to work with Congress in a constructive way, he can start today by rejecting the waters of the United States policy that is hurting small businesses, farms, and ranches, and actually help us build the water supply we need in California and the Western States.

#### TIME FOR THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE ACTION

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, well, the lights and the heat are on at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, illegally occupied by ultra rightwing, antigovernment extremists. But you have to wonder if the lights are on or anybody is home down there at the Justice Department. Hello? I don't think there is anybody there.

I believe that this illegal occupation, this destruction of Federal property, was directly emboldened by the fact that the father of the two leaders, Cliven Bundy, stood down the government 2 years ago when he owed \$1 million.

Other ranchers pay their grazing fees, and he refuses to do it. He was grazing in areas that were prohibited. He stood down the government at the point of a gun, and he is still illegally grazing.

Nobody—nobody—at the Justice Department has seen fit to lift a finger against him. There is no ongoing prosecution. They haven't put a lien on his cattle.

He celebrated the anniversary of the takeover and said: This is how it is done.

Now his sons are replicating that in my State of Oregon, where we abide by the laws. Yes, we disagree over a lot of Federal policies, but we abide by the laws.

It is time for the Justice Department to take some action. Wake up down there.

#### RECOGNIZING LYNNEL RUCKERT

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, when building a strong team, you need a strong leader. Lynnrel Ruckert has been that strong leader.

As my chief of staff, Lynnrel has also been an ally and a friend since the very first day I arrived in Congress. Whether it has been the whip team, the Republican Study Committee, or Louisiana's First Congressional District, under her guidance, strong leadership, and relentless drive, Lynnrel played a crucial role in delivering countless conservative victories for both our country and Louisiana.

I wouldn't be where I am today without Lynnrel Ruckert. I am and will forever be grateful for Lynnrel's dedication and unwavering commitment to our Team Scalise family.

Every day, she made the extra effort to bring a little Louisiana to Washington. We call it lagniappe. There was not a day that went by where she didn't wear a fleur-de-lis or some other symbol of our great State of Louisiana that we both love.

Lynnrel, you will be truly missed. I wish you, Kyle, and the whole Ruckert family all the best as you enter this new, exciting chapter in your life back home in Louisiana.

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#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor today to congratulate the fans of the Seattle Seahawks.

You see, I talked with my good friend Congresswoman SUZAN DELBENE and told her that the Minnesota Vikings were for sure going to beat the Seahawks.

She said: Well, if you really believe that, why don't you agree to come down to the House floor if they don't, and I will come down to the House floor if they do.

For three quarters, I was right, Mr. Speaker. The Vikings shut the Seahawks out completely. But in the fourth quarter, through luck—and this is the real skill of the Seahawks, by the way—the center throws one over the head of the quarterback.

The quarterback runs 20 yards back. It looks like he is just going to fall on it, but he picks it up, finds an open

man, hits him, and then the guy almost scores, and then, on the next play, they do.

Then, after that, the leading rusher in the NFL, A.P.—Adrian Peterson—drops a pass and fumbles it and then they get the ball and kick a field goal. We are now 9–10.

Even still, the Vikings were about to win, Mr. Speaker, but the lucky, lucky Seahawks saw our excellent field goal kicker miss one, although he has been making them all year long.

So I am here to congratulate the Seahawks as the luckiest team in the NFL.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 583, I call up the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 22) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia). Pursuant to House Resolution 583, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

##### S.J. RES. 22

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Clean Water Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States'" (80 Fed. Reg. 37054; June 29, 2015), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on S.J. Res. 22.

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

There was no objection.

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

The question of what is and is not waters of the United States has been the subject of debate for many decades. The reason this question is so important and contentious is because, if water or land is Federal, it is subject to regulation by the Federal Government.

The Clean Water Act was originally intended as a cooperative partnership between the States and the Federal Government, with the States being primarily responsible for the elimination and prevention of water pollution and the oversight of waters within their borders.

This successful partnership has given rise to monumental improvements in water quality throughout the Nation since the Clean Water Act's enactment in 1972 because not all waters need to be subject to Federal jurisdiction.

Following the Supreme Court's decision of SWANCC and Rapanos, determining the appropriate scope of jurisdiction on the Clean Water Act has been confusing and unclear. Both the regulated community and the Supreme Court called for a rulemaking that would provide this needed clarity. The EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers voluntarily undertook a rulemaking to respond to the need for clarity, and that is when things went terribly wrong.

If the agencies had taken the time to consult with the States and local governments and to actually listen up front to the issues that our States, counties, cities, and townships are facing, the agencies would not have had to admit to Congress in multiple hearings that their proposed rule created confusion and uncertainty, but they did not take this time for consultation.

If the agencies had followed the proper rulemaking process, we wouldn't have had a proposed rule that cut corners on the economic analysis, used incomplete data, and took a cursory look at the economic impacts of the rule on just one of the many regulatory programs under the Clean Water Act, but they did not follow the rulemaking process.

If the agencies had done things right, the substantive comments filed on the rule would not have been nearly 70 percent opposed to the rule.

If the agencies had done things right the first time, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure wouldn't have had to respond to the more than 30 States and almost 400 counties which requested the EPA withdraw or significantly revise the proposed waters of the United States rule and move H.R. 1732, a bill the House passed in May of 2015 that was a bipartisan bill, that would have sent the rule back to the agencies so they would go through the correct process.

If the agencies had properly developed the rule in a joint fashion, the Army Corps of Engineers would not have been cut out of the process and would not have had to send last-minute letters through the chain of command that questioned decisions that were being made in the final rule and that pointed out multiple issues that would make the rule nearly impossible to implement and legally questionable.

If the agencies had actually set out to clarify jurisdiction and not to simply gift themselves unlimited discretion to regulate whatever they wanted,