

of Cadets. A trailblazer, Cadet Meredith will be the first woman to hold the position in the Institute's 181-year history.

As Regimental Commander, Cadet Meredith will oversee the training, discipline, fitness, and morale of the Corps. She currently is a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Officers Training Program. Upon her graduation and successful completion of the program, Cadet Meredith will receive her commission as a Second Lieutenant of Marines.

Cadet Kasey Meredith's selection as Regimental Commander is a testament to her strong academic performance, determination, and leadership. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to recognize outstanding Pennsylvanians as they answer the call to serve our nation. I proudly congratulate Cadet Meredith on earning this well-deserved position and wish her every continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present for one of the votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 109.

HONORING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STEUBEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the 225th anniversary of the Steuben County Sheriffs Office, and the legacy of the office's public service and dedication to public safety.

The Steuben County Sheriffs Office was constitutionally established in 1796, with William Dunn being sworn in as Sheriff on March 31, 1796. From 1796 until 1873, the Steuben County Sheriffs Office was the only law enforcement agency serving the county. The longest serving Sheriff was Jack Lisi, who served from 1970 to 1987.

Sheriff James Allard is the current sheriff of the county and is the fifty-ninth Sheriff to serve in office. James has a strong commitment to serving his community and became Under-sheriff of the county in 2013. He was elected as Sheriff in 2016.

We are honored to be able to recognize the Steuben County Sheriffs Office in this way. The Steuben County Sheriffs Office has provided service and safety to the communities it served for hundreds of years and should be honored for that service. We cannot forget the great personal risk and dedication each Sheriff showed during their service. Today, we stand and honor those efforts before the eyes of America.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor the 225th anniversary of the Steuben

County Sheriff's Office, and the legacy of the office's public service and dedication to public safety.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN ELIZABETH FURSE

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse, who represented the people of Oregon's First District in this chamber from 1993 to 1999.

I am privileged to have called Elizabeth a friend and a mentor. My first experience volunteering for a political campaign was when I made calls and knocked on doors working for her Congressional race for re-election in 1994. She inspired dedication to worthy causes, including co-founding the Oregon Peace Institute, and embodied the traits all public servants should strive to uphold—to meet the needs of their community and drive meaningful change. Her trailblazing example helped shape my life and my career, and the lives of so many others.

Elizabeth was only the third woman to represent Oregon in the House of Representatives, and as an immigrant she was fully committed to protecting the rights of all. Her start in advocacy came at a young age in Kenya, and in her youth she courageously participated in the protests against apartheid in South Africa. From there she continued to grow as a leader and advocate, pursuing a career path that allowed her to serve as a fierce champion for tribal sovereignty, social justice, and peace. She aided countless people during her time in Congress and throughout her life, and her many achievements include helping the Grand Ronde, Klamath, and Coquille tribes gain federal recognition, as well as increasing access to public transportation in our region by extending light rail service to Hillsboro. After leaving Congress, Elizabeth continued to stay involved in her community and enjoyed spending time with her husband John at their winery.

Our world, and especially NW Oregon, is a better place because of Elizabeth's tireless devotion to improving the lives of those around her. Let us continue to serve others in her memory.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF FORMER JUSTICE GREGORY K. SCOTT

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congressman Ed Perlmutter, Congressman Jason Crow, and Congressman Joe Neguse, to recognize the life and accomplishments of the first and only African American to serve on our state's highest court, former Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory K. Scott who passed away on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at the age of 72.

Justice Scott graduated from Rutgers University before attending law school at Indiana University. In 1977, he and his wife Carolyn, also an attorney, moved to Denver so that Scott could start his new position as a trial attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's regional office. Later, Scott joined the faculty at University of Denver's Sturm College of Law as a professor, where he taught numerous students about securities and corporate law. While making their life in Denver, the couple welcomed two sons, both of whom sadly preceded them in death.

