

would take over 72 years of perseverance for this campaign to succeed and for women to gain the right to vote, with the ratification of the 19th amendment.

Today, almost 85 years later, a higher percentage of women vote as compared to men. However, we still have about 32 percent of women in the United States who are not even registered to vote. Can you believe that? Among that group of women between 18 and 24 years of age, 45 percent are not even registered to vote.

We need to do more to energize and engage these young women in the political process. Women must have a voice in all national debates that affect them, especially on important issues like reproductive health, equal rights, and Social Security.

As an example, in the debate over privatizing Social Security, 58 percent of seniors receiving Social Security are women. Since women have a longer average life span than men, privatizing Social Security would harm them. Let us take up the banner, like the suffragettes did, and let us work hard for women's rights.

ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

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

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an important anniversary in our Nation's history. Eighty-five years ago, on August 18, 1920, the 19th amendment to the Constitution was ratified, extending the right to vote to American women.

The road to the 19th amendment was long and difficult, paved with hard work and struggle. The birth of the women's suffrage movement can be traced to the Women's Rights Commission in Seneca Falls, New York, in July of 1848, which laid out the principles that would guide the women's movement.

More than seven decades later, those principles were at last codified into our Constitution, moving our Nation closer to meeting the promise of its founding.

Today, we have more women than ever serving in elected and appointed positions in our local, State, and national governments. Not only in this Chamber, but also in the United States Senate, in the President's Cabinet, and in a wide range of Governors' offices, as well as other positions. This represents a vast change from where we stood 85 years ago, and our Nation is stronger for it.

As we watch the spread of freedom across the globe, and as more and more women take on the rights and responsibilities of full political citizenship, let us pay tribute to those women who blazed the trail for those of us who have followed.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGISTS MOVEMENT

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 157th anniversary of the first women's suffragists movement.

Western New York is often said to be the cradle of the women's rights movement, and I am privileged to represent the area where one prominent suffragette, Susan B. Anthony, of Rochester, fought so hard for the rights that women today enjoy.

Susan B. Anthony formed the Equal Rights Association, refuted ideas that women were inferior to men, and fought for a woman's right to vote. She also campaigned for the rights of women to own property, to keep their own earnings, and have custody of their children.

In 1900, she persuaded the University of Rochester to admit their first women students. Through persistent dedication, Susan B. Anthony, and other remarkable leaders, women were finally granted the right to vote in 1920. Since then, we have made progress, but still have a long way to go. We face the gender gap. And whether it is equal pay, health care, Social Security, or family leave, this Congress has refused to address issues critical to hard-working American women.

The suffragist movement had to overcome the rhetoric and the empty promises of Members of this House 85 years ago. Commitment to concrete policies, not grandiose words, honors the battle they fought so hard and won.

85TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the upcoming 85th anniversary of the women's right to vote.

During the first women's rights convention that took place in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton said, "We are assembled to protest against a form of government existing without the consent of the governed to declare our right to be free as man is free, to be represented in the government which we are taxed to support."

Elizabeth Cady Stanton's words marked the beginning of what we now know as the Women's Suffragist Movement. Seventy-two long and hard fought years after that speech, the 19th amendment was written into our country's Constitution. August 26, 2005, marks the 85th anniversary of that right.

In February of 1920, in my home State of West Virginia, the legislature

met in special session and was lobbied heavily by the State's suffragettes. On March 10, 1920, the House passed the amendment by a 15 to 14 vote. The State senate made West Virginia the 35th of the 36 States needed to ratify the amendment.

Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that I stand here to honor and remember those women and men who petitioned, picketed, and demonstrated, even some in spite of being jailed and disgraced, for the sake of women's rights to be equal in the eyes of our government. Had it not been for the bravery and conviction of many important women that preceded us, I would not be standing here today.

Women's voices are heard loud and clear at the ballot box, and we will never forget the value of our vote.

157TH ANNIVERSARY OF HISTORIC SENECA FALLS CONVENTION

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I also speak today in tribute to the 157th anniversary of the historic Seneca Falls convention, which paved the way for women's equality in the political world. Without the principles set forward by those courageous women and men at that convention, neither I nor the other 68 Members of the House currently here would ever have dreamed of being where we are today.

American women everywhere would never have dreamed of being able to contribute what they have over the last century and a half. They have excelled as leaders of political movements and pioneers of important policies.

The women at Seneca Falls set forth an agenda that would guide the women's rights movement for centuries. Their efforts paved the way for the ratification of the 19th amendment, without which women could not cast votes on issues that directly affect them.

Despite strong opposition, they knew then that extending equal rights to women would lead to a more successful society. And 157 years later, we know they were right, and we continue their dream of a United States with full and active participation of all women in politics.

FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor the 157th anniversary of the women's suffragette movement here in the United States. On this date in 1848, a historic meeting of women leaders took place in Seneca Falls, New York.

