

movement for civil rights. Those students exhibited great bravery in the face of violence from counter protesters. All the while, they remained peaceful and undeterred.

Their peaceful protest left a legacy that shaped the Civil Rights Movement. That sit-in, and hundreds that followed, led to the 1960s Civil Rights Act, a crucial step toward dismantling segregation.

Today, that very Woolworth Building is the location of Greensboro's amazing International Civil Rights Center and Museum, which still contains that lunch counter and enshrines this movement in history, commemorating the actions of the Greensboro Four and all who joined them. That museum was recently denied a shuttered operator grant.

Last year, I joined my fellow North Carolina Representatives, ALMA ADAMS and G.K. BUTTERFIELD, in leading a congressional resolution to honor the Greensboro Four. The resolution encourages all States to teach the history of the Greensboro Four sit-in in their educational curriculum.

I was proud to reintroduce that resolution with Representatives ADAMS and BUTTERFIELD again this year on the 62nd anniversary of the sit-in.

This Black History Month, and all year long, it is vital that we recognize the countless contributions of Black Americans and the work that remains to end racism and ensure equality and justice for all.

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I am proud to be the representative of the city of Greensboro and all of North Carolina's Triad Sixth District. I will do everything I can to preserve this history, honor our civil rights heroes, and combat racism and discrimination in all forms.

As we reflect on this event, it is important to recognize that even with the odds stacked against these students, they never lost hope. They saw our Nation broken and segregated. They faced hatred every day, but they persevered and successfully led a movement that changed the Nation.

Today, we draw inspiration and hope from the Greensboro Four.

#### CHINA COMPETITIVENESS BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns with H.R. 4521. I want to talk for a moment not about China but about Licking County, Ohio, and the district I represent.

Licking County, located on the outskirts of Columbus, was cast into the national spotlight last month when a major U.S. tech company announced an initial \$20 billion investment to build the first phase of what they plan to grow into the world's largest semiconductor manufacturing facility. This investment will put Licking County at

the epicenter of a new silicon heartland and at the forefront of addressing the Nation's semiconductor shortage.

This investment will have an economic ripple effect throughout the region. Indeed, it will benefit our entire country.

Semiconductor chips are crucial components to products Americans use every day, including cars, computers, cell phones, and virtually every electronic device in our homes. Since the early 1990s, the United States' share of semiconductor manufacturing has fallen from 37 percent to just 12 percent today. Asian countries now account for more than 70 percent of semiconductor chip manufacturing globally.

The COVID-19 pandemic and its following supply chain disruptions have brought this issue to the forefront for every American. One concern for Americans in the market for a new car is the empty lots of dealerships as automobile production lines wait for chips from Asia.

Failing to address the shortage of semiconductor chips could have dire consequences for our national security. With production of U.S. military defense systems dependent upon access to these chips, overreliance on foreign countries leaves U.S. national security interests vulnerable, too. We cannot allow ourselves to be held hostage by the imbalance of foreign chip production.

The United States is not alone. Other countries are waking up to this reality, too. As I speak, the European Union is developing CHIPS legislation in an effort to quadruple their production of semiconductor chips by 2030. Falling further behind in chip manufacturing is a national security issue that we just can't afford.

I am honored to represent a community that will soon play a leading role in addressing the global chip shortage and producing these components vital to our modern economy. I am excited that we have an opportunity to help grow U.S. manufacturing of chips to epic proportions with a much-needed investment.

The CHIPS for America Act investment will level the playing field and let U.S. manufacturers compete in this market. But, once again, Democrat leadership is doing it the wrong way.

My constituents, and all Americans, were hopeful that the majority here in Congress had learned from their recent failures about what happens when these packages become too big, too costly, and too partisan. The CHIPS Act presents Congress with a golden opportunity to finally pass a bipartisan, commonsense investment that would bolster American competitiveness on the world stage. Unfortunately, the CHIPS Act constitutes a small fraction of the bill's overall price tag, which is over \$300 billion.

Instead, the House Democrats worked behind closed doors with no Republican input and managed to bury good provisions under a mountain of

unrelated policies that have nothing to do with American competitiveness.

