

Hackettstown Mayor Maria DiGiovanni
 Andover Borough Mayor John Morgan
 Andover Township Mayor Janis McGovern
 Allamuchy Mayor Keith DeTombeur
 Mansfield Township Mayor Joseph Watters
 Washington Borough Mayor Dave Higgins
 Hope Mayor Timothy McDonough
 Newton Mayor Wayne Levante
 Independence Mayor Robert Giordano
 Allamuchy Deputy Mayor Elliott Koppel
 Hackettstown Councilman Matt Engelau
 Hackettstown Councilman Jerry DiMaio
 Hackettstown Councilman James Lambo
 Hackettstown Councilman Scott Sheldon
 I thank them for their service. I am lucky to partner with this bipartisan group for the good of the Fifth District.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
 PHILIP JOHN CARRIGAN, JR.

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER
 OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Philip Carrigan, a dear friend and extraordinary community leader, for his dedicated service to Lake County as a lifelong advocate and volunteer.

It is hard to find a community organization or charity in Lake County not touched by Phil's tireless activity. He worked closely with the Waukegan Township-based transitional housing programs for people experiencing homelessness at Eddie Washington Center House and Staben House. He was also particularly dedicated to his regular Friday shift at the PADS Lake County homeless shelter, and one year even threw his birthday party there rather than miss a week.

Phil was an active volunteer with local prison reform groups, the John Howard Society and Prisoner Visitation and Support, and worked with the Coalition to Reduce Recidivism to help former inmates reintegrate into and succeed in society after serving their time.

In 2005, Phil was elected as a trustee of the College of Lake County Board, where he served two six-year terms. CLC board Chairman Richard Anderson described Phil as, "a dedicated supporter of CLC's students, a strong advocate for the Waukegan community and a person of extreme integrity."

The Faith Food Pantry in Zion, the Lake County Community Action Project, the CEASE FIRE Advisory Council, the Lake County NAACP board, and many other organizations benefited from Phil's activism as well.

Professionally, Dr. Carrigan began his career as a pharmacist in Boston. He later moved to Lake County in 1974 to begin work with Abbott Laboratories, where he worked for 30 years, primarily in pharmaceutical research and development. In recognition of his important contributions to the field, Dr. Carrigan was inducted into the Volwiler Society at the company.

Phil will be remembered for his big heart and sage wisdom, and as a friend and supporter of all those in the Lake County community. He will be missed by the many people whose lives were touched by his service.

I extend my sincerest condolences to Phil's wife Mary Clare Jakes; daughter Erin Carrigan; and the many other family, friends,

and colleagues who were changed by his life and now mourn his loss.

COMMON SENSE NUTRITION
 DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 772, the so-called "Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act of 2017," which would deprive American consumers of the full benefit of the Menu Labeling Rule promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration scheduled to go into effect on May 7, 2018.

The Menu Labeling Rule provides consumers with nutritional information on the foods they purchase which is critically needed given rates of obesity and diabetes at crisis levels across the country.

Mr. Speaker, more than two-thirds of adults and one-third of children are considered to be overweight or obese.

Additionally, on average, Americans consume roughly one-third of their calories, and nearly half of their total food spending, on food prepared outside the home.

For this reason, access to nutritional information at the point of sale is an important tool for consumers to make informed nutrition decisions.

Unfortunately, H.R. 772 will undo the important progress made to implement federal menu labeling standards and will lead to consumer and industry confusion.

Consumers deserve transparency and industry deserves certainty, and the bill will lead to less of both.

Specifically, I oppose the bill because it:

1. Increases consumer confusion and allows deceptive portion sizes;
2. Removes consumer's right to information regardless of the location of purchase;
3. Removes the American people and the FDA's ability to ensure compliance; and
4. Delays needed transparency and undoes years of work by the FDA.

Current law requires menu boards to display calorie information for foods in portions that people would realistically be expected to eat.

However, H.R. 772 would permit establishments to display misleading calorie counts, such as by listing a single sandwich as "4 servings."

H.R. 772 removes the requirement that menu labeling be available at all points of purchase.

In a business sells 51 percent of sales online, restaurants would not be required to provide nutritional information to the remaining 49 percent of consumers.

Consumers should not lose access to nutritional information based on where they decide to purchase their meal.

