

Agriculture is Georgia's number one industry, and we are proud that a great Georgian has filled this national and important role.

As members of the House Committee on Agriculture, we look forward to working with Zippy, and wish him all the best as he begins this new journey in his life.

Congratulations to Zippy and Bonnie Duvall. I know the American Farm Bureau Federation will be served well with Zippy as president.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the female pilots who served during World War II, known as the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or the WASPs.

These brave and hardworking female pilots signed up, of their own volition, were trained in over 12,000 aircraft, and stepped up to the plate to fill the shortfall of male pilots.

Despite the fact that the WASPs were merely considered civilians, they served their country, delivering planes overseas in dangerous conditions and helping to train the male pilots for combat.

Thirty-eight of these WASPs died while serving their country, and their patriotic sense of duty is truly inspirational.

Unfortunately, these courageous women have been unjustly denied the honor of burial at the Arlington National Cemetery. Why? Because they were civilians.

As a cosponsor of H.R. 4336, I strongly urge the Secretary of the Army to change its policy and allow these female pilots to be honored at Arlington National Cemetery. It is the moral imperative of our country to honor them.

#### CONGRATULATING NASA FLIGHT DIRECTOR MARY LAWRENCE

(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 to congratulate Mary Lawrence, a native of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, who was named late last year as one of the five new flight directors to manage the operations of the International Space Station from NASA's Mission Control Center in Houston.

Mary grew up in Wattsburg, Erie County, earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Pennsylvania State University's Behrend campus in 2001. Following graduation, she worked for the U.S. Space Alliance, a NASA contractor, before joining NASA in 2007.

As a flight director, Mary will lead teams of flight controllers, research and engineering experts, along with support personnel, in ensuring the crew of the International Space Station have the tools that they need to conduct their important scientific research.

Mr. Speaker, Mary is hoping to be certified as a flight director in a few months, and will then be one of only 27 active flight directors for NASA.

Again, I congratulate Mary, her husband, Andrew, and their entire family on this commendable accomplishment. I wish her the best of luck as her career with NASA continues.

#### NORTH KOREA SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT ACT

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

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of North Korea's alleged hydrogen bomb test last week, the House of Representatives yesterday passed the North Korea Sanctions Enforcement Act and sent a strong signal that the United States will not tolerate such hostile behavior.

Yesterday's legislation strengthens and expands our existing sanctions against North Korea, increases our investigations into nefarious activities that support North Korea's weapons programs and human rights abuses, and holds bad actors accountable when they engage with North Korea to launder money, traffic narcotics, or carry out cybersecurity attacks.

I am glad that the final bill includes a measure I proposed stressing the strategic importance of U.S. trilateral cooperation and military intelligence-sharing with Japan and South Korea. The United States will uphold its commitment to Japan and South Korea, protect their security in the face of the North Korean threat, and work to preserve stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

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#### THE WORLD IS NOT SAFE TODAY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in his State of the Union message, President Obama claimed that America's standing as a world power is greater than when he first took office.

Let's see, Mr. Speaker. Iran just took 10 of our sailors hostage for 24 hours. Iran props up a dictator in Syria who has killed millions of his own citizens. Iran is the world's number one sponsor of terrorism. Iran is currently developing ICBMs and eventually will have nuclear weapons.

Russia invaded Ukraine, a country hungry for freedom. The Ukrainians looked to the United States for leader-

ship, and the United States watched and basically did nothing. The Russians are still in Ukraine.

North Korea has nuclear weapons and ICBMs that can now reach the United States. ISIS and other terrorist groups control more territory and have more money than ever before in history. Last year was one of the deadliest years of terrorist violence on record.

The fact is the world is not safer today. It is not a more stable place than it was 8 years ago. The world is full of dangerous, rogue nations seeking to do harm. Our friends don't trust us, and our enemies scoff at us.

The administration's foreign policy is based on wobbly knees, not strength. And that is just the way it is.

#### RECOGNIZING COMBINED INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA IN GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Combined Insurance Company of America in Glenview, Illinois, for receiving an estimable award. GI Jobs magazine announced its Top 100 Military Friendly Employers for 2016, and for the second consecutive year, Combined Insurance was number one.

This is a prestigious honor, as Combined was ranked above 5,000 other organizations in the United States that were considered, and it marks the fifth straight year that they made the Top 100 organizations.

Since 2010, Combined Insurance has hired over 2,500 veterans or those with a military background. Their president, Brad Bennett, has committed to hiring an additional 2,800 more by the end of 2017.

Brad and his leadership team know that servicemembers at any rank offer employers skills such as discipline, independent work ethic, and commitment. They actively recruit from all levels of the military, offering opportunities for former officers and those from the enlisted ranks as well.

In addition to providing meaningful employment to our veterans, Combined also gives back to several veteran charities in both time and resources.

I hope more organizations will emulate Combined Insurance in their unwavering efforts to support our Nation's veterans.

