

Puerto Rico would have to have a plan for disbursing the funds approved by the Treasury before the money would be provided.

The Treasury Department would reimburse the U.S. Virgin Islands, which has a “mirror” tax system, for any reduction in tax revenue caused by the bill.

Residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands are also generally ineligible for the EITC but can claim the child tax credit, according to CRS.

For the reasons mentioned above I support H.R. 3823.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
JEFFREY H. BROTMAN

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and constituent, Mr. Jeffrey H. Brotman, who recently passed away at the age of 74.

Jeff was a Washington state native well known for his business accomplishments. From growing up working in his father's stores to opening Bottoms and eventually as a founder of Costco, Jeff's work made a significant impact around the world.

But he wasn't just a business leader. Jeff's generosity and tireless dedication to bettering our community will have a lasting impact on the Puget Sound region.

Jeff was a dedicated Husky and served as a University of Washington trustee. He also chaired the Million Dollar Round Table, working to bring people together to help others today and long into the future. In recognition of his work, he received the 2014 United Way Beacon Award for Visionary Philanthropy.

I would like to commemorate Jeff's lifetime of achievements. He will be remembered by his uplifting demeanor and abiding optimism, and as a committed community servant whose important work will continue to echo in years to come. My thoughts are with his wife, Susan, his children Justin and Amanda, and all of his family and friends.

RWANDA: DEMOCRACY THWARTED

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I held a hearing on democratic governance in Rwanda. Rwanda is an important African ally. This East African nation has been a valuable contributor to peacekeeping in Africa and is the sixth largest troop and police contributor to United Nations missions. However, reports have increased about the status of human rights and rule of law inside Rwanda and its efforts to silence critics living abroad. This hearing will examine the future of democracy and rule of law in Rwanda in light of persistent criticism of its government's behavior at home and on the international stage.

Rwanda is a constitutional republic dominated by a strong presidency. In 2015, the country held a constitutional referendum in which an estimated 98 percent of registered

voters participated. Approximately 98 percent of those who voted endorsed a set of amendments that included provisions that would allow the president to run for up to three additional terms in office, meaning Paul Kagame could be President for more than 20 more years. His election to a third term in August 2017 was achieved with 99 percent of the vote.

A popular politician in the United States or most other countries would be unlikely in most circumstances to win nearly 100 percent of the vote in a free, fair and competitive election. Consequently, it is difficult to believe that even someone as widely admired as President Kagame has been could be that popular. Such suspicion is stoked by reports of vote irregularities and actions by the Rwandan government to restrain opposition activism and enact stringent controls on opposition activism, including legal restrictions on civil liberties and stringent controls on the free flow of information.

An example of why there is skepticism about the nature of free elections in Rwanda is the case of businesswoman Diane Rwigara, who ran as a critic of Kagame. Days after she launched her campaign, nude photos allegedly of her were leaked onto the Internet in an attempt to discredit her. She said she would not be intimidated and continued her campaign. On July 7th, the National Electoral Commission disqualified her and two other candidates on technical grounds, alleging that they had not collected enough valid signatures. Amnesty International said that the election would be held in a “climate of fear and repression” and the commission's decision was criticized by the U.S. State Department and the European Union.

Following the election, Rwigara launched an activist group called the People Salvation Movement to challenge the regime on its human rights record, saying that the country's parliament is little more than a rubber-stamp. Within days, her home was raided, and she was arrested for forgery and tax evasion. Although she was released, Rwigara, was re-arrested for forgery and offences against state security; her mother and her sister also were subsequently arrested for tax evasion.

This is not the only case of harsh punishment of those who criticize the Kagame government. David Himbara, one of our witnesses today, was a close adviser to President Kagame and has an inside view of how this government deals with those seen as failing the government or those who disagree. He testified on the inner workings of the Kagame government at our May 20, 2015, hearing on Rwanda. Another witness at that May 2015 hearing was Robert Higiro, who told a chilling account of being solicited to commit the murders of two formerly high-ranking military and security officials. That account was backed by authenticated recordings of Rwanda's security chief offering large sums of money for the murders. In fact, after Higiro testified about this offer, he had to move from Belgium to the United States because his life was in danger. Both of our Rwandan witnesses have new information that will be important for our government's policy toward Rwanda.

During a staff delegation to South Africa last year, two of my staff spoke with officials in the Government of South Africa, which was highly offended that the Rwandan government would be involved in the murder of a dissident on

New Year's Eve 2013. My staff also spoke with Rwandan refugees in South Africa who reported being afraid of officials at the Rwandan embassy in South Africa, who they said had threatened them for seeking asylum.

Again, Rwanda is not your typical dictatorship in which all people suffer under an unpopular leader who does not provide for social services or security. Many Rwandans apparently genuinely feel the government is acting in their interest, especially in providing for inter-ethnic harmony. It is this anomaly we seek to better understand through today's hearing.

My office has compiled a report on our government's human rights issues with Rwanda, and we are due to discuss these matters with them further. We would be a poor ally if we did not caution the Rwandan government about human rights abuses the international community cites, including governments in Africa. We hope these abuses can be stopped, but until such time as they are, we cannot ignore them and must bring them up in our interactions with the Government of Rwanda whether or not they readily accept the view others have of their behavior. It is in their interest and ours that we do so.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
JEROME MILEUR

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, today I remember and honor the life of Jerome Mileur who passed away on September 5 this year.

Jerry was born in Murphysboro, Illinois in 1934 where he honed a love of government, politics, baseball and corny humor punctuated with comedic puns. A loyal son of Illinois, Jerry earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from his beloved Southern Illinois University where he served for many years on the board of directors of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

An accomplished author and editor, Jerry joined the Political Science faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1967 where his teaching and research focused on U.S. political parties and elections for nearly four decades. He served as chair of the Department of Political Science, received the UMass Amherst Chancellor's Medal, founded the Jackie Robinson Initiative which marked the 50th anniversary of baseball's integration and advised a cadre of doctoral students.

So many people knew Jerry's passion for baseball. He could be seen wearing a baseball cap with a pencil in hand to keep score at nearly every game he attended in person, and he was the longtime owner of the Harrisburg Senators minor league baseball franchise. As a diehard Cubs fan myself, Mr. Speaker, I must say Jerry's one irredeemable feature was his passionate devotion to the St. Louis Cardinals. In all seriousness, though, Jerry's historical study of the St. Louis Cardinals led to the publishing of two books about the Cardinals, and he finished the manuscript for a third book just days before his death.

Jerry's commitment to his communities, both in Illinois and in Massachusetts, could be evidenced by his governmental and political activity, his substantial support for the arts, and

his longstanding weekly meals and happy hours with friends of all ages.

On behalf of all of Jerry's countless friends and associates, I just want to thank him for all he has done for the people of Illinois and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we might all keep in our thoughts and prayers the Miley family and friends as they mourn their loss. In that spirit, I celebrate Jerry's life and think about what an impact that life made on so many people.

DLA & COMPANY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud DLA & Company for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Chamber Business of the Year Award. This award recognizes businesses or individuals for their contribution to the community, and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

DLA & Company was founded by Dale Anderson in 1985 as an independent full-service financial planning firm committed to helping individuals and business owners pursue their financial goals. DLA & Company was one of the founding businesses of the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Dale chaired the Leads Group, and is a member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association, the West Chamber of Commerce and the High Plains Drifters Charter Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

I applaud Dale Anderson for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate him on his success.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOLIVAR HIGH SCHOOL FISHING TEAM

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bolivar High School Fishing Team and their recent victory in the National Youth Fishing Association (NYFA) South Division Championship.

Bolivar High School anglers, Andrew Johnson and John Hubbert, emerged as champions of the high school division on Sunday, July 16, 2017.

Taking place at the Pomme de Terre Lake, the NYFA South Division event brought 290 high school and middle school teams to southern Missouri where the anglers from Bolivar took first place. John and Andrew not only brought home a trophy but \$2,000 worth of scholarship money as well.

I am honored to both recognize and congratulate Andrew and John, along with the Bolivar High School Fishing Team, on this terrific achievement. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating this team and these two individuals on their outstanding achievements.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR LUKE KENLEY FOR HIS SERVICE TO INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Senator Luke Kenley from the Indiana State Senate after 25 years. For decades Senator Kenley has served not only his constituents in Indiana's 20th Senate district, but has served our state and our nation. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Senator Kenley's commitment to making our Hoosier home and our country a better, safer, place to live.

