

It is time to stop playing politics with our military. I urge my colleagues in the House and Senate to join together to override this veto.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, I stood on the floor of this Chamber and shared the stories of my constituents who have family members in Syria who are experiencing the political turmoil that is seen on the news daily. These stories paint a disturbing picture of what life is like in Syria right now.

Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad is inflicting a reign of terror on his own people that include the worst kinds of torture, the repeated uses of chemical weapons bombardments, and the siege and starvation of innocent people. Assad has killed more than 130,000 of his own people and has forced an additional 3 to 4 million to flee the country.

These problems have been exacerbated by the failure of leadership from the United States of America. It is not just that Obama has a bad plan for how to handle the crisis in Syria. It is that he has no plan at all.

Edmund Burke once said: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

That is exactly what the Obama administration has done: nothing. Evil is triumphing because of it. Innocent people will continue to die if we do not act now. We must take the first step and establish a no-fly zone so that Assad cannot continue to bomb his own people from the sky. It is so photos like these won't be commonplace in our news.

This critical action will help, but we have to do more. I call upon this administration to wake up to that fact.

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A POWERFUL COALITION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, over the last several weeks, I visited six high schools in my district to meet with juniors and seniors, about 2,000 students in total.

Almost all of the students I meet are U.S. citizens. The majority are Latinos. Some have immigrant parents, and most will soon be eligible to vote.

All of them have one question for me. It starts every Q and A at every high school I visit. The questions are about Donald Trump. Is he going to be our next President? Is it true that he wants to revoke our citizenship and deport us to the countries our parents came from? Is it true he wants to round us up, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, and deport us all?

It is very sad when the questions a Congressman gets from American high school students are about how much they should fear their own government, whether their own government is going to break up their families, whether their own government is going to treat

them not as citizens and as equal partners, but as outsiders and pariahs in their own country.

When they hear that Trump is "leading in the polls," they think that means there is a pretty good chance that he will be the next President. When they see him on TV shows like Jimmy Fallon, not to mention CNN and Fox News, they get the feeling that he is a celebrity that all of us in America admire.

When they hear that Trump is hosting "Saturday Night Live"—not just being a guest but actually hosting, even after saying Mexican are mostly rapists, criminals, and drug dealers—they get the impression that calling whole groups of people rapists, criminals, and drug dealers based on their ethnicity or national origin is basically okay with us in America.

The real question these Chicago-area high school students have is: Hey, GUTIÉRREZ, what are you going to do to defend us from Donald Trump? What are you going to do to stand up for us?

This leads to an intense discussion about American politics. And I ask the students right back: What are you going to do to stand up for yourselves, for your community?

Look, motivating 17- and 18-year-olds to do something is not always easy, including motivating them to register to vote when they are old enough and to actually go out and vote. But when I ask these young Americans whether they plan to get registered and vote, every hand goes up in the classroom.

Donald Trump is spurring youth voter mobilization like I have never seen before. Nationally, we know that 93 percent of Latinos under the age of 18 are citizens of the United States and that every 30 seconds a Latino citizen turns 18. That is about a million a year for the next decade or so. If they are half as motivated as the young people I am talking to in Chicago, Donald Trump could have a tremendous impact on the youth vote in the coming election.

But let's be honest, do we really want to motivate civic participation through fear of deportation, racial profiling, and families being broken up? These are American teenagers growing up to distrust their government.

Trump wants to take us back to the good old days of race relations, which apparently means the 1950s, when President Eisenhower evicted millions of immigrants and U.S. citizens from the United States. Dr. Carson, who believes that human history is only about 5,000 years old—that is what he says, we have only been around 5,000 years—says of mass deportation schemes: "I think it's worth discussing."

Here in the House, we have considered measures to deport children more quickly, to make groups more distrustful of the police, and to delay Homeland Security funding.

Testifying on one of these bills before the Rules Committee last year, I made

the unfortunate but real suggestion that Republicans were gravitating toward mass deportation policies, which provoked a response from the chairman, Mr. SESSIONS. He said: GUTIÉRREZ, "there is no one in responsible Republican leadership that has said we should deport 13 or 11 million people. And I find it extremely distasteful that people would come here and suggest things that we have not suggested."

Well, now that people are suggesting mass deportation openly and are gaining in the public opinion polls in the Republican Party, I wonder why there is so much silence from the Republican Members of this body.

But it is not just young Latino voters in Chicago that are being motivated by Republican attacks. When Republicans attack Planned Parenthood and block laws to guarantee equal pay for women, that motivates women to register and vote. When Republicans celebrate people who will not issue marriage licenses to two men or two women, a lot of people in the LGBT community get motivated to register and vote.

When Republicans rail against unions and block increases in the minimum wage, while, of course, they earn \$174,000 a year, and block environmental standards and block sensible gun laws, a lot of working class and middle class Americans get motivated to register and vote.

Together with those young people I talked about at those high schools, we are forming a very, very powerful coalition, a coalition so powerful that some day, even Republicans themselves will want to be part of it.

HOLDING THE EPA ACCOUNTABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring awareness to the reckless acts of the Environmental Protection Agency.

On August 5, 2015, the EPA triggered the release of millions of gallons of toxic waste into the Animas River near Durango, Colorado, containing lead, arsenic, and other pollutants.

Originally, contaminated water was seeping into the Gold King Mine from another nearby mine. When the Gold King Mine owner refused to allow the EPA on his property, the EPA threatened to fine him up to \$35,000 a day—let me repeat—\$35,000 a day for a leak that wasn't coming from the owner's mine. It was only after these thuggish threats that he was forced to let the EPA on his property.

In fact, as recently as last week, investigators from the Interior Department concluded their independent investigation into the August spill and determined that the spill was preventable and occurred due to the actions of the EPA. The best that EPA administrator Gina McCarthy could do is say