than two years in the House's Office of General Counsel as a Deputy General Counsel. During her tenure, Ms. Barbero played an integral role in safeguarding the legal interests of the House of Representatives and its Members, Officers, and employees in connection with federal court litigation involving issues of the highest institutional importance. Specifically, Ms. Barbero provided invaluable legal counsel and representation to numerous Committees of the House, greatly assisting them both in fulfilling their constitutionally authorized oversight functions and defending those prerogatives in litigation.

In particular, Ms, Barbero significantly contributed to the development and execution of a complex legal and litigation strategy to protect and defend the authority of the Committees on Oversight and Reform, Judiciary, Financial Services, Ways and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to enforce in federal court compliance with congressional subpoenas for personal and business records of the President, as well as to obtain, by compulsion, official documents and testimony from the White House and other agencies of the Executive Branch. Ms. Barbero's extensive contributions to the drafting of the written briefs and her performance at numerous oral arguments in these cases were demonstrations of the finest legal advocacy.

Additionally, Ms. Barbero provided vital legal counsel to the House regarding both presidential impeachments, and with respect to the defense of longstanding institutional prerogatives, including the House's constitutional authority under the Appropriations and Rulemaking Clauses.

Ms. Barbero's work on behalf of the House has been of the highest caliber and I have no doubt that the Securities and Exchange Commission will benefit from her outstanding legal counsel. On behalf of the entire House community, I thank Ms. Barbero for her dedicated service to the House and I wish for her the very best in all of her future endeavors.

RETIREMENT OF RON MILLER

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the Labor Caucus, I rise today to commend Ron Miller, the Executive Secretary of Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, for his years of service. The Building and Construction Trades Council represents 150,000 skilled construction workers in 14 trades and 48 affiliated unions and district councils. Throughout his time with the council, Ron has helped advocate for workers and fought for education, opportunities, and jobs.

Ron, a 43-year member of the United Association and Pipe trades, rose from the rank-and-file of the building trades. He served as business representatives for UA Plumbers Local 78 and became executive secretary of the Building and Construction Trades Council in 2012. After 9 years of leading the building trades, and 43 years of working for unions, Ron retired on August 1, 2021.

As executive secretary, Ron led negotiations for billions of dollars' worth of project labor agreements with public and private entities. Through his work, Ron helped guarantee that a skilled and trained workforce from building trades affiliated unions would be on the job. Many of the agreements that Ron worked on renew into 2025 and beyond, ensuring that his work will continue to help workers for years to come.

Ron led the building trades in fighting for change to benefit working people. Throughout his time, Ron helped the building trades in efforts to fund education, affordable housing, and mass transit. Under Ron's leadership, the Council created the nonprofit Apprenticeship Readiness Fund. This fund coordinates more than 15 grassroots programs that facilitate entry to apprenticeship and lifelong trades careers. In doing so, Ron has helped the building trades drive economic equity and guarantee that there are avenues to pass on skills to the next generation.

Although Ron has retired, I am confident that his legacy will live on in the victories that he has fought hard for and delivered on. I am so grateful for the opportunity to have worked with Ron, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY AREA COVID–19 RESPONSE TEAM

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the valiant efforts of the COVID–19 Response Team of the Androscoggin Valley Area of Coos County, New Hampshire. This group was formed in the early days of the pandemic in 2020.

Recognizing that this would take an all-in effort, the team consisted of healthcare professionals, regional social service organizations, community EMTs, educational professionals, and both the state and Federal detention facilities in the area.

While working together, this group was able to rapidly assess the spread of the pandemic and quickly formulate plans to mitigate further transmission. Initially this group concentrated on testing and contact tracing for positive tests. Soon after, local hot spots were quickly determined. Their work to promote quarantine efforts helped to slow the pandemic's progress. This outreach took in local nursing homes, social services, schools, local businesses, and more.

Maintaining social distancing mandates, the team met virtually, almost daily, to assess current county and state statistics and decide on what the next steps would be; all the while waiting on the creation and release of a vaccine.

Throughout the pandemic, this multi-disciplined group of individuals has met every challenge and managed to stay ahead of every curve. While there have been recent spikes in cases, case counts remain below state and national percentages.

It is with pride and my honor to recognize this community-minded group of individuals as heroes of the COVID–19 pandemic.

HONORING OLYMPIAN MADELYN (MADDY) BERNAU OF WATERFORD

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Madelyn (Maddy) Bernau. A native of Waterford, Wisconsin, Maddy competed for Team USA at the 2020 Olympics held this year in Tokyo. Maddy was a member of Team USA's Shooting Team and competed in the women's trap and mixed team trap shooting. At 23 years old, Maddy became the first Wisconsinite to win an Olympic trapshooting medal on July 31, 2021.