In their hasty attempt at a partisan victory, the Democrats' bill funnels \$8 billion to the unaccountable U.N. Green Climate Fund, which has already given \$100 million to the Chinese Communist Party.

It pours billions of dollars into offshore climate change resiliency programs instead of holding China, the world's worst polluter, accountable for its own destructive emission standards.

It also creates unlimited visas and immigration pathways for Chinese nationals with STEM degrees. This allows the CCP to handpick which Chinese nationals apply for visas and opens the door for CCP to use unlimited visas to encourage espionage and the theft of sensitive technologies.

It also creates climate change officers within the Foreign Service, weakening our diplomats' focus on our core national interests.

In an effort to improve this bill, I offered commonsense amendments to encourage domestic manufacturing of critical products. I also offered amendments to remove the billions of dollars in partisan spending for global green new deal programs and shift focus on what this bill should be about.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today is proof House Democrats learned nothing from their disastrous Build Back Better blunder. Rather than allowing American economic competitiveness to be a rallying point for bipartisanship, the majority's all-or-nothing approach makes this yet another missed opportunity.

If this bill advances to conference committee, I am hopeful that the conferees will focus on areas of bipartisan, bicameral agreement like the CHIPS Act. It is past time to bolster this production here at home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stop with the messaging bills and bring a piece of legislation to the floor that can win strong bipartisan support. Together, we can ensure that the serious business of American competitiveness gets the careful consideration and support it deserves.

#### COMMEMORATING JAZZ AND FRIENDS NATIONAL DAY OF SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY READINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) for 5 minutes.

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, today for the Jazz and Friends National Day of School and Community Readings hosted by HRC's Welcoming Schools program, I am going to read from the book "Calvin" written by JR and Vanessa Ford and illustrated by Kayla Harren of Minnesota.

It is critically important to make sure that transgender and nonbinary youth not only feel supported but valued and affirmed for who they are.

I am reading from the book "Calvin."

For as long as I could remember, I knew I was a boy.

I'd draw myself with short hair and a shirt like Papa's. I'd dream about swim trunks like my dad and brother wore.

I didn't tell my family until the night before our summer trip to Gigi and Papa's. I was scared they wouldn't believe me. But I knew it was time to be me.

Whenever I have to do something scary, my dad always says: "Take deep breaths and count down from five."

Breathe in. Breathe out. Five, four, three, two, one.

"I'm not a girl," I told my family.

"I'm a boy—a boy in my heart and in my brain."

"We love you if you are a girl, boy, neither, or both. We love you whoever you are," my dad said.

Later, Dad told me the word for how I felt was transgender. Being transgender means other people think you are one gender, but inside, you know you are a different one.

I wondered how Gigi and Papa would react. As we got closer, I squeezed my stuffed lion to my chest. I had already told my family who I was. Now I needed to tell them my name.

"The same name as your favorite stuffed lion?" Dad asked.

"It's why I named him that. It's always been my name to me."

When we got to Gigi and Papa's, Dad told them my new name. He introduced me.

Our summer trip turned out to be the best ever. At the comic convention, Papa bought me my favorite costume. My favorite superhero signed my poster, using my real name.

At Water World, Gigi bought me and my brother matching swim trunks. Even the water slides felt better in them.

In line for popcorn, I made a new friend. I felt proud to tell him my name. We spent the whole day together.

On the last day of vacation, at the big outlet stores near Gigi and Papa's, I picked out new clothes. That night I gave my family a fashion show.

"You look so handsome," Gigi told me.

School was starting soon, and I knew there was only one more thing I needed to feel like me.

When I looked in the mirror, I finally saw me.

Dad said there were other transgender people in the world, but I didn't know any kids like me at my school—and my school started next week.

Being the only one felt scary.

How would everyone treat me?

What if my friends wouldn't call me "he"?

What if, what if, what if?

The first day of school, I dragged my feet to the door. Breathe in. Breathe out. Five, four, three, two, one.

"Welcome back to school! We're glad you are here!"

When the principal said my name, I felt safe and happy.

Violet skipped up to me, calling out my new name, too.

"You know my name?" I asked.

"Yup! Your dad told my mom you are a boy now."

"I have always been a boy inside. Are we still friends?"

