

NEW FETAL HEARTBEAT
ABORTION LAWS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my strong opposition to the so-called “fetal heartbeat” laws recently enacted in Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Texas, and other states.

GEORGIA

House Bill 481 outlaws abortion after six weeks of pregnancy, when a doctor can usually detect a fetus’ heartbeat. Gov. Brian Kemp signed it into law May 7, and it is set to go into effect Jan. 1—unless it is blocked by the courts.

MISSOURI

The Missouri House passed H.B. 126 in a 110-to-44 vote after hours of heated debate, including impassioned speeches by both Democratic and Republican legislators and angry shouts of “when you lie, people die” from those who opposed the bill. Those protesters were eventually removed by the police.

The measure, known as the Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act, now moves to the desk of Gov. Mike Parson, a Republican, who is expected to sign it. The bill, which bans abortions at around eight weeks of pregnancy, often before a woman even knows she is pregnant, included no exceptions for rape or incest.

ALABAMA

Gov. Kay Ivey of Alabama on Wednesday signed into law a bill banning almost all abortions in the state, with no exceptions for cases of rape or incest. Under the law, which is scheduled to take effect in six months, an abortion is only legal if the pregnant person’s life is at risk. A doctor who performs an abortion for any other reason could face up to 99 years in prison.

TEXAS

The Texas Senate approved a bill Thursday that would impose criminal penalties on doctors who fail to treat babies born alive after failed abortion attempts—extremely rare cases—a month after the House approved the same measure. If the House concurs with the Senate’s minor changes to House Bill 16, it will then head to the governor’s desk.

The Senate approved the bill in a 21-10 vote, with Democratic state senators Eddie Lucio of Brownsville and Judith Zaffirini of Laredo bucking their party to support the measure. The measure, authored by state Rep. Jeff Leach, R-Plano, gives teeth to existing federal and state laws that grant legal protections to children born after abortion attempts. Doctors who “fail to provide the appropriate medical treatment”—like immediately transferring the infant to a hospital—could be charged with a third-degree felony, and they would have to pay a fine of at least \$100,000.

MISSISSIPPI

Republican Gov. Phil Bryant signed the bill into law in March which says physicians who perform abortions after a fetal heartbeat is found (typically at around 6 weeks) could have their medical licenses revoked. The state allows abortions after a fetal heartbeat is found if a pregnancy endangers a woman’s life or one of her major bodily functions but does not have exceptions for cases of rape or incest.

OHIO

Gov. Mike DeWine signed one of the nation’s most restrictive abortion bans into

law Thursday afternoon and opponents have already pledged to take him to court. The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio has already promised to sue over the legislation, which would ban abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected and prosecute doctors who perform them anyway. A fetal heartbeat can be detected as early as six weeks into a woman’s pregnancy, which can be before a woman finds out she’s pregnant. The “heartbeat bill” passed the GOP-controlled Legislature on Wednesday amid protests from advocates of abortion access. DeWine signed the bill, making Ohio the sixth state to enact the ban. Under the bill, doctors would face a fifth-degree felony punishable by up to a year in prison for performing an abortion after detecting a heartbeat. The bill has an exception to save the life of the woman but no exception for rape or incest—in line with current state law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 217—Passage of H.R. 5.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I unfortunately missed the last vote on H.R. 5 final passage due to personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 217.

APPLE VALLEY SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS THOMAS
HOEGERMAN RETIRES

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Superintendent Thomas E. Hoegerman, who will retire from Apple Valley Unified School District on May 22, 2019.

Thomas E. Hoegerman was born September 15, 1959 in Lodi, CA. He attended California State University Sacramento where he earned a B.A. in liberal studies, which he later followed with a teaching credential from the University of the Pacific and a master’s degree from Chapman University. He joined the Apple Valley Unified School District in 1989, where he taught at Yucca Loma Elementary School and later at Vista Campana Middle School. In 1996, Tom joined the District Office, where he has worked to improve education outcomes across the district.

During his time at the District Office, Tom oversaw the construction of both Granite Hills High School and Sitting Bull Academy. He

also implemented class-size reduction, assessment systems, and data analysis programs across the district. His leadership during the restructuring that followed the Great Recession was instrumental in ensuring student success while keeping the district financially stable. Tom has also served in several educational organizations, including the San Bernardino County District Advocates for Better Students, California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions, and San Bernardino Gangs and Drugs Task Force Executive Committee.

