

America has been crystal clear about what the consequences would be for this kind of end run around negotiated peace between Israel and the Palestinians seeking their own nation. This action by UNESCO emboldens the fraudulent Palestinian bid for recognition without the Palestinians immediately recognizing Israel's right to exist as a Jewish nation-state or even denouncing their stated goal of Israel's destruction.

The United States had no choice but to refuse to make a scheduled \$60 million transfer to UNESCO. That \$60 million should be used to pay down our Federal debt instead of to support an organization committed to thwarting peace in the Middle East.

FLIGHT 3407 EMAILS

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

Ms. HOCHUL. On a cold, snowy night in February 2009, the lives of hundreds of people in my district were shattered. The cruel irony of 50 loved ones killed in a plane crash the Friday before Valentine's Day weekend is lost on no one in my district, near Buffalo, which is exactly where the Colgan Flight 3407 plane crash occurred.

The families began a quest for answers—hearings on Capitol Hill and NTSB investigations. Finally, we thought we had the answers. Yet it wasn't until a lawsuit was filed in Federal court in Buffalo and through the perseverance of a Buffalo news reporter that they finally announced that the company never gave critical emails regarding the inability of this pilot to fly this plane. Those emails were never revealed until now.

That's why I teamed up with our local delegation—Congresswoman SLAUGHTER, Congressmen HIGGINS and REED, and Senators SCHUMER and GILLIBRAND—to call for a Federal investigation by the United States Attorney General into what this company knew and when they knew it. Whether they possessed critical emails at the right time, whether they gave them to us, whether there were other emails that would shed light as to what happened on that night, the families deserve to know; western New Yorkers need to know; and America needs to know.

IN HONOR OF OTTERBOX

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

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the charitable contributions and achievements of OtterBox, a business located in Fort Collins, Colorado.

This business manufactures and develops coverings for tech products, like cell phones and iPads, and it employs 350 people in my congressional district. Aside from their great products and in-

novation, OtterBox received national recognition by being named an honoree for National Philanthropy Day in Colorado.

Last year OtterBox created a new wing to their business, one devoted to altruistic values to help the surrounding community. This wing was appropriately named OtterCares. OtterCares has participated in many service projects, like providing school supplies to low-income children and by donating 600 toys to less fortunate families during the holiday season. Their work also includes volunteering at local food banks, youth centers, and animal sanctuaries.

In addition, the company gave all 350 employees a \$200 grant to give to a charity or foundation of their choosing. The \$200 was just a start. They encourage their employees to raise and donate more. To this day, OtterBox has raised over \$74,000 for 70 different organizations.

The business utilizes this slogan: "Throw a stone in the water, and watch how far the ripple can spread."

The ripple started by OtterBox is helping the entire Fort Collins area. It is with great pride that I recognize OtterBox on the House floor.

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REBUILDING THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, with less than 2 months left in 2011, this Republican-controlled House has yet to focus on the top issues facing our country: creating jobs, growing our economy, and rebuilding the American Dream. Back home in St. Louis, I have seen firsthand how businesses, families, seniors, and students are frustrated and suffering because of inaction, obstruction, and political games in this Congress.

Last week I met with business owners in my home State, including a commercial and residential plumbing company in St. Louis. That business is suffering from the terrible housing market and poor economy. It's our responsibility to work to help our constituents who have built businesses that have been hard-hit by these tough times.

The President has proposed the American Jobs Act which would help put people back to work. And independent economists say this bill would help create more than 1 million jobs. It's time for action. We cannot retreat to our ideological corners and ignore the challenges that we face. I will work with anyone, anywhere, anytime to grow the economy and help create jobs. I challenge my colleagues to work with that same spirit. It's time we pull together and put our country first.

ARNOLD DE LA PAZ

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. This year Mr. Arnold De La Paz, the founder and president of DLP Group, Inc., in Corpus Christi, was named the Small Business Association's Lower Rio Grande Valley District Minority Small Businessperson of the Year.

Mr. De La Paz is a service-disabled veteran who started his career with a small painting company and eventually, through hard work and dedication, founded the DLP Group, which is now one of the largest paint manufacturers in America. Mr. De La Paz is one of many small business owners that work every day to live and realize the American Dream. We must continue to foster an environment where job creators like Mr. De La Paz can succeed. We can do that here in Washington by simplifying the Tax Code, reducing government regulation, and getting the Federal budget under control.

I think Mr. De La Paz summed it up well when he said, "Our Nation has always been about the urge to dream and the will to enable it." Mr. De La Paz is an example to other small business owners. His contributions as a job creator who has worked tirelessly to put Americans back to work is what this country is based upon.

VETERANS' TUITION

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

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day and are ever thankful for the veterans and servicemen and -women who have made our country great, I rise to pay tribute to Sergeant Jason Thigpen of Wilmington, North Carolina, who is here with us today. After his service in Iraq, Jason started the Student Veterans Advocacy Group at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to support student veterans and dependents seeking a college education.

Jason, who is a Purple Heart medal recipient, has shared with me and others here on Capitol Hill his concerns that the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act disallows out-of-state students to receive in-state tuition at public universities, thus making it cost-prohibitive for them to attend these public universities, even though they otherwise qualify. I am certain that my colleagues here would agree that our returning veterans who are pursuing an education under the GI Bill should not have to worry about whether it's in-state versus out-of-state tuition. These courageous individuals have been at the forefront defending our freedoms and our values. They should not be denied their opportunity to pursue an education. Let's support our student veterans.