

an education bill in an overwhelmingly bipartisan fashion. Just a few minutes ago, we passed an infrastructure-highway transportation bill with overwhelming bipartisan support.

I hope America feels good about what we have been able to do this week, and I hope America and I and others can feel good about what we will do next week.

Unless the gentleman has any further comments, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2015, TO MONDAY,
DECEMBER 7, 2015

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, December 7, 2015, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Michigan). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

SHIRLEY JOHNSON

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, this morning, the Texas skies were not as big and they weren't as bright. We lost Shirley Johnson, the wife of our hero and our colleague, SAM JOHNSON.

They were high school sweethearts and were married for over 65 years. The entire 8 years that SAM was being tortured in Hanoi, Shirley kept a seat at the family dinner table for SAM. She knew SAM would come home.

SAM came home broken and battered. He worried, how would his family react to the new SAM? As you can see, SAM had nothing to worry about. Led by Shirley, he was swarmed with love back home in Texas.

Shirley is now among the heavens, and those Texas skies tonight will be as bright and big as ever.

God bless Shirley Johnson.

NEW MEXICO'S EDUCATION SYSTEM

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw attention to the concerns and frustrations among parents, educators, business leaders, and so many others in my home State of New Mexico.

Today, I voted in favor of the Every Student Succeeds Act because I believe this legislation is better, quite frankly, than the status quo, and it will work to improve our education system.

However, we cannot forget that many of New Mexico's schools are in trouble. These troubled schools stem from a lack of leadership at both the Federal and State levels.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Department of Education has not held New Mexico's leadership accountable for this failure. In fact, the Federal Government has enabled our States, including New Mexico, to put special interests ahead of student success.

That is why Education Week ranked New Mexico as 49th out of 51, with a D-plus in preparing kids for college and a D-minus in K-12 achievement.

This lack of accountability at the State and Federal levels is harming a generation of New Mexico students. New Mexicans deserve far better. It is time we had leaders who take responsibility for improving our schools and that hold each other accountable when their actions are failing students.

While the ESEA moves beyond the status quo, more needs to be done to help our students. I hope we will work together to do that.

JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

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

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the House to bring the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act to a vote before the end of the year.

On September 11, 2001, my wife and I were stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, celebrating the birth of our first son, Tommy. We watched in horror the attacks on the World Trade Center and on the Pentagon. Like many of you, we will never forget the brave efforts of the men and women who served as first responders on that tragic morning.

Today, Tommy is 14 years old, and my children have grown up in a post-9/11 America. They will never know what America was like before those attacks, but they have been taught to look with pride at the heroes who risked their lives to help others.

With that same pride, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support a bill that protects the benefits of those first responders.

How often do we as politicians show up at 9/11 memorials to honor the first responders? How often do we talk about the heroes who rushed into those falling buildings when everybody else was running out?

Now is our chance to do our part and give the men and women we call heroes the benefits they deserve. I encourage all of you to support the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act and bring it to a vote before the end of the year.

GUNS

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, over a month ago, I stood in this Chamber and delivered a message from San Diegans who were calling on Congress to expand background checks for gun purchases. Since then, Congress has done nothing.

Last week, a gunman attacked a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs. What did Congress do? Nothing.

Yesterday, there were deadly shootings in Houston, Savannah, and, in San Bernardino, 14 people were killed at a social services center.

Today, here we stand in the only building in the Nation that could do something to curb this awful violence, and we cannot even get the Speaker of this House to let Congress vote to let us act on one of the several proposed laws that many of my colleagues and I support.

Thoughts and prayers are not enough. Moments of silence are not enough. Maybe, Mr. Speaker, instead of a moment of silence, the American people could get a moment of action—a moment of action that might keep their communities from being next.

If we want to honor these victims and their families, then we should do our jobs, and we should act now.

FAIR BURDENS ACT

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, the mass production of cheap, reliable energy has powered the greatest expansion of wealth and opportunity in human history. It has resulted in higher living standards and improved health in the United States and around the globe.

Notwithstanding this too often ignored reality, the President wants to commit the United States to even more stringent, anti-energy regulations than those currently in place. The President's Clean Power Plan alone is expected to increase our energy prices by nearly \$300 billion over the next 15 years and reduce annual job creation by over 200,000.

According to the EPA's only models, the impact of all of these rules on global temperature increases will be near zero.

The United States cannot effect change alone. China, the world's largest polluter, and other top emitters of global CO₂ emissions need to come to the table too.

That is why, today, I introduced the Fighting Against Imbalanced Regulatory Burdens Act, or H.R. 4169. This bill will prevent the EPA from imposing any restrictions on CO₂ emissions from power plants unless countries responsible for 80 percent of non-U.S. emissions have enacted similarly stringent policies.

I encourage my colleagues to support me in this effort.

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REMEMBERING MRS. BETTY FISCHER

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of longtime Tarrant County Democratic leader, Ms. Betty Fischer.

In 1950, Ms. Fischer and her husband moved to Arlington, Texas, with their three children. Eight years later, she completely dedicated herself to Tarrant County Democratic politics. She served as a party volunteer. She was also the first woman chair of the party in 1982. She helped get one of our former Congressmen, Martin Frost, elected to office back during that time period. She was just a great person.