This bill removes the responsibility of businesses to certify they remain compliant with menu labeling requirements and shields establishments from any civil lawsuits for non-compliance.

This removes important tools to hold businesses accountable and ensure Americans receive the transparency they want and deserve when eating out.

Since 2010 when menu labeling requirements were placed into law FDA has worked extensively with stakeholders to enact the law in a manner that works for both consumers and businesses.

Most recently, in November 2017, FDA published additional guidance to help answer remaining questions related to compliance and ensure all covered establishments have the tools they need to comply.

H.R. 772, however, would require FDA to expend significant resources to revise the final menu labeling rule, leading to extensive delays and greater confusion given that many businesses have already begun implementation of the menu labeling requirements as they currently stand.

Under H.R. 772, changes to menu labeling requirements would make access to information on menu labels more difficult for consumers.

Americans must be able to know what is in their food to make healthy choices.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the final rule enacted by the Food and Drug Administration.

It was the result of a deliberate multi-year process that included input from officials in the food industry, government and public health.

This bill is unnecessary as the FDA's recent guidance already addresses the bill's concern.

Chain food service establishments have had years to prepare for compliance with the requirements.

Many of these establishments have already changed their menus in anticipation of the May 5, 2018 deadlines.

The May 7, 2018 deadline is actually the third extension of previous deadlines, dating back to December 1, 2016.

Consumers must be able to have all available information to make informed, healthy choices for themselves and their families.

I urge all Members to vote against this ill-advised and anti-consumer measure.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
 OF MR. THOMAS COREY

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I dedicate my time today to a man, who as a resident of Jupiter, Florida, I am honored to represent in Congress. His name is Mr. Thomas Corey, a decorated Vietnam hero who proudly served our country as a combat infantryman.

During the 1968 Tet Offensive, he received an enemy round in the neck that hit his spinal cord, leaving him paralyzed and a quadriplegic for life. But this did not stop him from dedicating his life and work to our veterans, and our country.

Since then, he has done extraordinary work: he has served on many Advisory Boards with local governments, and with the VA Medical Centers in West Palm Beach and Miami, the VA Research Foundation of Palm Beaches, VSIN 8 Management Assistance Council, Friends of Veterans Board, Friends of Fisher House Board, as President of the Vietnam Veterans Peace Initiative, and as the founding president of the Vietnam Veterans of America's Palm Beach County Chapter.

Mr. Corey has even returned to Vietnam 16 times since 1994, representing the Vietnam Veterans of America's Veterans Initiative program dedicated to recovery efforts for our Vietnam Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action, as well as to studies on the health effects of Agent Orange. In that capacity, he met with top Vietnamese and Laos leaders, leaders and members of the Veterans Association of Vietnam, U.S. Ambassadors, and the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting in Vietnam and Laos. For these extraordinary efforts, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace prize. He was also the first recipient of the Vietnam Veterans of America's Commendation Medal, the VV A's highest award for service to veterans, their families, and the community.

He is also a member of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 1st Cavalry Association and the National Association of Uniformed Services.

To this day, Mr. Corey is still fighting his fellow veterans, serving as Ombudsman and Program Specialist with the Director's Office at the West Palm Beach VA. I can't think of anyone who has given more for his comrades, and for his country, than Mr. Thomas Corey, and I could not be prouder to represent him in Congress.

EL GÜERO CANELO WINS JAMES
BEARD AWARD

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Daniel Contreras, the owner of the famed El Güero Canelo restaurant for receiving a James Beard Award for his world-famous Sonoran hot dog. El Güero Canelo won this prestigious award in a special category called "American Classics," which honors restaurants that are "cherished for quality food that reflects the character of the community." I cannot think of a better choice that reflects the cuisine and culture of Tucson.

Contreras' restaurant, El Güero Canelo, is emblematic of the merging of Mexican and American culture that makes Tucson so special. The restaurant has a storied history in the region and is representative of how one immigrant from Mexico with hard work, dedication, and drive can achieve the American Dream.

Born in Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico, Contreras experienced the trials of economic hardship, spending his days playing baseball while dreaming of a professional career. Like so many before him, Contreras left his native Mexico for Tucson, Arizona in search of a better life and lured by the promise of the American Dream. He worked long hours as a dishwasher in local restaurants until he decided to take a risk and open up a hot dog stand in 1993, which became the birthplace of the legendary El Güero Canelo. From that tiny hot dog stand, his business has grown to include three restaurants in Tucson and one in Phoenix.

