

Resolved: That the House of Representatives recognizes that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer—LGBTQ—rights are human rights and are protected by the Constitution, the Constitution of the United States of America; recognizes that all Americans should be treated fairly and equally, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

This is important, Mr. Speaker, because in this country today, in the United States of America today, we still have people who are being discriminated against because of who they are.

In the United States of America, there are still people who have rights that are accorded them under the Constitution, very similar to my circumstances—not the same, but very similar, very similar, not the same, to my circumstances—wherein the rights that were accorded under the Constitution were denied by my fellow Americans, and people today are having rights denied by their fellow Americans.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. CICILLINE, DAVID CICILLINE, Representative CICILLINE, has a bill, H.R. 2282, the Equality Act. This bill has 195 cosponsors. This bill would address the inequalities that we see in America.

Examples are always good. In this country, the Supreme Court has made marriage equality the law of the land. One would think that, if it is the law of the land, all persons who are married would be treated the same as all other persons who are married. All persons who happen to be of the LGBTQ community would be treated like I would be treated if I were married, as a person who is not a member of the community, but an ally.

That is not the case, Mr. Speaker. In the United States of America, if you are married and you are of the LGBTQ community and you wear your ring to work the next day and proudly announce that you are married, you can be fired. You can be fired for engaging in an act that is constitutional in the United States of America.

Why? Because we have about 31 States that have not clearly defined the fact that all persons are to be treated equally, endowed by their Creator with these certain inalienable rights, among them, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. All persons, this would include people who are of the LGBTQ community. But, unfortunately, in a good many States, they can be fired for just showing up to work and announcing that they are of the LGBTQ community.

Mr. Speaker, no one should be denied the right to work because of who the person happens to be when it is a lawful—lawful—status that you occupy. Marriage is lawful in this country. People ought not be punished for being married.

People ought not be punished for their sexual orientation in this country. In this country, you can be denied

service, certain services, because of your sexual orientation. One would think that we were long past the time when people would judge you and draw conclusions about who you are and what you represent simply because of your sexual orientation.

Sexual orientation is not a limitation on a person's dignity, on a person's humanity. Sexual orientation does not divest a person of citizenship, does not divest a person of rights supported under the Constitution. Sexual orientation is but a means by which a person was born into this world.

I believe that my God doesn't make any junk. I believe that my God created people purposefully and created them as they are to be who they are in a world where all persons should be treated equally, created equally by God, treated fairly and equally by humanity.

So since I believe this and I have had these experiences, it is appropriate that I stand here on the floor of the House of Representatives to say to the world that we as a great nation should not allow ourselves to continue to deny human rights and human dignity to people because of their status, a status that they were born with, a status that the Supreme Court recognizes, a status that is to be protected under the Constitution of the United States of America.

I am proud to stand here and take up the challenge and the cause. I am a person who believes that, until we have paid the debts to others for the work that they have done to accord us our freedom, we still have a job to do. There is still great work to be done.

I didn't get here because of my work alone. I didn't get here because I am the person who ought to have this position. There were people who sacrificed and made it possible for me to have this opportunity. There were people who surrendered their lives so that I would have the opportunity to stand here tonight.

So I owe a debt, and I am standing here tonight to continue to repay the debt I owe to others who made it possible for me to have the rights and enjoy the rights—to be more specific, enjoy the rights—that I enjoy in this country, and I want others to enjoy these rights as well.

This is not to say that all of the discrimination against African Americans is over and the world is a perfect place. It is not. But it is perfect enough for me to come to the floor of the House of Representatives and stand for justice for others just as persons have stood for justice for me.

So I thank you for the time, Mr. Speaker. It has been time well spent, in my opinion. I am honored that this resolution has been presented. I am honored that it has cosponsors—26.

My prayer is that one day the House of Representatives will pass this resolution; my prayer is that one day Mr. BROWN's resolution will pass in the Senate; and my prayer is that one day

this President will issue a proclamation, if you will, a resolution of a sort, recognizing June as Pride Month, LGBTQ Pride Month.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on June 27, 2017, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 1238. To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 29, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROE of Tennessee: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 91. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the pilot program on counseling in retreat settings for women veterans newly separated from service in the Armed Forces (Rept. 115-197). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MCCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 2825. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-198). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. ROYCE of California, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 3089. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and

for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCHENRY (for himself and Mr. ARRINGTON):

H.R. 3090. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent individuals receiving work authorizations under certain deferred action programs from being eligible for the earned income tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself and Mr. CONYERS):

H.R. 3091. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to limit the authority of State election officials to remove registrants from the official list of eligible voters in elections for Federal office in the State on the basis of interstate cross-checks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. HARTZLER (for herself, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 3092. A bill to amend part D of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to modify the Federal Parent Locator Service to improve search functions and include State responsible father registry search functions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CAPUANO (for himself, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 3093. A bill to amend the Volcker Rule to permit certain investment advisers to share a similar name with a private equity fund, subject to certain restrictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H.R. 3094. A bill to authorize a national grant program for on-the-job training; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself and Mr. BANKS of Indiana):

H.R. 3095. A bill to prohibit or suspend certain health care providers from providing non-Department of Veterans Affairs health care services to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 3096. A bill to implement a mandatory random drug testing program for certain employees of the Indian Health Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3097. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit credit for service for purposes of a Federal annuity to employees of the Social Security Administration for certain violations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SANCHEZ (for herself, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H.R. 3098. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certified adult day services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to

the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SANFORD:

H.R. 3099. A bill to establish Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State of South Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. ROSS, Mr. MESSER, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DELANEY, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 3100. A bill to require the President to develop a national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. TORRES:

H.R. 3101. A bill to enhance cybersecurity information sharing and coordination at ports in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CORREA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. VELA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H.R. 3102. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the provision of naturalization assistance to members of the uniformed services, including new recruits, who are not citizens of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CORREA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. VELA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H.R. 3103. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security to jointly conduct a study and submit a report on deported veterans; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Ms. PELOSI):

H. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution urging the Government of the People's Republic of China to unconditionally release Liu Xiaobo, together with his wife Liu Xia, to allow them to freely meet with friends, family, and counsel and seek medical treatment wherever they desire; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DUFFY (for himself, Mr. SENBRENNER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. KIND):

H. Res. 418. A resolution urging the Secretary of the Interior to recognize the cultural significance of Rib Mountain by adding it to the National Register of Historic Places; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York,

Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CORREA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. POLIS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. POCAN):

H. Res. 419. A resolution encouraging the celebration of the month of June as LGBTQ Pride Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H. Res. 420. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of July 9 through July 15, 2017, as "Sarcoma Awareness Week" and July 15, 2017, as "Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Ms. BASS):

H. Res. 421. A resolution urging the Administration to develop more effective and timely responses to famine in Africa, especially efforts to end the conflicts in South Sudan, Nigeria, and other countries that cause or exacerbate famine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 3089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 3090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: The Congress shall have the Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States, but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 3091.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States, which states:

The Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 3092.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article, I, Section 8, Clause 1 (The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States) of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 3093.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: