

former GM facility, creating hundreds of new jobs throughout the region.

I want to congratulate the mayor, city council and city manager and economic director of Moraine for this great accomplishment and teamwork. They rallied the community behind this resource.

Congratulations to the leadership in Moraine. It was great working with you on this project.

ACCOUNTABILITY IS NEEDED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the need for accountability and action in the Department of Veterans Affairs. I urge my colleagues to sign on to a letter I have written the Secretary that follows up my call on May 6 for a nationwide audit of all veteran medical facilities.

While the VA has stated that an audit is currently under way, I am very concerned about testimony in last week's Senate Veterans Affairs hearing. In that hearing, it was suggested that the audit under way may not be as thorough and comprehensive as what I called for.

I do not believe that a thorough, in-depth examination of patient scheduling in every VA facility can be accomplished in just a few weeks.

Mr. Speaker, if we are dealing with a serious, systemic problem, then this audit is critical. We need a thorough and comprehensive review of scheduling practices at every VA medical facility. Anything less would be a disservice to our veterans who deserve a health care system they can trust.

CONGRATULATING THE RUN NOW RELAY TEAM OF CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Run Now Relay team of Cleveland, Tennessee. Run Now Relay ran more than 1,000 miles—from Cleveland to Boston—to support and raise money for the victims of the Boston bombings.

These extraordinary men and women ran nonstop through eight States in just over a week. Together, they surpassed their goal of \$50,000, raising more than \$63,000 for those impacted by the tragedy in Boston last year.

The Run Now Relay team pledged 100 percent of the funds to the One Step Ahead Foundation, which aids the children who underwent amputation because of the bombing; and Dream Big, a nonprofit dedicated to helping underprivileged girls through sports.

The team stopped in Washington last week, and my office had the pleasure of meeting with these remarkable folks. Thank you for sharing your mission with us.

Run Now Relay truly exemplifies the great volunteer tradition that defines the State of Tennessee, and I commend the group on their spirit and commitment to honor the victims of the Boston bombings.

They certainly illustrate the best of our great country. We are one Nation.

EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to remind my Republican colleagues that there are over 2.8 million Americans who have been cut off from unemployment insurance benefits since December 28, 2013.

We are back here in session for 2 weeks, the Senate has worked and passed a measure to renew unemployment insurance, yet Speaker BOEHNER refuses to bring up a bill.

Why, Mr. Speaker?

One of those 2.8 million Americans is Mitch from Nevada. He is 55 and lost his job of 8 years in March of 2013. Since his unemployment insurance ended, he has sold many of his belongings just to stay in his house and to feed his family.

Mitch is a Republican, but more importantly, he is an American, and he is pleading for congressional leaders to not turn their backs on him.

For all struggling Nevadans, I want you to know that we have not forgotten about you.

Mr. Speaker, schedule a vote to extend unemployment insurance benefits to the 2.8 million Americans, the 37,000 Nevadans.

My time may have expired, but it is more important that the unemployment insurance benefits that has expired be extended.

IMPRISONMENT OF SONIA GARRO

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak out for Sonia Garro, a member of the pro-democracy group, Las Damas de Blanco—the Ladies in White—who has languished in one of Castro's prisons for over 2 years.

Her case is one of many that demonstrates the dismal condition of human rights under the Castro tyranny in my native homeland of Cuba.

In 2012, Sonia and the Ladies in White sought an audience with the Pope, but, unfortunately, were imprisoned in the wave of repression leading up to the visit of His Holiness.

I, along with many of our congressional colleagues, have asked Amnesty

International to designate Sonia as a prisoner of conscience. The Castros cannot tolerate dissent and use violence to silence calls for democracy by beating and imprisoning dissenting voices.

The Cuban people are courageous, Mr. Speaker, and they will continue to fight for liberty, for human rights; and we must help them in their struggle for freedom.

21ST CENTURY BUY AMERICA ACT

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, I will introduce the 21st Century Buy America Act with Senator CHRIS MURPHY, to modernize decades-old Buy American standards and help create new manufacturing jobs in the United States.

Congress should make sure that American taxpayer dollars are used to buy goods manufactured here at home, not overseas, whenever we can.

Our bill will strengthen existing Buy America standards and make a number of important changes to support our domestic manufacturing base. For example, it will make manufacturers of items in short supply here at home eligible for resources to help them compete against foreign manufacturers for U.S. government contracts.

In addition, this bill increases transparency requirements for agencies that provide waivers, and it increases the domestic content percentage requirement so that, to qualify as American-made, you have to prove that a majority of the materials are actually made right here in America.

Most importantly, this legislation will help grow our manufacturing sector and create new jobs by providing an increased demand for American-made products by the Federal Government.

It is time to bring manufacturing back to America and to support existing manufacturing, and the United States Government should lead by example.

VETERANS DESERVE BETTER FROM THE VA

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, not only as a Member of Congress, but as a veteran and former prisoner of war, demanding answers on behalf of my fellow veterans.

Recently, reports surfaced that regional VA employees had secret lists to hide the lengthy wait times for patients, which may have resulted in the loss of lives of some of our veterans. This is unacceptable.

Our men and women in uniform serve their country admirably, risking their lives to keep us safe and protect our

freedoms. They deserve the highest standards of medical care available.

