with partisan attacks, this Congress seems content with allowing the President to call the shots on military engagement with ISIS.

Mr. Speaker, this abandoned authority must end. Before the end of the 113th Congress, we must restore our constitutional authority over the Nation's war powers. We must commit to a full, open, and honest debate on an authorization for use of military force in the fight against ISIS.

Our brave men and women are risking their lives, and we are afraid to even risk a vote. It is time for Congress to put some skin in the game. It is time for Congress to outline in clear terms the legal authority under which the U.S. will wage this war and, in so doing, future conflicts.

The fact of the matter is that right now the U.S. is at war. From August 8 to November 12, we have spent an average of $8 million a day and $776 million in total on military operations to combat ISIS. As of October 23, the U.S. has conducted 632 airstrikes involving 6,600 sorties dropping more than 1,700 bombs. We are at war with ISIS, and we are waging that war without congressional authorization.

No one should doubt the inhumanity of ISIS. They pose a unique threat to the region, our allies, and the innocent civilians of Iraq and Syria. Left unchecked, the threat and reach of ISIS will grow. ISIS has made no secret of its plans to broaden its reach in the region and to attack Western nations, even threatening the homeland of the United States.

The President was right to target and attack ISIS with our military assets and to begin to train local, on-the-ground forces, but this is just the start. As our Commander in Chief, I do believe the President has the legal authority to begin these military operations, but the authority to begin a military operation is not a substitute for the full legal authority required to continue military operations that must be debated here in the United States Congress.

The President has said he welcomes a new AUMF, and we have debated repealing the Affordable Care Act more than five dozen times in this Congress. On ISIS though? On our wartime operations? On sending our brave men and women into harm's way? We continue to sit idly.

We had a debate on the last-minute amendment to a temporary spending bill that authorized only one small piece of a larger overall strategy. That is not a true debate. That is certainly not a substitute for war authorization.

Americans did not send us here for piecemeal amendments to last-minute spending bills. You disagree with the President and think we shouldn't be arming Syrian rebels? Let's write an AUMF.

You think we should be working towards a contingency plan in which American ground forces get involved? Let's write an AUMF.

You think, as I do, that our fight against ISIS should have clear, defined goals and a timeline before we consider further authorization? Then let's write an AUMF.

Mr. Speaker, I call on congressional leadership to take up this task. Your Members are ready for debate. The American people are ready for a debate. We simply have no excuse to let this opportunity pass us by.

Let's step up to the plate. We should not end the 113th Congress without debating and passing an Authorization for Use of Military Force.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR LEROY GOODMAN

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

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to retiring Mayor of Fernley, Nevada, LeRoy Goodman.

A native of the Silver State, born in Virginia City, Nevada, resident of Fernley for the last 44 years, former educator and high school coach, also a key member of the private sector after that working for Sentex from the Silver State in Nevada, for Nevada Cement, Mayor Goodman had and has a statewide network of friends which helped him serve his native city, his city that he is the mayor of, in an extraordinary manner.

Member of the Association of Counties, Lyon County commissioner for 12 years, he is one of those few folks that the phrase ''politician'' does not apply to; it is ''public servant.''

What also applies to him is a word that we see used less and less these days when we talk about people who are elected by those, and that is a ''leader.'' The father of the effort to create Nevada's newest incorporated city, being Fernley, in the legislature during his term on the Lyon County Commission, his leadership was effective and resulted in the creation of that city. The people of Fernley were very well served.

I want to read to you what he said when he was elected to be the mayor after serving a short term as the appointed one:

> I am both privileged and proud to be voted in as mayor of Fernley. I shall endeavor to fulfill the role with dignity and purpose. My priorities and mandate will be centered on improving the overall functioning of the council, city operations, and focusing on doing the people's business. Fernley is my home. I am committed to giving the residents of Fernley my absolute best.

Mr. Mayor, your absolute best does us all proud.

I want to add a few more praises to this tribute, and that is ''class act'' and ''true leader.''

I want to also thank the first lady of Fernley, your wife, Diana, for her support of you and your endeavors, and say thank you very much on behalf of those folks not only at the home of the Vaqueros in Fernley, but also throughout Nevada.

You are truly, truly a part of the fabric of not only your community, but our State.

□ 1030

GIANTS OF THE SOUTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen of America, and President Barack Obama, I rise this morning with a heavy, heavy heart at the passing of two great, magnificent Americans from my home State of Georgia, Herman Russell and Governor Carl Sanders—two men, two giants whose lives intertwined at a most important time in the history of this Nation and especially in the history of the South, for these two men, Herman Russell and Governor Carl Sanders, ushered in and gave birth to the New South, the South away from segregation. It was Herman Russell and Governor Carl Sanders who broke down the barriers of segregation and paved a new way and a new day for this Nation. That is why we are so proud of these two gentlemen.

Every school should look at their autobiographies, because they made it the hard way, against the odds. Herman Russell, born into poverty in south Atlanta, came up and didn't let the ravages of segregation stop him, didn't let his speech impediment stop him, and emerged with the world's largest, most profitable construction and real estate financial firm owned by an African American. But, oh, it wouldn't have happened if he hadn't had a Governor at that time named Carl Sanders, who broke down those racial barriers. I will tell you about him.

As a quarterback at the University of Georgia, he left the University of Georgia and went and volunteered at 19 years old to fight in the military for his country. He came back and ran for the State House of Representatives, against the segregationist party. And this man, because of him being in the right place at the right time, and because of Herman Russell being in the right place at the right time, Major League Baseball came knocking, and there we built Atlanta Stadium. Ivan Allen said: Build it, and they will come. It was Carl Sanders who passed the legislation setting up the Atlanta Fulton County Recreation Authority that made it happen—all of this happening while all around us in the South was racial turmoil, and Herman Russell building his great company and becoming the first African American to sit on the board and a member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

Oh, my friends, the world, these are two great trees who were planted by the rivers of waters, and they brought forth their fruit and their season, and none of their leaves withered, and let