The oldest of eight children, Howard "Luke" Kenley is a life-long Hoosier and was raised in Hamilton County. He and his siblings split time between Noblesville during the school year and working summers at his grandparents' west Texas cattle ranch in Ft. Stockton. Senator Kenley graduated from Noblesville High School as their senior class president in 1963, where he met his high school sweetheart and future wife, Sally. Senator Kenley then attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, my alma mater. He graduated in the class of 1967 earning his bachelor's degree in economics. Following graduation from Miami, he went on to Harvard to pursue his law degree. Senator Kenley left law school in 1969 during the fourth year of the Vietnam war to enroll in officer candidate school (OCS) where he graduated first in his class with the rank of Lieutenant. After completing OCS, Senator Kenley returned to Harvard to finish his law degree in 1972. Senator Kenley then returned to Noblesville to start his career and begin a family with his wife, Sally.

Senator Kenley practiced business law in Indianapolis for two years, after which he left to run the family business, founded in 1940 by his grandfather R.A. Kenley. Under his leadership Kenley Supermarkets, in Noblesville, grew tremendously from 20 employees and \$2 million in yearly sales to two stores and 175 employees with \$16 million in yearly sales. Senator Kenley managed operations from 1974 to 1998, at which time Marsh Supermarkets purchased the business. In addition to his time at the helm of Kenley Supermarkets, Senator Kenley served as the Noblesville City Court judge at the urging of Hamilton County Republican leaders. In 1990, after 15 years and 40,000 cases, Senator Kenley retired from the bench. It was not long before he was again asked to serve. In 1992, Senator Kenley was tapped to fill the vacancy in state Senate campaign in his home district. Senator Kenley won the seat and has served with distinction ever since his first term.

He earned respect from his peers during his very first term and he was awarded "Freshman Legislator of the Year". During his career in the Senate, Senator Kenley worked tirelessly on the Tax and Fiscal Policy committee to make Indiana a fiscally responsible and affordable state. He is responsible for pushing through the largest tax cut in Indiana's history, while simultaneously leading the charge on welfare reform. His budgetary talents led him to the chairmanship of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and in turn led him to be-

come one of the key architects of the Indiana state budget. This year Indiana will once again have a balanced budget, including provisions for a long term road maintenance plan and no tax increases. During his eight-year tenure as chairman, Indiana has seen its reserves grow to two billion dollars, while also eliminating excess taxes. Senator Kenley, in addition to his work on the budget, sat on the Education and Career Development Committee. He consistently pushed for continued K-12 funding as well as school choice. During his tenure, Senator Kenley helped to craft the Community Transition Program, which seeks to create a better transition back to society for offenders following their release from prison. Continuing with his care for all life, Senator Kenley's determination in protecting the unborn has led Indiana to be one of the most pro-life states in the nation. Senator Kenley was recognized for his numerous contributions in both 2013 with a Sagamore of the Wabash as well as in 2014 through the Distinguished Public Official Award from Ivy Tech Community College, well-deserved recognitions indeed.

During his vibrant career, Luke also served as the Board President for the Noblesville Boys and Girls Club while also maintaining active memberships in the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Central Indiana, Elks Lodge No. 576, the American Legion, the Hamilton County 50 club, and the First United Methodist Church of Noblesville. In 2004, he acted as the coordinator for Hamilton County Veteran's Organization Vietnam Wall Recreation Activities. Senator Kenley and his wife Sally's crowning achievement have been helping establish the Noblesville Education Foundation, which provides access to financial and material resources for Noblesville teachers. In addition to the Foundation, they created the "Strings" music program for Noblesville schools. He also holds annual leadership conferences at the State House for high school senior class presidents from his district about the importance of public service. Senator Kenley says "It's important for our young people to think about public service as part of what they're going to contribute . . . It's part of the commitment to the success of our society." He says for democracy to work, "Everybody's got to pitch in".

Senator Kenley's lifetime of service to his community, through his military service, as Noblesville City Court judge, as state Senator, and as the architect of our state budget and our state's fiscal stability, he has been invaluable not only to his district but to our whole state and nation. Thanks to his dedication to fiscal responsibility, to K-12 education, and numerous other projects throughout his career, Indiana is a great place to live and do business. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to Senator Kenley for his lifetime of service. I wish the very best to Senator Kenley, his wife Sally, their three children John, Bill, and Etsy as well as the rest of the Kenley family in his well-deserved retirement at home and on the ranch.