

DISASTER RELIEF

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 268, the legislation that we voted on earlier today to provide disaster relief, including relief for my home State of Utah.

Specifically, this bill includes money for the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission for critical environmental work in the Strawberry River watershed and part of the Diamond Fork drainage.

Last summer, the Dollar Ridge fire burned an area of almost 70,000 acres, centered over the Strawberry River watershed. This area has been a critical focal point of the Central Utah Project for almost 40 years. The Central Utah Project diverts, stores, and delivers large quantities of water from numerous Utah rivers to meet the needs of central Utah's citizens.

In cooperation with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the mitigation commission is working to repair tremendous damage to the area, both from the fire itself and subsequent rain and runoff events.

Water quality has suffered greatly. Money from this legislation will be used to reseed, replant, and set up monitoring stations to better respond to the future mudslide and sediment flows.

A portion of the funds will also be used to begin restoring an area in the Diamond Fork Canyon that was affected by a second fire.

I also commend my Utah colleague Representative CHRIS STEWART for his amendment to the bill, providing much-needed funding for fire protection.

HONORING JAMES C. HIGH

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

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, Columbus County and many throughout North Carolina and beyond are mourning the passing of Mr. James C. High, known to his many friends and colleagues as Jim.

As the publisher of The News Reporter, a family-owned newspaper in Whiteville for 61 years, Mr. High was a strong advocate for a free press and was highly recognized in the industry for making The News Reporter a leading community newspaper.

He has been long admired in the community for his years of dedicated leadership, service to others, and distinguished contributions to Columbus County.

Mr. High's impact went beyond just the newspaper. He helped lead the effort to create the Committee of 100 to bring industry and jobs to Columbus County.

He was influential in many different capital campaigns, including those for the Carolyn T. High Memorial Library, the Whiteville High School gymnasium, the Angel House Hospice Care Center, and many others too numerous to list.

Jim High was a vital part of Columbus County, and he will be greatly missed. His was a life lived well, and he leaves a great legacy of enrichment that will continue to benefit many.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to clause 11 of rule X, clause 11 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Members of the House to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

Mr. HIMES, Connecticut
 Ms. SEWELL, Alabama
 Mr. CARSON, Indiana
 Ms. SPEIER, California
 Mr. QUIGLEY, Illinois
 Mr. SWALWELL, California
 Mr. CASTRO, Texas
 Mr. HECK, Washington
 Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, New York
 Mrs. DEMINGS, Florida
 Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Illinois

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NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I represent Michigan's 10th Congressional District—northern Macomb County and the Thumb. For us in Michigan, it is simple. I am from here.

I am co-chair of the Congressional School Choice Caucus with Senator TIM SCOTT from South Carolina. Today, a number of Members are gathered here on the floor to celebrate all types of school choice—from traditional public schools, to public charter schools, public magnet schools, online learning, private schools, homeschooling, and more.

Every year, National School Choice Week offers an opportunity to parents, educators, and students from around the country to come together and

share the many successes of education choice in this country.

Yesterday, I introduced a resolution in the House recognizing the importance of school choice the week of January 20 through January 26. I spent 35 years in business focused on career and technical education and workforce education. I know the importance of a preparatory education, of a K-12 education to success in the future.

I am the oldest of seven children. My family struggled. Dad built trucks on the line when he wasn't laid off, and mom worked at the Salvation Army. I was the first of my extended family to ever set foot on a college campus, never mind actually graduate. I saw, firsthand, the importance of that education and the skills I could acquire if I put my mind to it.

My mom convinced me I could be anything, and, to her credit, I became CEO of a fair-size company devoted to workforce education, to helping people gain the skills necessary for a career, or to retrain if they lost their jobs.

My company ran some of the largest welfare-to-work programs in the country back when welfare-to-work meant going to work. I personally benefited from that alternative education when I went to college.

As a father of six, I also know that no two kids are alike. Yes, I am the father of six. You would think I would have learned after being the oldest of seven, but I didn't. We have a blended family. My oldest is in her 30s, and my youngest is 8 years old. We adopted him from Russia 6 years ago.

I know that one size of education does not fit for all children. One of my children, my daughter, who is 17 now, attends a virtual academy because those who have teenagers know that getting your child up as a teenager early in the morning to go to school is like running a zoo. It doesn't go well. So she goes to virtual school, controls her schedule, controls what classes she does that day, controls her time, and learns to manage time like we all have to learn as we get older.

My youngest son has special needs that traditional schools have not handled well. He has learning disabilities. He has dyslexia and ADHD. It has been suggested I suffer from that as well some days. So we had to find an alternative for him. Luckily, my wife was able to stay home and homeschool him, but not everyone has that choice.

Today, we are here to celebrate the range of choices of education, innovation education, and to encourage that. I would like to start by recognizing one of my colleagues to talk about education. I would like to start by recognizing and yielding time to Representative TIM WALBERG from Michigan's Seventh District.

I am proud to introduce him. He is a good friend of mine from Michigan, who also recognizes the importance of alternative education, of education options in our home State, and I now yield to Mr. WALBERG.