

a bold critic of his home country's communist government. When Mr. Grgich was protesting the forced retirement of his professor, who spoke out against the Croatian government, he soon found out that he was also being monitored by the state's security forces. Upon this revelation, Mr. Grgich fled Croatia, migrating to Germany, and was eventually granted an American visa in 1958.

A year later, Mr. Grgich was hired at Beaulieu Vineyard as chief of quality control, effectively becoming one of Napa Valley's first quality control chemists. After years of being involved with other wineries, he broke ground on his own winery in 1977, which he named Grgich Hills. In 1996, nearly two decades after opening Grgich Hills, Mr. Grgich opened a small winery in his home nation of Croatia. This led to Mr. Grgich also having the opportunity to fulfill his academic goals, which he did by earning his master's degree in agronomy at the age of 74.

Because of his contributions to winemaking, Mr. Grgich was inducted into the Vinter Hall of Fame. Mr. Grgich is recognized to be among the first in California to use Millipore filters for wine, introducing the malolactic fermentation alongside world renowned Andre Tchelistcheff, utilizing oak barrels for proper aging, and developing French Wine commercial yeast. In 1976, Mr. Grgich participated in the Judgment of Paris wine tasting competition, resulting in the triumph of the 1973 Chardonnay he crafted for Napa Valley winery, Chateau Montelena. This victory helped Napa Valley to be recognized as a leader within the global wine community.

When people describe Mr. Grgich, they often mention his generous and loving personality. Mr. Grgich is known by our community to be a respected philanthropist who is dedicated to students. Mr. Grgich was instrumental in creating many scholarships: the Croatian Scholarship Fund in 1989, the Miljenko Grgich Wine Studies Scholarship in 2006, and the Miljenko "Mike" Grgich's American Dream Scholarship in 2014.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we recognize Miljenko "Mike" Grgich during his 100th birthday celebration and recognize the impact he has had for our community and many others.

TRIBUTE TO WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT UPON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. headquartered in beautiful downtown Burbank, California.

Warner Bros. is a global leader in the creation, production, distribution, licensing and marketing of all forms of entertainment. As a Warner Bros. Discovery company, the Studio is home to one of the most successful collections of brands in the world with stories that stand the test of time, and is at the forefront of every aspect of the entertainment industry.

Warner Bros. began when the four Warner brothers—Albert, Sam, Harry and Jack L.—sons of Jewish immigrants from Poland, incor-

porated their fledgling movie company on April 4, 1923. In 1927, the release of "The Jazz Singer," the world's first feature film with synchronized dialog, singing sequences, music and effects, set a tone of creativity, courage, innovation and influence that would become synonymous with the name Warner Bros.

Today, Warner Bros. operates businesses in feature film, television, digital and home entertainment production and worldwide distribution, DVD and Blu-ray, animation, comic books, videogames, and product and brand licensing. The company's vast library, one of the most prestigious in the world, consists of more than 145,000 hours of programming, including 12,500 feature films and 2,400 television programs.

Since those early days, Warner Bros. has amassed an impressive legacy built on long-term relationships with many of the world's leading talent, and unwavering dedication to excellence. As the company celebrates its centennial throughout 2023, all of the Studio's businesses carry forth the mission started by the four Warner brothers—"celebrating every story."

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. for one hundred years of trailblazing achievements that have transformed entertainment and enriched the imagination of millions worldwide.

CELEBRATION OF STEVE SAWALICH, 2023 OLD KING COAL

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Sawalich of West Frankfort, Illinois, in recognition of his being crowned Old King Coal for 2023.

Started over 80 years ago, the Southern Illinois Old King Coal Festival celebrates the hard work of coal miners past and present, while highlighting the contributions the coal industry has made to our region.

Steve Sawalich, a former president of the Old King Coal Festival and a lifelong resident of West Frankfort, has a long history of service to his community. Not long after graduating high school, Mr. Sawalich began working in the Old Ben 21 Coal Mine in 1973, where he worked for 10 years.

Mr. Sawalich led the effort to create the first memorial to honor the 119 victims of the Orient No. 2 Mine Explosion of December 21, 1951. This new memorial was dedicated on July 4, 2020, in West Frankfort.

Mr. Sawalich recently retired after 40 years as a trusted hearing healthcare professional to thousands of our citizens, but he continues his service through volunteer work at the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

Mr. Sawalich is married to Camilla, and he has been blessed with two children, Brandon and Steven, and four grandchildren, Amelia, William, Jake, and Gianna.

This achievement is a fitting tribute for a man who has meant so much to so many. In fact, it was in large part through Mr. Sawalich's efforts that the Old King Coal Festival was revived in 2002; and he's a big reason it thrives today.

Please join me in recognizing Steve Sawalich, Old King Coal for 2023, and wish him continued success in strengthening his community for years to come.

HONORING SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Agricultural and Natural Resources Department. SRJC is celebrating its 50th year of providing high-quality agricultural and natural resource education and certification opportunities in California's 4th Congressional District.

