A report released last week by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that African-American Texans, Hispanic Texans, and Texans with lower income were the most likely to have suffered property damage or loss of income due to Harvey.

Mr. Speaker, these State champions are to be commended for their grit and perseverance. It was an excellent game to cap off an outstanding season.

Congratulations to Coach Jerry Veshio, the entire coaching staff, and the players for excelling in this western Pennsylvania tradition.

CONGRATULATING PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, in front of a crowd exceeding 2,000 people at snow-covered Herschel Stark Stadium, Pennsylvania’s Pine-Richland Rams charged victoriously into the history books.

With a 41-21 victory, the Rams won the State championship in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Class 6A division. Indeed, it was an unforgettable win that cemented their exceptional State championship season.

Congratulations to Coach Eric Kasperowicz, the entire coaching staff, and the players for excelling in this great western Pennsylvania tradition.

Well done, Rams. Your dedication and hard work has made Pine-Richland High School and all of western Pennsylvania proud.

RESPECT THE HOME RULE ACT

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, 44 years ago this month, Congress passed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act. A Republican President signed it. A Democratic Congress, together with the Republican President, freed the Nation’s Capital from government by three unelected commissioners.

The irony is that the self-government the District of Columbia enjoys today is a virtual replica of what a Republican Congress and a Republican President granted to the District of Columbia right after the Civil War. It granted the Home Rule Act and, of course, a Delegate to Congress.

But, with Reconstruction and Democratic control, Democrats took back what Republicans had granted and, once again, Democrats denied the District of Columbia self-government.

Then, 44 years ago, with bipartisan support, after 100 years of struggle, the District of Columbia finally won what we call home rule.

My colleagues should respect their own history. It was Richard Nixon who signed the Home Rule Act, acting on the most revered, as far as we are told, Republican principles of local control, that local residents should always have a democratically elected local government controlled entirely by their government.

The District has become one of the most successful jurisdictions in the United States since home rule, with a great record.

Before and after home rule however, District of Columbia residents have always paid Federal income taxes.

Today, D.C. residents rank number one—that is first—per capita in taxes paid to support the government of the United States.

In signing the bill for the Home Rule Act, President Nixon wrote: ‘‘One of the major goals of this administration is to restore responsibility for local functions under local control and to provide local governments with the authority and resources they need to serve their communities effectively.”

Since Congress granted the Home Rule Act, it has shown no interest in governing the District of Columbia, but it requires the D.C. budget to actually be passed again here, by Congress, for the sole purpose of seeking to overturn local laws that Members of Congress don’t support.

The basis for our federation of States is that each has its own laws and they must be respected, yet there are eight different laws pending here to be overturned by the Congress of the United States.

I believe I will be able to retain most of these laws for the District of Columbia, but why should I have to spend any of my time protecting local laws passed by my local jurisdiction?

They range from trying to get rid of all the District’s gun laws; making the District pay for private schools out of local funds; the medical aid in dying law, which six States already have and DC would be not allowed to have, allowing two Republican leaders have such bills in their States; no budget autonomy law; repeal of the non-discrimination law that the District has based on reproductive choices of family members; no local funds for marijuana commercialization, though that is now done by eight states; and the prohibition on spending for abortions for low-income women. That is done by 17 States.

This is a sampling of what is pending, Mr. Speaker. Congress allows these same laws to exist in their own local jurisdictions.

The way to commemorate self-government for the District of Columbia granted by Congress 44 years ago is for Congress itself to respect the Home Rule Act it passed in 1973.

SHASH JAA NATIONAL MONUMENT AND INDIAN CREEK NATIONAL MONUMENT

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, as you can see in this picture, Indian Creek, located in southeastern Utah, is Congressional district, is home to some of the most beautiful and majestic scenery in the world, but it has also become an epicenter of an ongoing conflict between those whose livelihoods depend on multiple uses of these public lands, and groups advocating for limited use of those lands.

Almost exactly 1 year ago, President Obama, over the objections of many...
stakeholders, utilized the Antiquities Act to unilaterally designate 1.35 million acres of land as the Bears Ears National Monument. Last week, President Trump came to Utah to help resolve this issue by reauthorizing this monument into two much smaller national monuments, the Indian Creek and the Shash Jaa National Monument.

Although both executive actions have ignited widespread anger and resentment, I believe that both sides should recognize the common goals and values and can work together for the benefit of Utah. We can all agree that these important lands must be responsibly managed for future generations to appreciate.

Now that Utah has two, more manageable monuments, the time has come for Congress to act to ensure that these archeological treasures and sacred Tribal lands are protected the right way. I believe the right way to manage these lands is to have input from Utah’s Tribal members, local citizens, and government officials.

Additionally, there needs to be a management plan that protects important archeological sites and sacred Tribal land while also maintaining multiple uses of these lands, such as recreation, hunting, and grazing.

Lastly, the legislative process and constitutionally mandated system of checks and balances are the best way to both determine the best management of these lands as well as the creation of any new national parks, monuments, recreation, and conservation areas. That is why I have joined other members of Utah’s House delegation to introduce the Shash Jaa National Monument and Indian Creek National Monument Act, which creates the first tribally comanaged monument area. It will safeguard these new monuments by establishing management councils comprised of representatives of local government and Native Americans.

This bill also authorizes law enforcement officials to protect these sacred and significant archeological sites and antiquities from looters, while preserving the multiple use and access to these lands for recreation, grazing, and hunting.

As a Member of Congress, my job is to bring forth solutions that add stability to this region and complement our mutual goals. That is the Utah way. It is my hope that, as Congress considers my Shash Jaa National Monument and Indian Creek National Monument bill, we can bring all sides together to manage these important areas in the right way.

NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, this Thursday, the Federal Communications Commission is set to vote on their Restoring Internet Freedom proposal, to revisit the FCC’s previous open internet regulations. I believe the right way to manage these important lands is to have input from Utah’s Tribal members, local citizens, and government officials.

Additionally, there needs to be a management plan that protects important archeological sites and sacred Tribal land while also maintaining multiple uses of these lands, such as recreation, hunting, and grazing.

Lastly, the legislative process and constitutionally mandated system of checks and balances are the best way to both determine the best management of these lands as well as the creation of any new national parks, monuments, recreation, and conservation areas. That is why I have joined other members of Utah’s House delegation to introduce the Shash Jaa National Monument and Indian Creek National Monument Act, which creates the first tribally comanaged monument area. It will safeguard these new monuments by establishing management councils comprised of representatives of local government and Native Americans.

This bill also authorizes law enforcement officials to protect these sacred and significant archeological sites and antiquities from looters, while preserving the multiple use and access to these lands for recreation, grazing, and hunting.

As a Member of Congress, my job is to bring forth solutions that add stability to this region and complement our mutual goals. That is the Utah way. It is my hope that, as Congress considers my Shash Jaa National Monument and Indian Creek National Monument bill, we can bring all sides together to manage these important areas in the right way.