

HONORING DR. DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Dr. Debra Saunders-White, a dedicated public servant and chancellor of North Carolina Central University. A cherished friend and confidant, I have never met anyone who worked harder and who gave more.

We often worked together on legislation related to HBCUs. I could always count on her to bring pertinent issues to my attention. She remained involved, even during her illness with cancer.

Prior to joining the Eagle family, Dr. Saunders-White served as acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Postsecondary Education in the U.S. Department of Education and in university administrations of UNC Wilmington and Hampton University.

As chancellor of North Carolina Central University, Dr. Saunders-White expanded NCCU's course curriculum, helped secure critical investments for the university, and increased graduation rates. During her first week on campus, a campus food bank was opened to serve the needs of students, faculty, and staff.

Dr. Debra Saunders-White, educator-chancellor par excellence, will be sorely missed, but her legacy will live forever.

My thoughts and prayers continue to be with the Saunders-White family, friends, and the NCC University campus.

ADVANCES IN HEALTH

(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, yesterday, the House overwhelmingly passed H.R. 34, the 21st Century Cures Act, a bill that offers help to millions of Americans whose needs have been pushed aside for far too long and marks the first step in helping improve our healthcare system, notably in mental health.

I commend my Pennsylvania colleague, Congressman TIM MURPHY, for his dedication and years of hard work on this issue. Back in my district in northern California, these failures have reached crisis levels of this system. In some areas, there are no psychiatric inpatient beds, leaving patients who are suffering to wait days, even weeks, to be seen. That could mean having to travel hundreds of miles for people who need care immediately. In other areas, there is virtually no access to psychiatric care, due to severe physician shortages.

Law enforcement struggle while responding to crisis calls due to lack of training, which has, unfortunately, re-

sulted in tragic outcomes that we see way too many times; as well as the opioid struggles, which is a big challenge for law enforcement and our prosecutors. Heroin really has had a great grip in rural areas like mine in northern California. Indeed, 1,100 overdoses in 8 years.

This bill marks a significant historic, bipartisan effort to right what is wrong with our mental health system. It not only offers solutions, but it offers hope.

I ask my colleagues in the Senate to please take quick action.

WORLD AIDS DAY

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World AIDS Day. The theme this year is "Leadership, Commitment, Impact."

First, I would like to thank Leader PELOSI for her steadfast commitment to fighting HIV and AIDS, and for guaranteeing strong United States leadership in this area. Also, to the Congressional Black Caucus for its leadership in the establishment of PEPFAR, which was a bipartisan effort that President Bush signed into law.

As the cofounder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, with Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN and Congressman MCDERMOTT, we have seen significant progress that we have made in the global fight against AIDS. From PEPFAR and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria, to the Ryan White Care Act and the Minority AIDS Initiative led by Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, year after year we have committed critical resources to end this disease.

Partly due to our efforts, 18.2 million people around the world are now living on antiretroviral drugs, and 37 million lives have been saved. But much work remains, which must continue to be bipartisan.

Still, stigma and discrimination prevents too many people from seeking testing and treatment. Around the world, countries criminalize LGBT people and prevent them from accessing critical HIV care. Here in the United States, we preserve stigma through outdated, unscientific laws that criminalize HIV in over 30 States.

We must end these laws and repeal the discrimination laws against people.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORTENBERRY) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 1, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of

the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 1, 2016, at 11:49 a.m.:

That the Senate has made a technical correction to the engrossment of the Senate amendments to the House Concurrent Resolution of September 29, 2016 and hereby returns to the House the papers to accompany the resolution H. Con. Res. 122.

That the Senate concur in House Amendment S. 1550.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 1, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 1, 2016, at 9:12 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2971.

That the Senate passed S. 3183.

That the Senate passed S. 3386.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5509.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5995.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 2943, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 937 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 937

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 2943) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the conference report to its adoption without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate; and (2) one motion to recommit if applicable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman