

Hank's philanthropy that truly sets him apart. In 1995, Hank and Billye established the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation to give young people with limited opportunities a chance to pursue their dreams. While Hank had initially envisioned helping 755 youngsters, the Foundation has provided vital financial assistance to more than 1,000 young people. The Foundation provides scholarships to college students and partners with Boys and Girls Clubs throughout the country to help young people develop their talents.

Hank has received numerous awards and tributes for both his athletic ability and his charitable efforts. In 1982, he was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York. In 1997, Hank Aaron Stadium in Mobile was dedicated to him. In 1999, Congress passed a resolution recognizing him as one of baseball's greatest players and praising his work with the Chasing the Dream Foundation. That year, Major League Baseball announced the creation of the Hank Aaron Award, given annually to the best overall hitter in each league. In 2002, Hank received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award of the United States.

On a personal note, I am proud to consider Hank and the Aaron family friends of long-standing. He and I grew up in the same area of Mobile, Toulminville, and his sister, Alfredia, was my classmate from elementary school through Central High School Class of 1964. She and her husband, Congressman DAVID SCOTT, continue to be dear friends to my wife and me.

Indeed, Hank is a baseball legend but he is also an entrepreneur, civil rights leader, philanthropist, humanitarian and just an outstanding human being, period. His humility is unparalleled and his heart for helping others has made a tremendous impact throughout our nation and the world. He continues to make Mobilians proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in recognizing the perseverance, generosity, and legacy of Hank and Billye Aaron. Winston Churchill said: "You make your living by what you get, you make a life by what you give." The Aarons embody this ideal perfectly and their spirit of giving is making lives for generations yet to come.

A CONSTITUENT'S VIEW ON THE STATE OF OUR NATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of my constituent, Ed Rapp, from Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Rapp recently retired as a top executive and group president from Caterpillar Inc. after thirty-six years of tremendous and admirable service to the company and the Peoria community. He was recently diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease and turned his focus to raising awareness and supporting those in search of a cure. The following is an open letter Mr. Rapp penned to his grandson:

AN APOLOGY TO MY GRANDSON COLE

On the heels of a frustrating election, the combination of reading "Hamilton" and seeing the Chicago Cubs win the World Series, I'm compelled to put my thoughts down in

writing taking the form of an apology to my grandson, and the next generation of Americans. "Hamilton" reminded me of the combination of leadership and compromise demonstrated by our Founding Fathers. And the Cubs showed us that, against the odds of history, if you improve competitiveness, you can compete and win. (And let the record show that I—a die-hard St. Louis Cardinals fan—can appreciate that feat!)

Fortunately, what was the most disappointing election process in my history is behind us. My words are not aimed at one party or the other as I am equally frustrated by both sides. Our leaders spend too much time trying to defeat the opposing party instead of focusing on how to make sure that America competes and wins.

At 59 years old, my generation inherited the most competitive country in the world, and that competitiveness led to the highest standard of living in the world. We seem to have overlooked the direct correlation between a country's competitiveness and the standard of living of its citizens.

The Cubs championship team stands as a first class example of how changing the way you compete can change your results. If you want to improve your competitiveness, you adapt. New leadership made great draft choices that complemented wily veterans, ending more than a century of losing.

The same opportunities are afforded to this great nation (yes, it should be noted I remain optimistic about this country's future). However, what lies ahead won't be easy. It will require strong leaders like Hamilton, compromise by both parties and an understanding that it is all about competitiveness.

Like it or not, our infrastructure is in a state of disrepair and we have not addressed its long term funding in more than 20 years. The build-out of our US highway system in the 1960s ignited one of the greatest economic booms in history. But we haven't re-invested. The road to progress still begins with a road, period.

We have gone from having one of the most competitive corporate tax rates in 1986 to being the laggard amongst OECD countries. While the rest of the world has gone to a territorial system, we are still living in the past with our worldwide system. With a corporate tax rate 56 percent higher than the average of other OECD countries, is it any wonder companies want to locate in other parts of the world?

We also seem to have forgotten that our country was built by immigrants. We must remain a nation where the world's best and brightest come to innovate and create new businesses. We can't continue to provide world-class college education to young minds from around the world, and then tell them to pack their bags.

The political debate criticized global trade. Have we forgotten the U.S. is only five percent of the world's population and, for decades, led by example on free trade, which improves the standard of living of Americans and our trading partners? We need to move forward and trade is fundamental to growth. If countries turn nationalistic, we won't like the long term outcome (Brexit and backing out of the Trans Pacific Partnership really concern me).

I would offer my generation has made no meaningful progress on some of the core elements of competitiveness in decades (no major corporate tax or immigration reform since mid-1980s, no change on infrastructure funding since 1993, no major global trade deal since 1994) and, as illustrated above, the cost will be significant: a lower standard of living for the next generation. For this, I say to my grandson, I am sorry.

But, as emphasized up front, I remain optimistic. I really do hope and pray for the next

generation that Congress and the President work together to take on the challenges at hand. Be brave and compromise like Alexander Hamilton. Improve competitiveness like the Cubs. And, as we go about "Making America Great Again," let's just remember what made her great in the first place.

A TRIBUTE TO LARRY ANDERSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Larry Anderson for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Larry is a Business Development Officer with Central Bank. He is co-founder of the non-profit organization, Art for Ankeny, dedicated to installing public art across Ankeny. In addition, Larry serves on multiple boards for the City of Ankeny and is active on Grand View University's Business Advisory Board. Larry has been recognized for his exemplary dedication to the welfare of the Ankeny community with awards from Ankeny Young Professionals, the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce, and by being named a finalist for the Young Professional of the Year Impact Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Larry in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Larry on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING NEW JERSEY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE TOMMY JAMES

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Cedar Grove resident and recent New Jersey Hall of Fame inductee, Tommy James. Mr. James is a pop-rock musician, singer, songwriter, record producer and is one of the fifteen new inductees to the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

America in the 1960s was a time of significant cultural and musical development. From Tommy James to the Beatles, Bob Dylan,

Joan Baez, Jimi Hendrix, and a young New Jerseyan named Bruce Springsteen receiving his first guitar from his mother in 1964, the artists from the 1960s shaped the music landscape forever.

In the 1960s, a young, outspoken and politically active generation often told their stories through music and art. As a young person during this era, I can attest to the importance of the messages conveyed by musicians about contemporary society and their unwavering belief in building a better America for future generations.

The State of New Jersey can bestow no higher honor on one of our citizens than induction into our Hall of Fame and I congratulate Tommy James, who helped to influence generations of musicians.

Mr. Speaker, with an award-winning music career spanning over three decades and countless contributions to our State and its citizens, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tommy James to his induction to the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS FOR BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS ACT OF 2017

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Fairness for Breastfeeding Mothers Act of 2017, a bill that would require buildings that are either federally owned or leased to provide designated private and hygienic lactation spaces for nursing mothers. The bill was included in the Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016, which passed the House last Congress. For years, federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have encouraged breastfeeding. The benefits are so great that federal law now requires employers to provide a designated, non-bathroom space for employees to pump breastmilk for their newborns, ensuring that new mothers would be able to continue this essential practice even after returning to work. My bill would extend this requirement to include not just employees, but visitors and guests to federal facilities across the nation.

In Washington, D.C. alone, millions of tourists visit federal sites, such as the Lincoln Memorial. Increasingly, families understand the unique benefits of breastfeeding, and visitors to these buildings who have newborns and babies should have a private space to breastfeed or pump. The benefits of breastfeeding are well-documented. Breastmilk contains antibodies and hormones that boost babies' immune systems, and studies have shown lower risks of asthma, diabetes, respiratory infections and other diseases among breastfed babies. Moreover, breastfeeding also has benefits for nursing mothers, who, research has shown, have lower risks of diabetes and certain forms of cancer. Given the significant public health benefits of breastfeeding for both mother and baby, already recognized in federal policy, my bill is a logical next step to ensure visitors to federal sites have access to clean, hygienic, and private spaces to nurse or pump.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which would provide access to designated lactation rooms for guests to federally owned or leased buildings.

OPPOSITION TO H.J. RES. 43 AND H.J. RES. 69

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, in order to attend a previously scheduled event I had to return to California; however, if I had been present today, I would have continued to voice my strenuous objections to the use of the Congressional Review Act to invalidate a seemingly endless number of agency rules. Today, I would express my opposition to and voted against H.J. Res. 43 and H.J. Res. 69. Use of the Congressional Review Act in the month of February to eliminate agency regulations thereby barring their return in substantially the same form as in some instances negated years of work on the part of agency officials, stakeholders, advocates, and the public. H.J. Res. 43 represents another vehicle to prevent families from having legitimate access in every state to the Title X program, which has been in effect for over 40 years.

Title X of the Public Health Services Act is the only dedicated source of federal funding for family planning. It provides grants to both nonprofit and public entities that, in turn, provide a wide range of both preventative and family planning services. These clinics have provided service to over 4 million men, women and children. The services include preconception health services, contraceptive care as well as breast and cervical cancer screenings and prevention. H.J. Res. 43 would prevent the implementation of a final rule by the Department of Health and Human Services that would have ensured that these patients continued to have access to all qualified Title X providers.

At a time when there has been a call to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which will result in 20 million Americans losing insurance, and negatively impact the benefits currently received by those with insurance and no viable replacement option being put forward. Our efforts should be spent addressing this issue. Instead, we are voting on a measure that will only serve to decrease access to health services that impact the long term health needs of families.

As for H.J. Res. 69, it represents yet another effort to use the Congressional Review Act to undermine the efforts of stakeholders, advocates, and agencies to address an issue. The promulgation of the rule by the Fish and Wildlife Service addresses Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures. In effect the rule is designed to limit state sponsored and recreational killing of species like grizzly bears and gray wolves unless there is full compliance with existing federal law as well as compliance with the purposes of the refuge. At this time those who have opposed this rule have not provided a scientific bases or sound science as a basis for opposing the final rule issued by the Department of the Interior.

For these reasons and more, I would have opposed H.J. Res. 43 and H.J. Res. 69.

HONORING HAL D. PAYNE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate and honor Mr. Hal D. Payne who is retiring from Buffalo State College after 27 years of service. He will be missed by all at Buffalo State and his years of work will not be forgotten, nor will his tireless commitment to broadening and enhancing the educational opportunities of Western New York.

Mr. Payne joined Buffalo State College in 1990 when he began to work as the assistant Vice President of Student Affairs. After a year he was promoted to Vice President. Under Mr. Payne's leadership, Buffalo State College has upgraded many of their student facilities such as the Frank C. Moore Apartment Complex, the Student Apartment Complex, Cassety Halls, and the Towers as well as the renovation of Houston Gymnasium.

In the summer of 2000, Mr. Payne completed the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' Millennium Leadership Initiative, this program provides leadership development and allows individuals the chance to develop skills and build an advanced network. This program has aided Mr. Payne's work of advancing Buffalo State's connections within and outside of the state of New York.

Before coming to Buffalo State, Mr. Payne served as Senior Associate for the Council for opportunity in Education in Washington, D.C. and as the Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Louis Stokes of Ohio. He currently acts as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Education, expanding his range of work to support education across America. His commitment to his work was recognized in 2010 by Governor David A. Patterson to the New York State Council on the Arts. Hal Payne's education at Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, and at the Institution for Educational Management at Harvard University, has edified his knowledge and passion for advancing education.

Mr. Payne is the recipient of numerous awards which attest to the fact that his work has not gone unappreciated or unnoticed. Hal Payne earned the Oberlin Medal, which is the highest individual honor that is awarded by Oberlin College. In addition to the Oberlin Medal, Mr. Payne received the Walter O. Mason Jr. Award from the Council for Opportunity in Education. This national award is presented to those who exhibit distinguished service and leadership.

Outside of his work at Buffalo State College, Mr. Hal Payne has done a great deal of work for the greater Buffalo area. He currently participates in many organizations including the Buffalo Club, the leadership Buffalo Class of 1995, and is an active member of the Board of the Arts Services Initiative of Western New York. His passionate work within Western New York will be remembered for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the chance to honor and recognize the legacy of Hal D. Payne's years of invaluable work. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Payne on an accomplished career and to commend him for his 27 years of committed work at Buffalo State College.