#### RIGHT TO LIFE

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

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, the Declaration of Independence records for posterity the fact that we have been given by our Creator certain unalienable rights. Among these, of course, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

These rights extend to all persons, even those who are physically with us, but yet unborn. Indeed, life inside a mother versus outside of her is ultimately a matter of geography.

The rights of the unborn must be protected, and I believe we can never speak too strongly for those who cannot speak for themselves. Protecting life must be our top priority.

This debate is more than a simple disagreement about making choices. It is a debate about fundamental, God-given rights, the first of which, of course, is the right to life.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this House, the people's House, has no higher duty than to protect human life, no matter how big or how small it is or where it may be located.

As we approach the 43rd anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, I pray for all the families in our Nation who have chosen life and for all the life that we have lost.

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#### IRAN TERROR FINANCE TRANSPARENCY ACT

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, it seems we can't go more than a few days without the regime in Tehran once again making the headlines.

From violating U.N. Security Council resolutions to firing rockets dangerously close to one of our aircraft carriers, to detaining our sailors, Iran shows no interest in actually wanting to be part of the international community.

What is worse, Mr. Speaker, is that this administration seems all too willing to look the other way, with new sanctions being announced all for the sake of preserving a flawed nuclear agreement.

Later this month the House will consider again the Iran Terror Finance Transparency Act, legislation that, in light of Iran's recent actions, is absolutely necessary.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time for strong American leadership, leadership that stands up to rogue regimes bent on the destruction of America and our allies.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. J.S. STONE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness in my heart that I rise to acknowledge the death of a great leader in our community, Dr. J.S. Stone, a graduate of Talladega College and a graduate of Meharry Medical School, who leaves his beloved wife, Gertrude, a dear friend, and three children.

This was a great leader and a great medical professional, committed to service in our community, serving on

many, many boards and sharing his great brilliance with all of us.

He had a residency at Texas MD Anderson and hospitals in Philadelphia and became one of the first African Americans to participate in the Harris County Medical Society and to practice in hospitals that, for the first time, saw an African American doctor, such as St. Joseph, a community hospital that has remained historic in our community.

Again, I want to pay tribute to him for his service in the United States military as captain.

This is the kind of African American leader and a kind of American leader that stood tall, being born in 1930 in the face of segregation, but he never let the ills of the world overcome him. He became a servant of the people—not elected—but he became a servant in medicine and serving them.

I honor him today and express my deepest sympathy to his family, his wife, his children, and to the entire community in Houston, for we have lost a fallen hero. He is a hero.

I say well done, good and faithful servant. May you rest in peace, Dr. J.S. Stone.

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#### PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year carbon monoxide kills over 400 people and sends an additional 20,000 people to the emergency room. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas, and poisoning from it most often occurs in households with a malfunctioning heat source.

Because of its nature, it can be extremely difficult to detect a carbon monoxide leak. Carbon monoxide detectors, however, are extremely effective in alerting families to a leak and have already saved lives.

I am introducing bipartisan legislation with Congresswoman ANN KUSTER to allow States to apply for grants to purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors in schools, in low-income homes, and, also, senior residences at no cost to the taxpayer.

The grants will also help and train local and State fire officials on the dangers of carbon monoxide and the best methods of prevention because, Mr. Speaker, it is important to educate the public on the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning and what people should do to protect themselves. This is one more way to do so.

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#### OUR SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

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

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration has just issued a

series of executive actions attempting to limit our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

As the new chairman of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I have been entrusted with the responsibility handed down to us by our Founding Fathers of the power of the purse.

The Department of Justice and the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives have already been put on notice that, if they attempt to interfere with our Second Amendment rights, I have the authority, as chairman, to block their ability to move money within the agency, to block their ability, for example, when they submit a spending plan. That is a very powerful tool of persuasion, not always guaranteed.

The Founding Fathers entrusted the power of the purse to the Congress as a way to give a check and balance to an out-of-control executive.

I don't need an amendment. And I don't need any new authority. The Congress has it.

I will execute that authority entrusted to me to protect our Second Amendment rights and to make sure that Americans always have the right to keep and bear arms in defense of our freedom.

If the Obama administration wants access to our hard-earned tax dollars, they are going to have to assure me and the American people that they will not interfere with our constitutional rights.

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#### HONORING KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

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

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on January 13, 1903, 102 Korean immigrants first arrived in the United States. Today we celebrate Korean American Day and the contributions of our Korean American community. Earlier this week, we had a celebration right here on Capitol Hill, with many of my colleagues joining our local and national community.

When I previously served as the State delegate and now, as a Member of Congress, I have been privileged to work with our Korean American community in northern Virginia and throughout the 10th District through organizations such as the Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area; the Korean Medical Society; the Korean Women's Chamber of Commerce, which has worked with us tirelessly on battling the human trafficking issue. These are a few of the many organizations that serve in our area.

I have also been privileged to visit with the Korean faith community and attended many cultural festivals, such as the annual KORUS Festival, which I