"Yes! Did you bring your jump rope for recess?"

When I stepped inside my classroom, I couldn't believe what I saw. The cubby, the lunch chart, the homework station, and the mailboxes, the name tag on the table, my new name was everywhere, everywhere it should be.

I felt my fears start to go away.

"Welcome back, class! For morning meeting, we'll all share about our summers."

I knew just what I would say when it was my turn.

I stood up proudly to share my summer story. But first, I introduced myself. "Hi," I said. "My name is Calvin, C-a-l-v-i-n."

And I felt my what-ifs melt away.

### RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Black History Month and to honor the 15th anniversary of the Empowerment Network, a collaboration of thousands of residents and leaders and hundreds of organizations working to facilitate positive change in Omaha, Nebraska.

Formed in September 2006 and officially launched on April 27, 2007, the network seeks to collectively improve the economic landscape and quality of life for African Americans, North Omaha residents, and citizens of the greater Omaha area. The network is led by their CEO and founder, Willie D. Barney.

Willie Barney was born on May 15, 1968, in Hollandale, Mississippi, but spent his first years between Arcola and Greenville in the Mississippi Delta along Highway 438. He graduated high school from Mount Pleasant, Iowa, attended St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, and rose to become an executive in the media industry.

He and his wife, Yolanda, were married on June 27, 1998. Born in Tacoma, Washington, and raised in Kansas City, Yolanda also had a very successful career in the media field, working in major cities, including Kansas City, Dallas, and Atlanta. They both left their corporate jobs to become more directly involved in helping to build strong communities and to become entrepreneurs.

The Empowerment Network Collaborative is one of Omaha's catalysts that has helped produce measurable outcomes and results by working together to reduce gun violence, decrease unemployment, improve graduation rates, increase household incomes, and rebuild the historic 24th and Lake District and other areas of North Omaha, including the Omaha 360, Step-Up Omaha, the Village Strategy, and the Cradle to Career.

In addition to Willie's leadership, he and his wife are founders and owners of SMB Enterprises, LLC, a company that provides positive events, media, and entertainment in the greater Omaha area. SMB is the parent company of Revive Omaha Magazine, Revive Black Business Network, and the Revive Center Omaha. They also co-own the new Carver Legacy Center, a Black-owned financial institution.

Willie also serves as the president of WDB Resultants, LLC, a national consulting firm that specializes in strategic planning and marketing, communications, research, community building, and facilitation.

Willie's passion for improving communities is heavily influenced by his late grandmother, Leeanna B. Collins; his mother and stepfather, Betty and Willie Mullen; and his father and stepmother, Willie and Bertha Murry.

He is incredibly thankful and grateful for his wife, son, and daughter and for the influence of his family from Mississippi, friends in Iowa, and partners in Omaha.

Yolanda honors the memory of her late parents, Morris and Mayumi Coppage, through her work ethic and passion for helping others.

Willie and Yolanda are parents to Nehemiah, an aspiring film director studying at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; and Priscilla, a student at Central High School in Omaha, who plans to graduate in 2025, with keen interest in international business.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney walk in faith and highlight it as one of their most important priorities and the reason for their many blessings. In fact, they are associate ministers at Launch Church International and continue to live a life of purpose and serve the community. They are committed to seeing individuals reach their full potential.

In recognizing Willie Barney and the Empowerment Network, we shine a spotlight on entrepreneurship, hard work, and the will to transcend and achieve success within our communities through unity and collaboration.

Congratulations to Willie and Yolanda Barney, along with the Empowerment Network, on 15 years of service and being a major force for change in our community for the better.

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### CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MARGO CARLIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an outstanding female athlete and native of Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, for her service to our community.

Margo Carlin currently plays field hockey at Boston College, where she has won multiple awards and played in the NCAA Final Four. But her accomplishments go far beyond the field hockey turf.

Last year, after a new rule allowed college athletes to raise money from the use of their names and likenesses, Margo saw an opportunity to make a difference in our community. She used her platform as a college athlete to partner with Covenant House and raised nearly \$30,000 to help that charity house and feed young people who are experiencing homelessness in our area. That successful partnership allowed Covenant House to seek out similar partnerships with athletes in other parts of the country.