Superintendent Thomas Hoegerman has been an incredible asset to the education community in Apple Valley, and he will be sorely missed in retirement. I wish him and his wife Lisa a happy retirement and a happy 30th anniversary this July.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the House passage of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote. The Senate followed the House two weeks later with passage on June 4, 1919, and the amendment was ratified by the states the following year. This historic centennial offers an unparalleled opportunity to commemorate this victorious milestone of the women’s suffrage movement.

In 1848, a group of women organized a national women’s rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Following the convention, the right to vote came to the front and center of the women’s rights movement. Many women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, along with Susan B. Anthony and other activists, raised public awareness and lobbied state and federal governments to grant voting rights to women.

Almost 70 years later, in her first term, Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress, introduced a Constitutional Amendment to grant women’s suffrage. Several years later, women’s rights groups finally emerged victorious with the passage of the 19th Amendment.

Madam Speaker, our democracy is stronger because of the 19th Amendment, and I am proud to honor women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony and other women, who accomplished so much. The efforts of these great American women afford generations to come with the opportunity to vote freely, whether it is in a neighbor’s garage in Escondido, or from a far battlefield defending our freedom.

HONORING SANDY D’ALEMBERTE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am saddened to hear of the passing of a truly

great Floridian, Sandy D'Alemberte. As it does for so many, his passing pains me both personally and for our state and country. Sandy was a voice for reason, the rule of law, decency and kindness—a “necessary man” for all his time and certainly for these times. It is enough to remember him as a brilliant legislator, president of the American Bar Association (ABA), Florida State University (FSU) president and Florida Constitutional scholar. And, much loved dean while I was at FSU College of Law. However, Sandy was indispensable in so many instances in Florida's history—both the big moments and some moments that most of his fellow Floridians might never know about but which were just as grand. One of the latter was his embrace of Jose Manuel Godinez-Samperio and his fight to be admitted to the Florida Bar. Jose graduated valedictorian of his class at Armwood High School in Hillsborough County, Fla. and went on to attend FSU College of Law. Jose made history when he graduated from FSU College of Law and passed the Florida Bar exam, but when he sought admittance to the Florida Bar as an undocumented immigrant, this great American Story almost came to an end. Sandy's belief in the law, fair play and young people caused him to take on this injustice. He brought together a team, including me, past presidents of the ABA, bipartisan members of the Florida Legislature and others, to successfully confront this quiet individual inequity just as he had taken on more large and public challenges for all of Florida. Like so many public officials, I can say that Sandy has helped make me a better representative for my neighbors in Tampa and throughout Florida. I sought his counsel for Florida's future as recently as last fall. The gracious efforts by Sandy on behalf of the small and the grand, and the foundation he has laid for the legal community, higher education, his state and his country will hopefully be of some solace to Patsy and his family.

COMMENDING 2019 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENLISTED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 119 greater Richmond area high school seniors enlisting in the United States Armed Services after graduation. These students have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to academic excellence and public service. I am honored to offer my sincerest congratulations on this achievement and offer my best wishes for the years to come.

I commend the following graduates on their selflessness and bravery for choosing to serve their fellow Americans in the United States Armed Services: Caleb Alford, Jamaia Allen, Nya Banks, Ryan Beggs, David Benfield Jr., Andreas Biggers, Rosemary Brett, Kylie Cargill, Cayne Chartrand, Alexis Creighton, Tania Dawson, Jack Dewalt, Samantha Edwards, Jillian Engels, Keaton Fields, Joseph Franklin, Andrew Fulkerson, Jacob Gecsey, Maria Guevara, Tayauna Hargrove, Dylan Hicks, Kiara Holloway, Michael Humphrey,

Precious King, Elijah Knipp, Rogelio Macuno III, Michael Mays, Teshawn McDaniel, Jaeshaunda McIver, Christopher Meadows, Maurice Miles, Tatianna Montero, Perrion Neal, Jacob Parker, Ethan Parsons, Tristan Philyaw, Robert Post, Eric Rice, Jonathan Simpson, Yahsean Singleton, Marlon Spence, Trey Staub, Alexandra Stone, Larry Sutton Jr., Joshua Thomas, Matthew Vanderwerff, Nicholas Waldruff, Latrell Warren, Naziah Watson, Lianna Williams, Andrew Wood, Mark Wood Jr., Damen Banberger, William Barker, William Bizzell, Austin Bowen, Robert Brandon, Benjamin Brown, Emmanuel Cann, Alexis Costello, William Cunningham, Nicholas Curran, Robert Daniels, Probus Das, Kioana Edwards, Jackson Erley, Marcus Fuller-Collins, Sefan Garner, Patrick Goole, Ashley Gothreau, Gabriel Groseclosedurand, George Hall, Darius Harris, Arshina Hull, Ciera Johns, Connor Johnson, Francisco Johnson, Luis Kersey, Daiquan Lewis, Michael McCoy, Avery McKay, Shaqee Mills, Dylan Moore, David Price, Samuel Price, Duncan Proffitt, Forrest Rohde, Terrian Rollins, Derric Skinner, Nikolas Smith, Dante Staves, Trevor Sterrett, Timothy Thompson, Davion Tribbey, Seth Wassenberg, Austin Williams, Hunter Williams, Marcanthony Williams, Patrick Wilson, Jones Zion, Trevor Campbell, James Cappiello, Miguel Castillo-Padilla, Secoia Davis, Michael Edwards, Abigail Ford, Joseph Kamanda, Adam Lambert, Enrique Lopez, Sean McCracken, Lily Nicholson, Gabriel Reillyscheidt, Tylica Singleton, Ryan Snider, Roy Terrell, Adboul Bah, Zane Mangrum, Ethan Oliva, and John Smetek.

These students will be honored at the 4th Annual Greater Richmond area Our Community Salutes Ceremony on May 30th at Hermitage High School in Henrico, Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young women and men for courageously deciding to serve their country. We are safer and stronger because of their choice to protect the values that make us uniquely American.

STANDING UP TO DIPG

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma or DIPG is a common form of pediatric brain cancer responsible for the majority of deaths in children with brain tumors annually. In honor of Olivia Mazzell, whose life was taken far too soon by DIPG, I am grateful to cosponsor House Resolution 114, which supports the designation of May 17th as ‘DIPG Awareness Day’ to raise awareness and encourage research into cures for DIPG and pediatric cancers in general.

I would also like to recognize her grandparents Angelo and Kathy Basile and parents Jonathan Mazzell and Heather Hielt of Lexington, South Carolina, for their efforts to create greater access to helpful medications. Working together we can have a meaningful conversation about strengthening medical research to address the needs of children with cancer.

We honor the life of Olivia Mazzell, commend the tireless work of her family to raise

awareness of DIPG, and gratefully encourage fellow Members of Congress to continue prioritizing medical research for childhood cancer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REBUILD AMERICA ACT OF 2019

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Rebuild America Act of 2019. This legislation makes much-needed investments in America's roads, bridges, and transit systems by raising the federal gasoline excise tax by five cents a year for the next five years, indexing it to inflation, and expressing Congress' intention to repeal and replace the gas tax with a more sustainable funding source.

The United States faces the largest infrastructure funding gap in the world. The sector with the greatest shortfall is surface transportation, which the American Society of Civil Engineers estimates needs more than \$1.1 trillion of investment by 2025. Worse, we are paying for 2019 infrastructure with 1993 dollars. Inflation and fuel efficiency improvements have reduced the gas tax's purchasing power by more than 40 percent since it was last raised in 1993.

Today, one in five miles of highway pavement is in poor condition, and damage due to rough roads costs the average motorist \$599 a year. Americans waste nearly 100 hours a year stuck in traffic and congestion, costing the U.S. economy \$305 billion annually—an average of \$1,445 per driver. These costs fall especially hard on low-income individuals, who can't afford the unexpected burden of a blown tire, hourly wages lost to congestion, or the steadily increasing cost of transportation.

Since 2010, 35 states with legislatures controlled by both parties have voted to raise the gas tax. American families pay far more from continued neglect than a gas tax increase. Inaction will cost families \$3,400 in annual disposable income by 2025, whereas a 25-cent gas tax increase costs the average driver less than \$3.00 a week and contributes nearly \$400 billion toward upgrading roads, bridges, and transit systems. Investment in American infrastructure is the jobs bill that our economy needs and the middle class deserves. Every \$1.3 billion in infrastructure investment adds 29,000 construction jobs, yields \$2 billion in economic growth, and reduces the federal deficit by \$200 million.

This legislation is expected to invest nearly \$400 billion in the next decade for surface transportation projects and deserves inclusion in a comprehensive infrastructure package that rebuilds and renews America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. ARNIE WISHNICK

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Arnie