

major corporations support the Equality Act.

Gwyn is now employed, but there are so many others still forced to sit on the sidelines, keeping top talent out of our workforce.

The Equality Act would ensure everyone has the opportunity to earn a living and contribute to our economy, and it would send a message that we do not allow discrimination in our country.

□ 1215

HONORING DAVID KING

(Mr. RIGGLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember David King, an indomitable family man, a constituent of mine who passed away after a hard-fought battle with cancer on May 2.

David was born in Houston, Texas, but moved to Virginia in 1995 and spent over 2 decades there. He will be remembered for his lasting contribution to the Virginia wine industry and his King Family Vineyards. It is one of my favorite places for a glass of wine.

David served as a chairman of the Virginia Wine Board and worked tirelessly as a free-market advocate for vineyard agriculture and agritourism in Virginia. He leaves an enormous legacy in both the wine industry and his local Crozet community.

David is survived by his loving wife, Ellen; his six sons and daughters-in-law, Carrington and Corie, Stuart and Ali, James and Kelly; as well as his eight grandchildren.

One of David's favorite phrases was this: "A rising tide lifts all boats," and David lived by that, lifting up those around him in success.

We will miss him dearly.

HONORING IAN JACOB TRONE

(Mr. TRONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my nephew, Ian Jacob Trone, who was born May 18, 1991. This Saturday, he would have been 28 years old. But on December 31, 2016, Ian died alone in a hotel room from a fentanyl overdose.

Ian was a nice young man. He, like many of us, was destined to grow up, find a partner, and start a family. He was a huge sports fan, and like many young boys his age, he had a sense of humor, he was a friend to many.

But last year, 72,000 people died of an overdose. Almost 70 percent of those involved fentanyl. This is the most important issue in America today.

In Congress, we must be determined to end this devastation, both Democrats and Republicans.

Ian Jacob Trone left us too soon, and I will do everything in my power to

make sure we don't senselessly lose more lives to this epidemic.

ABORTION IS NOT HEALTHCARE

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced the Abortion Is Not Health Care Act. This bill amends the Internal Revenue Service's treatment of out-of-pocket abortion costs as a medical expense.

This bill was drafted after receiving feedback from my constituents that they no longer wanted their tax dollars to support the abortion industry.

It is unfathomable to me that my Democratic colleagues in Congress continue to not only condone the practice of abortion but allow taxpayer dollars to subsidize this abhorrent practice.

For years, the pro-abortion movement has marketed abortion as a form of reproductive healthcare, but it is time for us to be honest with ourselves. Healthcare is primarily a restorative function, one that helps our bodies and minds to heal from disease or ailment.

Under no circumstances should healthcare include the intentional taking of life.

The Abortion Is Not Health Care Act is a small step towards ending the Federal Government's treatment of abortion as a healing medical practice.

I am happy that several of my colleagues and many pro-life groups, including March for Life, Family Research Council, Eagle Forum, Center for Arizona Policy, Arizona Right to Life, and others have endorsed this bill.

As Members of Congress, we have a duty to protect life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to uphold the call for human dignity at all stages of life, including while still in the womb, and support the Abortion is Not Health Care Act.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

(Mrs. AXNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. AXNE. Mr. Speaker, Iowans are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of prescription drugs.

A teacher in Farragut, who has had diabetes for 20 years, is spending over \$750 a month for insulin. That is a third of her take-home pay, and she needs a second job just to cover her costs.

A woman from West Des Moines wrote to me that her medication used to cost \$50 for a 90-day supply and now that price has gone to \$1,000. Her family found they can buy the same medication in Canada for \$60.

In fact, Americans pay more for prescription drugs than any other country in the world. Brand-name drug manufacturers are gaming the system to reap profits and they are using delay tactics to prevent generic companies

from bringing the same drugs to market.

I ran for Congress to protect Iowans, not Big Pharma. This bill will help bring generics to market quicker to lower the cost for consumers and save billions in taxpayer dollars.

No one should ever have to decide between putting food on the table and taking their medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation to lower the cost of prescription drugs for all Iowans and Americans.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER BAUMANN

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Baumann, a high school senior from my district who was named the recipient of the Good Citizen Award by the Illinois Daughters of the American Revolution.

This year, over 400 high school seniors submitted essays for the DAR Good Citizenship scholarship application. Among these, district DAR chapters identified one student as the person who best exemplifies dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their area.

Jennifer was selected from Mt. Zion High School as the representative for the Stephen Decatur Chapter and attended the Illinois State DAR Conference, where she was named the statewide winner of the Good Citizen Award.

By all accounts, Jennifer demonstrates well the attributes of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. She is active in nearly every aspect of student life in her high school, where she is the captain of all three of her varsity teams: cross-country, basketball, and track and field. She also serves as the President of the National Honor Society and treasurer of the Student Council, and even finds time to dedicate to volunteering with both the Key Club and her church.