Last week, I urged the VA inspector general to investigate alleged misconduct at three VA clinics in Texas. We need answers and accountability for any wrongdoing.

A fellow POW in Vietnam etched the following on a prison cell. He said:

Freedom has a taste to those who fight and almost die that the protected will never know.

Veterans know that. That is why we owe them our deepest gratitude and the best possible care.

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**BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION
ANNIVERSARY: MENDEZ V.
WESTMINSTER**

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 60th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education and the incredible impact it had on our Nation.

The ruling of Brown v. Board of Education ended segregation in schools across the United States, and it declared the doctrine "separate but equal" unconstitutional. It is truly something to be proud of, as Americans.

But as we celebrate, let us not forget the precedent case to that; and that was about a young Mexican American student who, along with her family and others in their community, truly set the stage in the fight to end segregation in all of our schools. This happened in my county, in my district, in my home. The case was Mendez v. Westminster.

In 1945, when Sylvia Mendez was not allowed to go to an all-white school in Orange County, California, her parents, Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez, fought for integration. And guess what. They won. Segregation in Orange County ended, and the rest of our State followed, and 7 years later the entire country followed.

So as we commemorate the grand case of Brown v. Board of Education, let us also remember Mendez v. Westminster, two historic achievements that opened the doors for a better education for all our children throughout this great Nation.

**HOLDING VA EXECUTIVES
ACCOUNTABLE**

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, like many Montanans, I am outraged by reports that a number of VA clinics have failed to give our veterans the care and honor they deserve. These clinics deliberately covered up delays that may have led to

the preventable deaths of at least 40 veterans, yet the VA executives at these troubled facilities are more likely to be given a bonus than face any sort of accountability. This is disgraceful, and I stand with the millions of Americans who are demanding accountability from the VA.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability Act will ensure the VA is able to remove career appointees who are failing to do their jobs. And this is common sense. If you fail to do your job and fail the men and women you serve, you shouldn't be getting bonuses. You should be held accountable. Our veterans deserve nothing less.

**CELEBRATING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF NETJETS INC.**

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, today, NetJets Inc., a worldwide leader in aviation, is celebrating its 50th anniversary at its headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, in my congressional district. NetJets has made notable contributions to our community in central Ohio by providing transportation services during medical emergencies and natural disasters.

Through the generous efforts of the aircraft owners, the hardworking employees, and intuitive management, NetJets has become the industry standard, by having flown more hours than all other fractional aircraft companies combined. This organization has thrived in meeting the complex transportation needs of American business through safe, reliable jet service, while creating jobs and contributing to central Ohio's economy.

The legacy that NetJets continues to build will enrich the lives of generations to come and shape a bright future in aviation. I commend NetJets on its 50th anniversary.

BOKO HARAM STRIKES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last month, over 200 Nigerian girls went to school and they never came home. They were stolen in the middle of the day by radical Islamic terrorists, the Boko Haram, and sold into sex slavery.

What is the Boko Haram? Mr. Speaker, this is a foreign terrorist organization, and it reigns terror over parts of Nigeria, primarily in the north. They get their funds by forcing people in areas they control to pay a tax to them, like a protection racket. They also get money from al Qaeda.

Boko Haram means "western education is sinful." They kill, rape, and pillage in the name of radical religion. They are not only a threat to Nigeria, but the rest of us as well.

This al Qaeda-affiliated group is a bunch of thugs, bandits, and outlaws, but they are to be reckoned with. Remember the name "Boko Haram." They are not going away. Boko Haram is determined to continue their terrorist lifestyle and steal little girls.

And that's just the way it is.

**A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND FRANK
MCRAE**

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this past week, the city of Memphis lost one of its greatest sons and leaders, Reverend Frank McRae.

Reverend McRae was a Memphian who took urban ministry to a new position in the city of Memphis. Before Dr. King was assassinated April 4, 1968, he marched with the sanitation workers and Dr. King. After Dr. King was assassinated, he led a group of ministers to city hall to urge the mayor to settle the strife.

He knew that the church needed to do good deeds and help people in a changing South and a changing America, and he helped found Friends for Life that dealt with people with HIV and AIDS. He helped found the Memphis Interfaith Association that provided food and clothing to people in need. And he turned his church into a place where they had soup kitchens and pantries, rather than a church of the most blessed and most privileged. He was a great man who made Memphis the "city of good abode," as it is well known.

He will be greatly missed. He leaves his wife, two children, and three stepchildren. I am fortunate to have known Frank McRae, and Memphis is fortunate he came our way.

**JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF
TRAFFICKING ACT**

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my colleague from Texas (Mr. POE) and also as a proud cosponsor of the Justice for Victims Trafficking Act, which this House has passed. I join the ever-growing number of Americans who are standing up to the abhorrent practice of human trafficking.

Worldwide awareness concerning the trade in persons has increased significantly in recent years, but awareness is not enough. With an estimated 27 million persons in slavery around the world and hundreds of thousands within our own Nation, now is the time for action.

By doing so, we join those who have already taken action against modern-day slavery, folks like my constituent Vicki Moore. Ten years ago, Vicki was alarmed to read about the commercial