I can tell you that, in addition to her work for the Tarrant County Democratic Party and all her Democratic efforts, that she and her husband were also involved in the labor movement. She strongly believed that every man and woman in Tarrant County deserved the right to be able to take care of their family and make a decent living for them.

In short, Ms. Betty Fischer did it all. There are very few left like her today. We were blessed to have her in Tarrant County. I am glad that our time on this Earth overlapped with each other, and I just wish her family all the best during this time period as they cope with their recent loss.

ACCESS TO GUNS

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

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday two terrorists murdered 14 people in a gun-free zone in San Bernardino, California, and my heart certainly goes out to the residents of San Bernardino, all of California, and all of this country.

The President's response today, after revelations that these people had been radicalized and had traveled to the Middle East recently was that he felt they had "mixed motives." His solution to this is to propose restrictions for law-abiding citizens' access to guns.

I have two questions for the American public:

One, do you believe that further restricting law-abiding citizens' access to guns would have solved this tragedy?

Two, do you believe that this is the last time we will see radical Islamic terrorism on our shores?

HONORING PARKER WESTBROOK

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of

Arkansas' great leaders, my friend, Parker Westbrook, who passed away last month at the age of 89.

Parker and his vast love for historic preservation will be missed in Arkansas and throughout our country. Throughout his life, he was at the forefront of preserving Arkansas' history, earning the nickname, "Arkansas's father of State preservation."

Parker received numerous awards for his work, including the Preservation Honor Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and was acknowledged as a national treasure.

For over 20 years, Parker and I worked together on the Historic Arkansas Museum, passionately expanding its exceptional museum and collections of Arkansas-made art, furniture, and mechanical arts. I will miss his encyclopedic knowledge of all things Arkansas.

I extend my warmest regards to and prayers for Parker's many friends and loved ones. Parker Westbrook's name will forever be preserved in our State and national history.

HONORING DARRELL ALLEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Darrell Allen of Garland, Texas, who passed away on November 10, 2015, as a result of wounds received while he was serving his community.

Darrell Allen was chief of police for the city of Marlin. He selflessly served his community, and he will be greatly missed.

Darrell was born January 17, 1972, in Galveston, Texas. He graduated from Texas City High School and went on to obtain an associate's degree in criminal justice from McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas. In his pursuit to better serve his community, Darrell returned to school and received his bachelor in criminal justice in May of this year.

Since he was a child, Darrell dreamed of becoming a police officer. He began his career in law enforcement in 1994 with the Galveston County Sheriff's Department. Darrell's distinguished career also included service with the Alvin Independent School District, the Hitchcock Police Department, the Danbury Police Department, the Arcola Police Department, the Harris County Precinct 6 Constable's Office, and chief of police at the Lott Police Department.

In 2005, Darrell joined the City of Marlin Police Department, where he proceeded to climb through the department ranks. He was promoted to assistant chief of police in 2006 and elevated to chief of police in 2009.

As Marlin's chief of police, Darrell focused his efforts on building police

community relations and increasing juvenile safety. He consistently drove down the community's crime rate. Today Marlin is one of the safest communities in America. His efforts garnered recognition for the Marlin Police Department from the Texas Police Chief Association's Foundation for Law Enforcement Agency Best Practices Programs.

Darrell worked tirelessly to better our central Texas community. He loved his city, and he left an enduring impression on those he served. This is evident from the scores of residents who gathered together recently in memory of their fallen chief. He will forever be remembered for his devotion to public service, as a father to his children, and as a friend to countless Marlin citizens.

My wife, Gina, and I offer our deepest and heartfelt condolences to the Allen family. We also lift up the family and friends of Darrell Allen in our prayers.

As I close, I ask that all Americans continue to pray for our country, for our military men and women who protect us abroad, and for our first responders who protect us here at home.

Honoring Diana R. Garland

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Diana R. Garland of Waco, Texas, who passed away on September 21, 2015.

Diana Garland was a teacher, dean, and a valued leader in the Baylor University community. She led a full life and will be greatly missed in our community.

Diana was born on August 18, 1950, in Oklahoma City. She earned her undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees from the University of Louisville. After completing her degree, she went on to serve as professor of Christian family ministry and social work at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

In 1997, Diana and her husband, David, moved to Waco and joined the faculty at Baylor University. One year later, Diana was named the director of the university's Center and Community Ministries. Under her leadership, Baylor University expanded its social work program. Later when the university created the School of Social Work, she was appointed its founding dean.

During the following decade, Diana oversaw the school's rise to national recognition. Under her guidance, the School of Social Work grew to 20 full-time faculty members and 240 graduate and undergraduate students. During her tenure, she helped raise more than \$7 million for research and established an endowment of \$14.5 million.

In 2010, Diana administered the school's move to downtown Waco. This move allowed the school to triple its teaching and lab space. To commemorate her achievements as the school's dean, the Board of Regents recently voted to name the university's School of Social Work in her honor.

In addition to her teaching duties, Diana was the author, coauthor, and editor of 21 books and more than 100