She plans to study speech, language, and hearing sciences at the University of Arizona in the fall.

I am proud to recognize outstanding students in my district, including Jennifer. I congratulate her on this prestigious honor.

HEAD START GIVES CHILDREN A BRIGHTER FUTURE

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Head Start program turns 54. Since this life-changing education program was created in 1965, it has served millions of children, giving them and their families a brighter future.

Head Start and Early Head Start provides comprehensive early childhood

education, health, nutrition, social services to low-income children and their families. It is one of the most important investments that we can make to make sure our children have the greatest opportunities to succeed.

It is particularly important and crucial to my hometown of Flint, Michigan, where early childhood education is the most important thing we can do to help children mitigate the effects of lead exposure.

I am really proud of the school districts in Michigan who host this incredible program and provide wrap-around services to children and to their parents.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the teachers, the workers, and the volunteers who support our Head Start kids every day.

To keep Head Start working, we have to fully fund this program in Congress. Support for Head Start is bipartisan. We need to continue that. We need to make sure that we fully fund this program.

I celebrate the success of Head Start. We ought to make sure that every child that seeks that sort of early childhood education has an opportunity to have it.

HONORING BOB MAXWELL

(Mr. WALDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of an American hero who I was honored to call my friend, Bob Maxwell of Bend, Oregon, who passed away last weekend at the age of 98.

Bob Maxwell represented the best of what Oregon and America had to offer. Bob was the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient in our country, and his gallantry was well known.

On the night of September 7, 1944, in France, Bob Maxwell threw his unprotected body on top of a German hand grenade to protect the lives of his comrades in World War II.

This unhesitating selflessness earned Bob Maxwell America's highest military honor. It earned him his second Silver Star, a second Purple Heart, and a Bronze Star.

For those who had the pleasure of knowing Bob, as I did, they know that his bravery and heroism were only matched by his kindness, his warmth, his sense of humor, and his humility.

Bob once said of his Medal of Honor: "I am not wearing the medal for any personal deeds. I am wearing it because it represents all the casualties we had in the war. It represents those who were killed defending their country and the ideals that they believed in."

Like his fellow soldiers, Bob's service will forever be cherished in the country that he sacrificed so much to protect.

Bob's legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of everyone he interacted with, and especially in his community in central Oregon, where Bob Maxwell was a pillar.

To the entire Maxwell family, Mylene and I send our heartfelt condolences and prayers during this difficult time of loss.

URGENT NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

(Mr. DELGADO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Infrastructure Week and call attention to the urgent need for investment in rural areas like mine in upstate New York.

As an example, every time I am home in my district, I hear from folks about the need to invest in infrastructure to help our family farmers succeed.

When farmers drive their livestock or dairy products down to New York City or the immediately surrounding areas, they need bridges and roads they can rely on, structures that can carry product without potholes or fear of collapse.

But infrastructure does not just mean bridges, roads, and seaports. It means access to markets through high-speed internet.

Astoundingly, 25 million Americans lack rural broadband. This means 25 million Americans who own small businesses, operate small farms, want to apply for college online, or do homework, or access lifesaving medicine cannot, because they lack internet access.

This week, I was proud to launch, with the leadership of Whip CLYBURN, a task force on rural broadband.

I am ready to partner with folks on both sides of the aisle to address the need to rebuild our infrastructure and access broadband both in upstate New York and across the country.

Let's get this done.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, May is Mental Health Month, a time when we are encouraged to break down the stigmas that surround mental health.

Normalizing conversations about depression, anxiety, and other conditions will help those affected by mental illness seek the quality care that they need and deserve.

One group that is overwhelmingly impacted by mental health disorders is veterans.

Unfortunately, we know that about 22 veterans commit suicide each and every day.

Congress understands how dire the situation has become and is working diligently to find a solution. Fortunately, we have made progress over the past few years.

Last year's passage of the VA Mission Act significantly increased the

care available to our veterans, ensuring they have access to a medical professional before resorting to suicide.

This is a step in the right direction, but more can certainly be done.

These men and women answer the call of duty, and as a Nation, we must care for them when they return home.

Until veteran suicide rates dwindle to zero, I will continue to work with my colleagues to support veterans' mental health programs.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 16, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 16, 2019, at 9:54 a.m.:

Appointment:
Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

MARKETING AND OUTREACH RESTORATION TO EMPOWER HEALTH EDUCATION ACT OF 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on H.R. 987, the Strengthening Health Care and Lowering Prescription Drug Costs Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TRONE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 377 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 987.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1229

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 987) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal Exchange outreach and educational activities, with Mr. LANGEVIN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.