while enforcing our immigration laws and preventing illegal immigration.

This change would put dairy farmers on equal footing with other H–2A employers and adhere to the same rules and regulations in force today.

As larger reforms to the agriculture workforce are debated, I ask for the consideration of this urgent fix to ensure American dairy farmers can continue to provide for the American families and thrive for generations to come.

LABOR IS THE BACKBONE OF THE AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021.

The pandemic has made clear that we need to strengthen worker rights and expand union participation.

Across this Nation, frontline and essential workers have had to work in unsafe conditions with insufficient pay because of their inability to negotiate with their employers.

The economic fallout from the pandemic has laid bare the costs of severe income inequality in America, where corporations and the wealthiest individuals are able to thrive at the expense of everybody else.

Labor is the backbone of middle America and the key to addressing income inequality.

Protecting the right to organize and to collectively bargain ensures access to better wages, more robust benefits, and safer working conditions for hardworking Americans.

When workers are able to stand together and demand their fair share, we will all be better off.

I strongly support passage of the PRO Act and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, March is Women's History Month, and I am grateful to recognize inspirational women who have achieved success.

Inspirational women are the University of South Carolina's basketball team, who won a sixth SEC title in 7 years, the first time that has been done in SEC history. Congratulations to these talented women for remaining number one.

This game was also historic because it was the first time two Black head coaches met in a conference championship game with Coach Dawn Staley leading the Gamecocks and Coach Joni Taylor leading Georgia, an important milestone in American sports history.

Best wishes to the Gamecock women in the NCAA tournament.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our sympathy to the family of Hatsy Young, widow of former Congressman Ed Young from Florence.

□ 1215

DELIVERING HELP THROUGH AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the American Rescue Plan.

Nearly 1 year ago, the first case of COVID–19 was confirmed in the district that I serve. Now, the virus has infected more than 100,000 people in my district. No family in our region, in our State, throughout our Nation has been left untouched. Our sense of urgency could not be stronger.

The American Rescue Plan is an opportunity to deliver help. My corner of Illinois has thousands of small businesses struggling to keep their doors open, 113,000 kids who have yet to return to the classroom, and 150 towns in the congressional district I serve that need help to keep essential services running.

Mr. Speaker, the bill would provide an estimated $27 million to Rock Island County, $55 million to Winnebago County, $35 million to Peoria County, and more than $85 million to the other 11 counties in between in the congressional district that I serve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support and vote for the American Rescue Plan.

ACT ON SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, our southern border is in crisis.

President Biden has been dodging the crisis they caused at our southern border, calling it a challenge, not a crisis. They have opened our borders but, at the same time, kept our schools closed.

The Democrat's approach of ''come on in'' has reversed sensible immigration control measures put in place by the previous administration and led to disastrous results.

Compared to pre-inauguration numbers, Customs and Border Protection is encountering five times the number of family units trying to cross the border. We are on pace to have over 100,000 unaccompanied minors cross the border illegally this year, up by 45 percent. Customs and Border Protection is projecting a 20,000-bed shortage for the children in their custody.

Under his rule, asylum seekers are now allowed to come into America to wait. And even if they are COVID-positive, they are released into the country—many of whom will never be seen again.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge President Biden to reverse these disastrous actions and return to sensible immigration policies that were present to stem the tide of illegal immigration.

PROTECTING RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE

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

Mr. KAHELE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act.

The PRO Act empowers workers to exercise their right to organize and holds employers accountable for violating workers' rights.

In my home State of Hawaii, unions successfully raised the standard of living for thousands of our residents. I am proud to say that Hawaii has the highest union membership rate in the Nation, at 23.7 percent.

We must pass the PRO Act to make sure all workers have a free and fair choice to join a union.

Mr. Speaker, organized labor has opened the doors of opportunity for millions of Americans, to help them buy homes, secure healthcare, educate their children, and enjoy leisure time with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, as an 11-year card-carrying member of the Air Line Pilots Association, I know firsthand how unions can level the playing field. Unions give us a stronger voice to advocate for higher wages, better benefits, and improved workplace conditions. Unions put the power in the hands of the workers.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will lift up American workers and strengthen America's middle class. I urge my colleagues to support the PRO Act.

HONORING GHOST ARMY VETERANS

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you in support of awarding the Ghost Army veterans with the Congressional Gold Medal.

This is such a great story. In World War II, the Ghost Army had a mission unlike any other. They were recruited in one of the greatest counterintelligence operations of our time, fooling the Nazis with inflatable tanks, mannequins, and decoys.

It is estimated that they saved tens of thousands of American soldiers' lives. Their work was so groundbreaking that it remained classified for more than 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Ghost Army and their legacy have never been formally recognized. This bill is long overdue for the soldiers and their families. Of the