

For details and text of the bills, folks can visit the Rules Committee Web site. Feel free to contact the Rules Committee with any questions that Members may have.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016, TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016

Mr. WOODALL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns, it adjourn to meet on Monday, February 29, 2016, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and at 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address one of the Nation's greatest concerns: welfare reform.

America's most important resource is our people. The last thing we want any of our citizens to believe is that they are forever stuck in a situation that they cannot rise above.

Welfare reform was originally successful because it required work in return for assistance, gave more power and responsibility to the States in fighting poverty, and ensured that States were rewarded for reducing poverty instead of increasing dependency.

Today, given the slow growth of our economy, many job seekers become frustrated when they are unable to find adequate work. This creates a system where many become trapped and dependent on State and Federal assistance.

Solutions to welfare reform have to come from a local level, not from Washington. It is imperative that we encourage family values and education more than anything.

Washington's primary role is to strengthen the economy, facilitate growth, and encourage a positive business climate, thus creating jobs and reducing dependency on State programs.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2015

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, today Congress voted to make it easier to import killed polar bears and ivory into our Nation.

The SHARE Act is a piece of legislation most closely resembling George Orwell's novel "1984," riddled with doublespeak and nightmarish visions.

The Polar Bear Conservation and Fairness Act, part of this bill, would encourage the further hunting and importation of polar bears as long as they follow the rules.

The African Elephant Conservation and Legal Ivory Possession Act, another title, would encourage the needless and malicious slaying of innocent and endangered animals for their tusks.

And for what? So that gun owners can have a shiny grip on their Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum made of a tusk that once was part of a beautiful, majestic elephant. Have we really come to this place in our history in which the ivory trimming on a gun is more important than a life?

I urge the Senate and the President to reject this ethically reprehensible and morally repugnant bill.

VAIL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Ms. MCSALLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Vail Unified School District for their outstanding education achievements. Year after year the Arizona Department of Education recognizes Vail as a top-performing school district and its schools are continuously labeled A-plus.

As with any organization, leadership matters. Vail superintendent Cal Baker, who I have worked with on many issues related to education, sets a tone from the top of innovation and excellence, but he is not alone.

He has many wingmen and wingwomen, including an engaged school board, dedicated staff and teachers, involved parents, and selfless volunteers, who all work together to provide high-quality education to kids.

Vail's out-of-the-box learning model doesn't just benefit its students, but benefits others across the State where Vail's best practices are exported to other school districts.

Recently it was my honor to participate in Vail Pride Day where we recognized excellent performance in so many students. I gave out the Board Community Award to members of the Vail Parent Network for their work in advocating for education.

I congratulate Vail on their many achievements and their impact on so many kids by setting them on a course to achieve their dreams and full potential.

CONGRATULATING WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

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

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the talent, teamwork, and intelligence of the West Windsor-Plainsboro High

School South National Science Bowl team, who are regional champions for the second year in a row.

This year's team includes Dhruva Byrapatna, Eric Mischell, William Jiao, Angela You, and Tanishq Aggarwal. They were coached by Ms. Sunila Sharma.

In a few weeks, these students will head to Washington, D.C., to compete in the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl. I am proud to know that New Jersey's 12th District will be represented.

I wish both the coach and the team the best of luck in the national competition.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition and in celebration of Black History Month.

This month is a reminder of both the incredible sacrifices and the remarkable contributions that African Americans have made during our Nation's history.

153 years ago Illinois' own Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. For 153 years since then, our Nation has struggled to overcome bigotry and achieve equality for all.

Countless courageous leaders have taken up the cause of justice, including former Illinois Senator Everett Dirksen and our own colleague here in the United States Congress, Congressman JOHN LEWIS.

Walking on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma with Congressman LEWIS for the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches is one of the highlights of my tenure in the United States Congress.

As we look back on the accomplishments of the past, we cannot lose sight of the urgency with which we must address inequality in our society today.

African Americans today face an unacceptable likelihood of being incarcerated, a poverty rate that our Nation's leaders should be ashamed of, and everyday discrimination that flies in the face of everything our Nation stands for.

In memory of the heroes who have fought for equality throughout our Nation's history, we are compelled to act. I am committed to fighting for a more just and equal society. I implore my colleagues to do the same.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF DEBBIE SMITH

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

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of late State Senator Debbie Smith, who passed away on Sunday.

Debbie was a fighter and a powerful advocate for improving Nevada's public schools. From her days with the State PTA to her work as a legislative leader, she served the community in countless ways for over 20 years, constantly advocating for Nevada to invest in what matters most: our children.

After having a brain tumor removed early last year, she returned to the legislature to work on the front lines for major education reform. Cancer couldn't stop her from making sure that her vision came to fruition. In her last political battle, she was able to claim a victory that will long benefit Nevada's students.