In 1993, then Governor Roy Romer appointed Scott to the Colorado Supreme Court, making him the first—and thus far the only—African American to serve at the highest level of our state's judiciary. During his time on the bench, Justice Scott participated in 1,000 decisions, some notable ones including *Evans v. Romer*, which involved the court stepping in to stop enforcement of a ban that infringed the rights of our gay and lesbian Coloradans, and also *Hill v. Thomas*, a decision he penned himself to uphold the state law I wrote to mandate an 8-foot buffer zone between protesters and individuals trying to gain entrance into Colorado abortion clinics. I am proud to note that the U.S. Supreme Court later upheld this decision, finding the same truth we hold so dear in Colorado, that rights of speech and access to reproductive care can both be vigorously protected.

Justice Scott served admirably both inside and outside of the courtroom, especially when it came to championing the civil rights causes he cherished deeply. While living in Denver, he took pride in mentoring law students, especially law students of color, who believed as he did—as we all do—that diversity in the legal profession is vital to the best interests of clients, whether corporate or individual, and every Coloradan. Additionally, Scott was active with the local NAACP chapter, the Urban League, and the Sam Cary Bar Association. Even in his retirement years, Scott continued answering the call to serve. After moving to his wife's hometown in Indiana, he became the executive director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission.

Justice Scott has been remembered by friends and former colleagues as a "giant" in Colorado's legal community with a brilliant legal mind and a profound respect for the rule of law. Truly, he will always be remembered for his lasting legacy on our state's supreme court, but also as a bowtie-wearing jurist who was as likable as he was learned, and as socially conscious as he was compassionate. We send our heartfelt condolences to his wife Carolyn and to the entire Scott family, as well as to the Coloradans who are saddened by his loss.

IN MEMORY OF NANCY HICKS SHEETZ

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my friend Nancy Hicks Sheetz of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, who passed away on April 16.

Nancy Hicks Sheetz was an incredible community leader whose dedication defined our

region's art and culture landscape. As a lifelong supporter of the theater community, Nancy worked tirelessly to advocate for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. She was an outstanding artist, actress, and musician who used her talents to bless others.

A lifelong Blair County resident, Nancy was born on July 9, 1935 in East Freedom and attended Altoona High School, where she was elected president of her class and graduated in 1953. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother whose compassion and care for her family was evident to everyone she met. In addition to her artistic pursuits, Nancy served the Altoona community as a member of the Blair County Historical Society. We also shared a love of gardening.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to celebrate the life of Nancy Hicks Sheetz and honor her legacy. She leaves a profound void in the community that I share alongside all who knew her. As we remember Nancy for her many contributions to Blair County and our commonwealth, I extend my deepest condolences to the Sheetz family.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND ROY L. FERGUSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson, a beloved pastor and active community leader who passed away at the age of 76 on April 15, 2021. In 1983, Rev. Ferguson was elected Pastor of Saint John Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he served his congregation valiantly for 38 years. Demonstrating a continued dedication to public service, Rev. Ferguson contributed to the lives of many through mentorship and ministry, lifting spirits and soothing troubled souls.

Born on July 16, 1945, in Pickensville, Alabama, Rev. Ferguson graduated from Mississippi Valley College, where he studied physical education. He continued his education attending Birmingham Bible College and Samford University. In 1978, Rev. Ferguson answered the call to ministry under the leadership of Dr. J.C. Curry, Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan. Shortly after, Rev. Ferguson's employer transferred him to Tuscaloosa, where he began his tenure as an associate minister at Saint John Baptist Church in 1982. He married Coleen Hudson, and together they had seven children.

Rev. Ferguson was a dedicated public servant who contributed to the progression of Civil and Human Rights through his positions as a board member of the State Southern Christian Leadership Conference, President Emeritus of the Tuscaloosa County Chapter Southern Christian Conference, and President of Tuscaloosa Ministerial Alliance. Expanding his influence outside of ministry, Rev. Ferguson gave back to the Tuscaloosa community by acting as a mentor in the Stars Program at Tuscaloosa City Schools and Tuscaloosa Juvenile Detention Center. He lived his life by example, encouraging the members of his community

and congregation to live up to their full potential in Christ.