Their initial gathering was the first step in the long and challenging road that led women to where I stand today.

Like Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in their time, Republican women are leading the fight to highlight the equal and full rights that American women enjoy, and to expand those rights to women around the globe.

Many do not know that the Republican Party first introduced the 19th amendment in 1878. Four times in a row the amendment was actually defeated by the Democrat-controlled Senate. It was not until the Republican Party regained control of Congress in 1919 that the equal rights suffrage amendment finally passed both the House and the Senate.

Republicans deserve credit for promoting the first woman to the highest court in the land and for advancing the rights of women around the world. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Party has a long and distinguished track record of championing women's issues.

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INEQUITIES IN TODAY'S WORKFORCE

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

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today on the anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention, I want to address the inequities that still exist in today's workforce.

In 1996 when we destroyed the safety net for women and children by ending welfare, women have become even more reliant upon work for mere survival. Yet the lack of resources like child care, sick leave and disproportionate pay all conspire against most working women. As a matter of fact, the 9 to 5 National Organization of Working Women reported that women earned 76 cents for every dollar that men earned in 2004. Over a lifetime what that means is a 25-year-old woman who works until age 65 will earn over a half million dollars less than the average working male.

The playing field for women is uneven because 40 percent of single working mothers pay at least half of their cash income for child care, and half the States have cut child care availability. Far too many women are forced to cobble together part-time jobs in order to survive, and 70 percent of the workers who hold two or more jobs are women.

HISTORIC WEEK FOR INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES

(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, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh eloquently expressed today that

the people of United States and the people of India have much in common. Our nations face the challenges of national security and the global war on terror, enjoy the fruits of economic opportunities, and share a deep passion for democracy. The bonds of cooperation between America, the oldest democracy, and India, the largest democracy, grow stronger every day. Our relationship has never been better.

Yesterday, President Bush and Prime Minister Singh issued a joint statement listing 16 programs that will strengthen the strategic partnership between the United States and India. Our continued efforts will provide stability, democracy, prosperity, and peace in our homes and throughout the world.

My home State of South Carolina is home to thousands of Indian Americans who have quickly assimilated as business, medical, and academic leaders. I learned from my father, who served in India during World War II, that Indians are guided by their strong work ethic and ingenuity. They are dynamic civic leaders of Rotary and chambers of commerce with children who excel with the highest SAT scores. As their representative and friend, I am grateful the India-U.S. friendship has never been stronger.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning I was honored to hear Prime Minister Singh talk about the empowerment of women and democracy in India. I rise today to celebrate women's suffrage here in the United States. We too believe, from long-standing history, of the value and importance of the empowerment of women. That is why women like Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony are pioneers on the battlefield of democracy and voting.

We also recognize Sojourna Truth, who started her life as an abolitionist of slavery, but stood alongside these women fighting for women's suffrage. We look forward to having her statue added along with the outstanding women here in the United States Capitol honored for their early history as Susan B. Anthony, as Lucretia Mott, as Elizabeth Cady Stanton. We hope to have Sojourna Truth's own statue here in our United States Capitol.

Today, I honor those women and recognize that we in the United States Congress must continue to fight for the reauthorization of the Voter Rights Act of 1965 and salute those women who first understood that out of empowerment for women come change and opportunity.

HONORING OFFICER ANDREW PHILLIPS

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a courageous police officer from my home town of Marietta, Georgia. Last week, Officer Andrew Phillips was invited to the White House, where President Bush awarded him the National Public Safety Medal of Valor.

This award is given out to honor public safety workers who show exceptional courage in the line of duty. In fact, it is the Nation's highest award for police bravery. Officer Phillips is a model example of this bravery. When two of his fellow officers came under rifle fire during a house raid, Officer Phillips pursued the still-armed assailant, chasing him down and taking him into custody.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Phillips exemplifies the dedication and true bravery we rely on to keep our communities safe. I ask Members to join me in thanking Officer Phillips for his tremendous courage on behalf of the citizens of Marietta.

CELEBRATING FIRST WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

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

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as a proud New Yorker, I rise today to mark the anniversary of the first women's suffrage convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Our founding mothers and their successors ultimately gained the right to vote in 1920. Unfortunately, it is the only women's right in the Constitution.

The suffragettes also called for equality of opportunity for women. That is our moral mandate and our great unfinished business. And 157 years after Seneca Falls, we find ourselves in the midst of a rollback of rights we have already won. Passing the Equal Rights Amendment would protect women against these rollbacks.

Title 7 has been weakened. Women's role in the military has been attacked, and Head Start, affordable housing, and child care programs that most benefit women and children are being slashed. We owe it to the suffragettes to establish that all men and women are created equal. It is time to realize our foremothers' goals and get equal rights written into the Constitution.

HONORING TYLER MACEMORE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who