In addition to his immeasurable contributions to the gastronomy of Tucson, Contreras is an upstanding member of the community, dedicated to serving others. He is an active

member of his church and frequently visits state prisons to speak with incarcerated individuals on how to prevent alcoholism.

Contreras' story demonstrates the power of the American Dream and the persistent, entrepreneurial spirit of our immigrant community. Thank you Daniel Contreras for your contributions to Tucson, and I look forward to enjoying a James Beard award-winning Sonoran hot dog.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE IN THE BLACK
COMMUNITY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 5, 2018

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, during the State of the Union speech last week, many of us did not applaud the President as he assumed responsibility for the lowest rate of Black unemployment ever recorded. The simple truth is that while Black unemployment reached its lowest level in decades, the rate has been in steady decline for the last seven years, a credit to the Obama Administration President Trump so often maligns.

It is also true that while gains have been made, the Black unemployment rates fall short of that for White workers. The President has failed to acknowledge that just in the last month, Black unemployment jumped nearly a full percentage point, from 6.8 percent to 7.7 percent, and continues to be nearly double that of White workers.

If Black unemployment figures were the overall national figures, the country would be facing or nearly facing an economic recession. Yet, this Administration's policies continue to take aim at too many of us, especially African Americans and other communities of color.

Black unemployment has consistently been about double that of white employment. Sadly, other statistics mirror what amounts to a persistent racial wealth divide:

90 percent of White households live above the poverty line compared to 75 of Black households;

71 percent of White households are homeowners compared to 41 percent of Black households; and

In 2016, white families had a median net worth of \$171,000, compared with \$17,600 for Black families.

There is no doubt the persistent wealth disparity is rooted in federal policies that build and preserve the racial wealth divide since the institution of slavery. The Social Security Act of 1935 provides just one example. The Act's passage laid the groundwork to aid the elderly after the Great Depression. Yet, the Act excluded about one-third of all American workers, including farmworkers and domestic workers—who were predominately people of color. For African Americans, the cost of exclusion from the Social Security Act of 1935 resulted in a loss of benefits totaling \$143.2 billion in 2016 dollars.

Similarly, federal housing policies from 1934 to 1968, which sought to make homeownership accessible to more families, shut out black families from homeownership through the practice of redlining.

Unfortunately, the racial wealth gap shows no sign of letting up under the Trump Adminis-

tration. His economic policies offer dim prospects for African Americans and other communities of color.

The President's lopsided tax cut transferred massive amounts of wealth to those who are already wealthy at the expense of everyone else. The tax cuts add at least \$1.5 trillion to the national deficit, with likely offsets to earned benefits and social safety net programs like Medicare, Medicaid, and SNAP—programs many families depend on. The cuts rob the American people of resources that could put people to work building infrastructure, or be invested in public education, child care, and health care.

Trump's first year budget was equally alarming. Proposed cuts to the Minority Business Development Agency, Community Development Block Grants, and the Economic Development Administration, among countless others, will almost certainly diminish the ability of underserved communities to get ahead.

These are not the actions of an Administration interested in helping all Americans. It is time the Trump Administration and Republicans in Congress start acting on behalf of all Americans, and not just a few. It is time to turn words, cheers, and applause into meaningful action and help ensure economic justice for all.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF
MERCIER ORCHARDS

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Mercier Orchards' 75th anniversary, which took place on January 19.

In 1943, Bill and Adele Mercier acted on their dream to own a homegrown apple orchard by purchasing a 27-acre plot of land in Fannin County. What began as an apple orchard, though, eventually grew to include a market, winery, restaurant, and wedding venue.

Four generations and 75 harvests later, Mercier Orchards has grown into one of Georgia's top destinations for our state's booming agritourism industry. Each year brings in over 600,000 visitors from across the country, and the company now ships its apples, fried pies, and other delicious treats to people around the world.

Mercier Orchards' continued success attests to the strength of this family-run business. By encouraging each other through the poor harvests, the Mercier family was able to persevere together, using their business to make a positive impact on northeast Georgia.

I congratulate Mercier Orchards on 75 fruitful years and wish the family the best as they continue to celebrate this milestone.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RABBI
ISAIAH ZELDIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Congressman TED