Throughout his life, Rev. Ferguson prioritized the importance of teaching the next generation about Black history. He believed that if we are to truly bring about change in this Nation, it is our responsibility to preserve the legacy of those on whose shoulders we stand.

On a personal note, I am eternally grateful for the support, friendship, and wise counsel that Rev. Ferguson and his dedicated wife Coleen always extend to me. The amazing congregation of St. John Baptist Church was a special refuge to my staff and I and will always be a comforting source of love and support. I am forever indebted to Rev. Ferguson for representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District at the National Day of Prayer in Washington, D.C. I could always count on Rev. Ferguson to extend his ministry for the good of our community. I was constantly reminded by the example that Rev. Ferguson set on how to extend favor and fulfillment to others. May we find comfort in knowing that the legacy of Rev. Ferguson will live in the many people that he touched. Let us be renewed by his giving spirit to make a difference in our communities. Rest In Peace.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson and his outstanding contributions to the Tuscaloosa community.

SHARK FIN SALES ELIMINATION ACT OF 2021

HON. GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, on Earth Day 2021, together with Rep. MCCAUL and 103 other original cosponsors, I am reintroducing the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

The Act bans the buying and selling of shark fins in the United States and passed in the 116th Congress with bipartisan support and, ultimately, 287 cosponsors. It was the largest number of cosponsors for any ocean conservation bill in the previous Congress.

The Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act has such strong bipartisan support, because it is an effective way to remove the United States from the devastating global trade in shark fins, at no cost. And because it does so without stopping those who want to fish for sharks and use them whole.

Madam Speaker, sharks are absolutely critical to life in the ocean. As apex predators, they help maintain balance by keeping prey populations in check. They are also critical to the tourism economy of our coastal communities. In Florida alone, tourists, who go diving to see sharks, generate more than 200 times the value of the trade in shark fins for our entire country.

Despite their importance ecologically and economically, sharks are in serious trouble. Each year, fins from up to 73 million sharks are sliced off and sold in the global marketplace. And, largely due to this demand for fins, some shark species have now declined by more than 90 percent.

Our nation has wisely banned the inhumane practice of finning sharks and throwing them back into the ocean to die. Yet, we still allow fins to be bought and sold here. And many of the fins we are buying and selling come from countries that simply do not have the same level of protection the U.S. gives sharks.

Now is time for us to take that next step. Only by banning the shark fin trade once and for all within our borders can we ensure we are no longer supporting an unsustainable use of ocean resources.

Recognizing this unsustainability, the Northern Mariana Islands, my home, was the very first U.S. insular area to ban the trade of shark fins in 2011. As an island culture 3,000 years old, the people of the Marianas understand and respect the important role that sharks play in maintaining the life of our oceans.

We are not alone. Thirteen U.S. states and three territories have also passed their own shark fin bans. But this patchwork of state laws can be challenging to enforce. That is why we need a federal ban on the shark fin trade in the United States.

A ban on the shark fin trade is supported by 45 domestic and international airlines, by 22 shipping companies, 15 major corporations, and nearly 700 U.S. businesses and organizations. A 2020 national poll found 4 of 5 American voters support a national ban on the buying and selling of shark fins. Hundreds of scientists, chefs, fishers, and dive and surf businesses have written to Congress requesting passage of a national shark fin ban.

I want, especially, to thank Oceana, the Humane Society Legislative Fund, and the Animal Welfare Institute for those environmental organizations' work to build legislative support for the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

I look forward to quick action in the House on the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2021.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 130. I would like to reflect how I would have voted.

On roll call vote number 130, I would have voted YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 99; YEA on Roll Call No. 100; YEA on Roll Call No. 101; NAY on Roll Call No. 102; and NAY on Roll Call No. 103.