

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Cincinnati State Technical and Community College for 50 years of service to the greater Cincinnati community.

I have been privileged to visit Cincinnati State many times, most recently the Evendale campus to see firsthand the opportunities they provide to so many students. With four campuses, small class sizes, and over 100 associate degree programs, Cincinnati State is truly an excellent college.

Perhaps most notably, Cincinnati State plays a critical role in developing our region's workforce. Through extensive co-op programs and relationships with the University of Cincinnati and 600 industry partners, Cincinnati State paves many career paths, especially for nontraditional students.

Finally, I thank Dr. Monica Posey for her dedication to making Cincinnati State an even greater asset to our community.

Congratulations to Cincinnati State on its 50th anniversary. We look forward to many more.

#### STAND UP FOR CONSUMERS BY SUPPORTING FAIR ACT

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, every day, thousands of Americans unwittingly sign contracts for nursing homes, credit cards, and employment contracts that surrender their rights to their day in court before an impartial judge and jury.

Instead, buried in the fine print of the contract, they agree to rely on an arbitrator who doesn't have to follow the law or facts and will have every incentive to favor the special interests that could give them repeat business.

Typically, arbitration is not public. The Wells Fargo practice of opening unauthorized bank accounts would have undoubtedly been exposed and ended sooner if Wells Fargo hadn't enforced mandatory arbitration.

This is our chance to stand up for consumers, justice, and fairness. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1423, the FAIR Act.

#### ENSURE FREE AND FAIR TRADE

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, every day that Speaker PELOSI delays a vote on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, American workers and their families are hurt. Right now, farmers, ranchers, and businesses in Georgia and across the country face unnecessary uncertainty.

This trade deal is vital to our economy, and passing USMCA would be a huge win for the American people. Canada and Mexico both serve as top mar-

kets for a number of our U.S. agricultural products.

In Georgia, 22,558 jobs depend on manufacturing exports to Canada and Mexico.

Passing this trade agreement would also strengthen our already vibrant economy. The USMCA can add another 176,000 new jobs and add \$68.2 billion to GDP growth.

Let's ensure free and fair trade while granting our farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers the protections they deserve.

I urge my Democratic colleagues to end these partisan politics and pass USMCA or, at the very least, put the bill on the House floor for a vote.

#### CONGRATULATING DR. NEIL SHARKEY ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a friend and educational leader, Dr. Neil Sharkey, vice president for research at Penn State University, upon his retirement.

For the last 22 years, Dr. Sharkey has managed, facilitated, and advanced the university's entire research portfolio to dig deeper and discover innovative solutions to society's most challenging questions.

Under Dr. Sharkey's leadership, Penn State's research expenditures reached an all-time high in 2017 and 2018, totaling \$927 million. This investment in the university's research has helped fund important research projects in life sciences, cyber science, social science, cancer research, energy and the environment, and a variety of other interdisciplinary fields.

Before his position as vice president of research, Dr. Sharkey served as the associate dean for research and graduate education in the College of Health and Human Development, as well as a professor of kinesiology.

I always say we cannot make good decisions without good data. Dr. Sharkey has been a leader in this feat, and I wish him the best of luck as he embarks on his new endeavors.

#### ALLOW AMERICANS TO PURCHASE VEHICLES THAT FIT THEIR NEEDS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of U.S. EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao with regard to the unreasonable automobile fuel mileage standards put upon consumers by a 2015 Obama-era rule.

In only 5 model years from now, all U.S. cars would have to average 55 miles per gallon under this current

standard. Most people drive cars these days that are somewhere around 25 to 33 miles per gallon. They would be forced into very small cars that don't fit their family's needs.

What the administration is seeking to do is freeze this timeline at 37 miles per gallon until technology can catch up, et cetera, so people can choose to buy cars that fit their lives. Under the old rule and what the California Air Resources Board is trying to foist upon all 50 States in meeting the Obama rule, they will not have that choice anymore.

Unfortunately, a few scared automakers have sat down with CARB to try to cut a deal to fix the one they agreed to a few years ago with no real idea of how they would meet 55 miles per gallon with current technology and physics at the time. At this point, there are very few 55-mile-per-gallon vehicles to even choose from. Most people don't want to buy those cars because it doesn't fit their family, their life, what they want, and what they desire.

CARB is trying to foist that on all 50 States, and auto manufacturers will be herded toward it by desiring to make the same car type for all 50 States, not just California. This needs to be stopped, and we must draw the line here.

#### FORCED ARBITRATION INJUSTICE REPEAL ACT

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 1423, Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act, or the FAIR Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Rhode Island?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 558 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1423.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0912

##### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1423) to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration, with Ms. UNDERWOOD in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.