Maddy's training, skill, and strong composure helped her secure a bronze medal during the mixed trap shooting competition. Maddy and her teammate Brian Burrows were up against strong competition from the Slovakian team. The match came down to a shoot-off between the Americans and the Slovakians. A miss by the Slovakians gave Maddy the window of opportunity she needed to win the shoot-off. Seizing the opportunity, Maddy pulled the trigger and hit the target, securing the Olympic bronze medal for her team and for America.

Shooting clay targets is something Maddy has been perfecting since the age of 12. At Waterford High School, Maddy was a standout. She would go on to attend Martin Methodist College in Tennessee where she would compete in trap shooting at the collegiate level and earn a degree in biology and biomedical sciences. In June of 2018, Maddy won her first international competition as a member of the USA Shooting Team, securing a gold medal in the women's trap at the International Junior Grand Prix in Porpetto, Italy. In March of 2020, Maddy earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic trap shooting team. Her goal of representing the United States on the Olympic stage would become a reality.

Maddy represented the United States and Southeast Wisconsin with honor. She made both her country and community proud with her composure, talents, and determination, While this is her first Olympic medal, Maddy already has her sights set on the next target, the 2024 Olympics. I know southeast Wisconsin will be backing her 100%.

Maddy's hard work and determination throughout the years led to this historic success. I was proud to watch Maddy represent Wisconsin and the United States on the world stage.

On behalf of Wisconsin's First Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Maddy on her tremendous accomplishment and wish her the best of luck.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 4, THE JOHN R. LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4—the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. Growing up in

Selma, Alabama, under the shadow of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the history of the Civil Rights Movement was not something I had to learn in school. The foot soldiers of the movement were not names or pictures in a history book. They were a vital and vibrant part of my community—they were my school teachers, church members and my neighbors.

The Edmund Pettus Bridge loomed large over my hometown of Selma, serving as a constant reminder, not only of Bloody Sunday, but of the national movement that ultimately led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Fifty-six years later, the cause for which the foot soldiers, like our beloved colleague John Lewis, marched, bled and some died for, is now our cause too. Today, old battles have become new again as we face the most pernicious assault on the right to vote in generations. It's clear: federal oversight is urgently needed. By preventing states with a recent history of voter discrimination from restricting the right to vote, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act restores the full promise of our democracy and advances the legacy of those brave foot soldiers like John Lewis who dedicated their lives for the sacred right to vote.

Over eight years ago, the Supreme Court's Shelby County v. Holder decision gutted key provisions of the Voting Rights Act that, for decades, prevented states from enacting discriminatory and restrictive voter suppression laws. In her dissent, Justice Ginsburg wrote that ''throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.'' Justice Ginsburg was right, and over eight years later, we are drenched to the bone.

Driven by the Big Lie, state lawmakers have introduced over 400 bills in 49 states just this year that would restrict the right to vote. In 18 states, these anti-voter bills have already been signed into law. These laws are intended to allow politicians to pick and choose whose voices are heard by subjecting voters to longer lines, inaccessible polling places, strict voter ID requirements, broken voting machines, and purges of voter rolls.

Furthermore, earlier this summer, the Supreme Court weakened another essential section of the Voting Rights Act in the Brnovich decision by upholding Arizona's discriminatory voter restrictions intended to target Latino and other minority voters.

Let me be clear: Today our nation faces a critical juncture. As President Biden said, this represents the most significant test of our democracy since the Civil War. Without congressional action to restore and modernize the Voting Rights Act, a fundamental pillar of our great democracy will crumble.

But we have a solution. H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act will restore and modernize key provisions of the VRA which were gutted by the Supreme Court.

Most importantly, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act provides Federal oversight of states and political subdivisions that have a significant and recent history of voting rights violations by requiring those with a specific number of repeated violations in the preceding 25 years to receive preclearance. The bill also provides for a practice-based preclearance coverage to target those jurisdictions that have enacted measures that have historically been used to suppress the right to vote.

Moreover, H.R. 4 clarifies Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act in response to the Supreme Court's recent Brnovich decision where it improperly changed congressional intent behind the standard for determining vote denial cases under the VRA. Other principal provisions of H.R. 4 include increased transparency and notice requirements for states and political subdivisions, strengthened protections for voters before certain discriminatory laws have been implemented, and expanded authority for use of federal election observers.

As a daughter of Selma and the Congresswoman who represents the Civil Rights District, I know the injustices suffered on the Edmund Pettus Bridge have not yet been fully vindicated. Progress is elusive, and every generation must fight and fight again to preserve the progress of the past and advance it. This is our generation's time to act to protect our democracy.

The need for Congress to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act has never been more urgent.

From our dear friend and colleague John Lewis, we learned of the importance of getting into necessary trouble—''good trouble.'' Now more than ever, it is time for Congress to act to preserve our democracy—to get into ''good trouble'' for the people.

I urge all my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, to vote in favor of H.R. 4 and to restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act.