Debbie was a true friend and a real inspiration. She was a hero who never asked for recognition for herself. The angels are fortunate to now have her on their side.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ALFRED MANN

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

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of an American hero, Alfred Mann.

At 17 years of age, Al Mann was a navigator on a B-29 during World War II. After the war, he was educated with the GI Bill, and he used his genius, his creative skills, to upgrade America's antitank weapons of the day.

A short time after that, he said he was so happy because he had his chance to use his creative genius in building things that helped people. He revolutionized heart pacemakers at that time, and then he went on to help us and help millions of Americans live better through his technology that helped diabetics, people who were deaf, even people who were amputees.

Al Mann made a major difference. He represented the very best in America. He was a hero. He passed away at 91 years of age. He will be missed, but he has left a wonderful legacy. Now we live better and freer because of people like Al Mann.

WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* next Tuesday, a case challenging the Texas law that has deprived women of their constitutional right to make their own healthcare decisions. I was proud to join 163 of my colleagues in an amicus brief in support of women's health centers.

Texas is home to 5.4 million women of reproductive age, and this appalling law would leave only 10 clinics open in the entire State—10—in Texas.

As a mother of two daughters, I find this unacceptable. It is a moral outrage when legislatures full of mostly male politicians interfere in women's healthcare decisions. From Texas to my home State of Florida, to this very body, we are seeing an unprecedented attack on women's health, and I will not be silent about it.

These laws have not and will not make women safer. They are intrusive and invade women's personal, most private decisions. It is my deepest hope that the Supreme Court overturns this offensive Texas law.

WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE DECISIONS

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, we are less than 5 days away from hearing oral arguments in the Supreme Court case that could steal the right away from women to make their own healthcare decisions.

In 2013, the Texas State legislature passed House Bill 2, a very strict anti-abortion law that imposed medically unnecessary restrictions on women's healthcare providers. Lawmakers claimed their motivation was to protect women's health care, but Texas women can attest that the law has done little to expand their access to health care.

Since the passage of HB 2, over 20 clinics in Texas have shut down. Women in Dallas are facing delays as long as 20 days for an initial abortion consultation. Other States have followed the lead, with 22 States passing similar laws that are targeting abortion providers just in the last few years.

Roe v. Wade made it clear that women have a constitutional right to make choices about their own bodies.

Planned Parenthood v. Casey reaffirmed that a State cannot create an undue burden on women when they seek to exercise their right to safe and legal abortions. Ultimately, a constitutional right means nothing without the ability to exercise that right.

I am confident that the Supreme Court will reaffirm that women are constitutionally protected to make their own healthcare decisions.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES).

HONORING MAJOR SHAWN M. CAMPBELL

Mr. FLORES. I thank the gentleman from Texas.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Marine Corps Major Shawn M. Campbell of College Station, Texas.

Major Campbell died on January 14, 2016, when he and 11 additional marines were involved in a helicopter training accident off the coast of Hawaii's Oahu Island.

Major Campbell attended Klein High School in suburban Houston and went on to graduate from Texas A&M University. Upon graduation, Major Campbell decided to follow his lifelong dream of becoming a pilot. He accepted his commission and began a career as a Marine Corps aviator. During his time in the Marine Corps, Shawn served four tours in the Middle East, including one in Iraq.

After serving our country overseas, Major Campbell returned to the U.S., where he became a flying instructor at the Naval Air Station located in Pensacola, Florida. Major Campbell, along with his wife, Kelli, and their children were later transferred to Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay in Hawaii in 2014. During his time stationed at the Marine Corps base, Shawn served as a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot with Squadron 463, Marine Aircraft Group 24.

Throughout his tenure, Major Campbell garnered numerous awards and decorations for his bravery. These decorations include: the Air Medal with strike/flight device, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Madam Speaker, Major Campbell was a fearless leader and a decorated veteran. His selfless devotion to protect our country will be forever remembered. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Major Shawn Campbell. He will be forever remembered as an outstanding husband, father, and marine. We thank him and his family for their service and their sacrifice for our country. His sacrifice truly reflects the words of Jesus in John 15:13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

The loss of Major Campbell and his fellow marines serves as a reminder of the sacrifices the men and women of our Armed Forces make each day to preserve freedom for this great Nation. We are forever in debt to these great individuals who serve our country.

As I close, I ask all Americans to continue to pray for our country during these difficult times, for our military men and women who protect us from external threats, and for our first responders who protect us from threats here at home.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas. He and I were at Texas A&M together in the Corps of Cadets, and I know he didn't have to look down to read what John 15:13 was because that used to be a Campusology question that freshmen had to memorize.