

NATIONAL LIBERTY MEMORIAL
PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6201, the "National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act."

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and in the process, began one of humankind's most inhumane practices: human bondage and slavery. For two centuries, human beings—full of hopes and fears, dreams and concerns, ambition and anguish—were transported onto ships like chattel, and the lives of many forever changed.

The reverberations from this horrific series of acts—a transatlantic slave trade that touched the shores of a colony that came to be known as America, and later a democratic republic known as the United States of America—are not fully recognized and remain worthy of further exploration. Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved from 1619 to 1865 in the Americas and thereafter in the United States.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865. American slavery is our country's original sin and its existence at the birth of our nation is a permanent scar on our country's founding principles and documents, as well as on the venerated authors of those documents. It is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for the Constitution and our country to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths of a person. The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose gatherings, the beatings at lunch counters; and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil War.

"The mythology built around the Civil War—that victory by the North eradicated slavery and all of its vestiges throughout our nation—has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain data that permits us to examine how a subset of Americans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

By the end of the Civil War, roughly 179,000 black men (10 percent of the Union Army) served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another 19,000 served in the Navy. Nearly 40,000 black soldiers died over the course of

the war—30,000 of whom died of infection or disease. Black soldiers served in artillery and infantry units and performed all noncombat support functions that sustain an army, as well. Black carpenters, chaplains, cooks, guards, laborers, nurses, scouts, spies, steamboat pilots, surgeons, and teamsters also contributed to the war cause.

There were nearly 80 black commissioned officers. Black women, who could not formally join the Army, nonetheless served as nurses, spies, and scouts, the most famous being Harriet Tubman, who scouted for the 2d South Carolina Volunteers.

Because of prejudice against them, black units were not used in combat as extensively as they might have been. Nevertheless, the soldiers served with distinction in a number of battles. Black infantrymen fought gallantly at Milliken's Bend, LA; Port Hudson, LA; Petersburg, VA; and Nashville, TN. The July 1863 assault on Fort Wagner, SC, in which the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers lost two-thirds of their officers and half of their troops, was memorably dramatized in the film *Glory*. By war's end, 16 black soldiers had been awarded the Medal of Honor for their valor.

In addition to the perils of war faced by all Civil War soldiers, black soldiers faced additional problems stemming from racial prejudice. Racial discrimination was prevalent even in the North, and discriminatory practices permeated the U.S. military. Segregated units were formed with black enlisted men and typically commanded by white officers and black noncommissioned officers.

The 54th Massachusetts was commanded by Robert Shaw and the 1st South Carolina by Thomas Wentworth Higginson—both white. Black soldiers were initially paid \$10 per month from which \$3 was automatically deducted for clothing, resulting in a net pay of \$7. In contrast, white soldiers received \$13 per month from which no clothing allowance was drawn. In June 1864 Congress granted equal pay to the U.S. Colored Troops and made the action retroactive. Black soldiers received the same rations and supplies. In addition, they received comparable medical care.

The black troops, however, faced greater peril than white troops when captured by the Confederate Army. In 1863 the Confederate Congress threatened to severely punish officers of black troops and to enslave black soldiers. As a result, President Lincoln issued General Order 233, threatening reprisal on Confederate prisoners of war (POWs) for any mistreatment of black troops. Although the threat generally restrained the Confederates, black captives were typically treated more harshly than white captives.

In perhaps the most heinous known example of abuse, Confederate soldiers shot to death black Union soldiers captured at the Fort Pillow, TN, engagement of 1864. Confederate General Nathan B. Forrest witnessed the massacre and did nothing to stop it.

Madam Speaker, it is obvious that this chamber needs to pass this legislation to honor these soldiers' lives. Black people's labor and service must be amplified because it often goes intentionally overlooked, and this legislation is key in righting that historical wrong.

I am proud to support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do as well.

HONORING SPECIAL OPERATIONS
SUPERVISOR VINCENT DULESKY**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of our finest.

I would like to commemorate Special Operations Supervisor Vincent Dulesky, who passed away on April 1, 2022. Supervisor Dulesky was the head of public affairs at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Yuma Sector Headquarters.

Supervisor Dulesky was born on June 15, 1974 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was a great boxer and earned a college wrestling scholarship. He attended Arizona Western College and the University of Phoenix.

He proudly served this country in the United States Marine Corps. He also worked as a Border Patrol agent in Ajo, Arizona and as a supervisor in Blythe, California.

My office staff met with Supervisor Dulesky a number of times and found him to be very informative and professional. He was cheerful, friendly and down-to-earth, a real man of the people. But what struck them most about Supervisor Dulesky was his sense of duty—the feeling that his profession was more than a job—it was a vocation or calling.

But Supervisor Dulesky was not just a great athlete and superb law enforcement officer. He had a softer side. He bonded with his family through his fandom of the Kansas City Chiefs. He was a farmer, had pet chickens, and loved to cook. And he was constantly smiling and laughing—but always accompanied with an outstretched hand to help.

Especially in these times of crisis on a southern border, the competence and care that Supervisor Dulesky never ceased to exhibit every day will be sorely missed. But nothing can compare to what this loss means for his family.

I would like his loved ones, his beloved wife Barbie, and children, Chloe, 25, Jaden, 19, Delilah, 11, and Gigi, 10, to know that they are in my prayers. Even though I know that they do not need me to tell them this, they should be incredibly proud of their husband and father's service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, due to an unforeseen conflict, I missed Roll Call No. 126. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 126.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARTHAGE COLLEGE MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ON APRIL 23, 2022

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Carthage College men's volleyball team. On April 23, the Carthage Firebirds won the NCAA Division III National Championship. The Firebirds played in a tough 16-team tournament to reach the top. They dominated their competition, beating Mount Union College, Dominican University, and Wentworth Institute of Technology all without losing a single set.

In the final, Carthage faced #1 ranked Springfield College and won, 3 sets to 1. The Firebirds succeeded in the regular season and the tournament. They earned a well-deserved championship—a remarkable accomplishment in its own right—but this is Carthage's second championship in as many years. The Firebirds defended their title and beat the top-ranked team in the country to do it. They played the championship at their home arena, where Carthage students and fans helped cheer the Firebirds to victory.

Congratulations to Coach JW Kieckhefer, the Firebirds team, and the entire Carthage College community on this achievement. Best of luck to the Firebirds' men's volleyball team on their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAY ZAVALA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jay Zavala, as he is named the 2022 Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce.

Jay moved to Falmouth, Massachusetts, in 2000, and has since established himself as a pillar of the community through his extensive involvement with the town over the past two decades. Jay, a veteran of the Vietnam War, writes, produces, and hosts the Town of Falmouth's Annual Veterans Appreciation Breakfast each year. With a knack for TV production, Jay also sits on the Falmouth Community Television Advisory Council and works as a FCTV production volunteer.

After being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2016, Jay joined the American Parkinson Disease Association Massachusetts Chapter, and was later elected Vice President of the chapter. In recognition of Jay's advocacy on behalf of individuals with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, Jay was named the 2021 honoree for the third annual APDA MA-Cape Cod Optimism Walk.

Following a career in government contracting, corporate marketing and sales, and independent business consulting, Jay applied his professional expertise and commitment to community service to a series of productive pursuits. Jay served as President and CEO of the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce, Chair of

the Continuing and Adult Education Advisory Committee of Upper Cape Regional Technical School, and Vice Chair of the Cape Cod Commission. Further, Jay has served on the board of directors for several local organizations, including Friends of Fairwinds Clubhouse, Falmouth Housing Trust, Open Cape Corporation, and the Falmouth Economic Development and Industrial Corporation. Through his civic engagement, Jay has devoted his life to supporting and bettering his community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Jay Zavala and ask that my colleagues join me in commending him for his many years of dedication and service to the Cape Cod community and our country.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation.

SD-106

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Department of State authorization, focusing on strengthening U.S. diplomacy for the 21st century.

SD-419/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

To hold hearings to examine connecting workers and communities, focusing on preparing and supporting the broadband workforce.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine medical mistreatment of women in ICE detention.

SD-562

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights

To hold hearings to examine an ethical judiciary, focusing on transparency and accountability for 21st century courts.

SD-226

12 noon

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Dara Lindenbaum, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

S-219

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Internal Revenue Service.

SD-138

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the VA workforce, focusing on assessing ways to bolster recruitment and retention.

SR-418

MAY 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-138

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Energy.

SD-192

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-106