Founded in 1969 by professors John Edwards, Steve Olson, and Rich Thomas, the department has grown to serve approximately 2,700 students per year. Since its inception, the department has enabled 135,000 students to graduate with degrees and certifications in sustainable agriculture, animal science, natural resource conservation, agri-business, and viticulture. Many of those graduates have gone on to hold key leadership positions as college trustees, county department heads, owners of large agricultural enterprises, and board members of major commodity groups.

Since 1972, the department has operated Shone Farm, a 365-acre federal surplus property that was transformed into a hands-on learning laboratory for agriculture and natural resource students. The Shone Farm Foundation, the nonprofit operator of the Shone Farm Winery, grows 90-acres of premium wine grapes that are then sold to many North Coast wineries. Shone Farm recently became the center of operations for the SRJC's new Fire Resilient Training program which prepares student interns to combat wildfires in California and the country. Shone Farm has also been honored twice by the California Agricultural Teacher's Association as the top community college agriculture department in the state of California.

By producing such knowledgeable and experienced graduates in the field of agriculture, SRJC's programs have helped to strengthen our community's vibrant economy. Many of our business leaders in agriculture continue to donate and partner with the SRJC Foundation's Friends of SRJC Agriculture program. This program has raised millions of dollars for new farm improvements, department programs, and student scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, though their 50th anniversary celebration was delayed by the COVID pandemic, the Santa Rosa Junior College Agricultural and Natural Resources Department deserves to be commemorated for its impact on our district. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor their half-century of work here today.

APPRECIATING PROSECUTOR
BENJAMIN FERENCZ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to honor the life of Prosecutor Benjamin Ferencz and offer my sympathy to his family. I along with Congresswoman Lois FRANKEL, co-led H.R. 6015, the Benjamin Berell Ferencz Congressional Gold Medal Act, which provided for the award of a Congressional Gold Medal to Mr. Ferencz in recognition of his service to the United States and the international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and his lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and the rule of law. The bill unanimously passed the House on May 10, 2022, and was signed into law in December. I am grateful for Mr. Ferencz's outstanding service and dedication to achieving international justice. I include in the RECORD the following obituary for Prosecutor Benjamin Ferencz:

In 2011, at the age of 92, the diminutive but indomitable Benjamin Ferencz rose to deliver the closing prosecution speech at the first trial ever heard before the international criminal court (ICC) in The Hague. Wearing black robes and a starched white neck band, the veteran lawyer, who had prosecuted Nazi mass murderers at the Nuremberg war crimes trials more than 60 years earlier, saluted a "historic moment in the evolution of international criminal law".

Granting Ferencz, who has died aged 103, the honour of appearing on the prosecution team—in the trial of a Congolese warlord—acknowledged the extraordinary role he had played in advancing the cause of international justice. The last surviving Nuremberg prosecutor, he had dedicated his life to campaigning, successfully, for the establishment of a permanent court—the ICC—to try the world's most serious crimes and for laws establishing the crime of aggression. Guided by his motto, "Law, Not War", Ferencz was still giving television interviews last year—arguing that those responsible for atrocities in Ukraine must be brought to trial.

His reputation rested on two criminal trials he conducted at the age of 27 before US military courts sitting at Nuremberg in 1947 after the second world war. At the time, he had no previous experience leading courtroom prosecutions.

His first case was against SS officers who organized the Einsatzgruppen mobile death squads operating in Nazi-occupied eastern Europe. An estimated two million people were shot or beaten to death and their bodies dumped in pits; the majority of the victims were Jewish.

The documentary evidence Ferencz assembled was so persuasive that he did not need to rely on witnesses. Opening his argument, Ferencz declared: "Vengeance is not our goal . . . we ask this court to affirm by international penal action man's right to live in peace and dignity." It was later dubbed the biggest murder trial in history.

Twenty-two of the 24 Einsatzgruppen defendants were found guilty of crimes against humanity. Fourteen were sentenced to death and four eventually hanged. Ferencz had not requested the death penalty.

His second Nuremberg trial, in which he appeared as special counsel, involved the Krupp armaments group, whose directors were accused of crimes against humanity and exploitation of 100,000 slave labourers.

Eleven directors were found guilty and served prison terms of between three and 12 years.

Ferencz was born in a Transylvanian village, Sămăcă Mare, which was then in Hungary and later became part of Romania. Shortly afterwards his parents, Sarah (nee Schwartz) and Joseph Ferencz, fled with their two children to the US to escape antisemitism.

Benjamin was raised in the Hell's Kitchen district of New York, an area then renowned for poverty and crime. He won a scholarship to Harvard law school, where he researched war crimes. In 1943, he enlisted as a soldier and fought his way from the Normandy beaches to the Battle of the Bulge. His legal experience resulted in his being called into General George Patton's headquarters, where he was reassigned as a war crimes investigator. In Buchenwald and other concentration camps, he saw piles of corpses and emaciated survivors. His first target, he later recalled, was to seize the death records and correspondence that provided the evidence used at Nuremberg. He was discharged after the war and returned to New York to practice law and marry Gertrude Fried. In 1946, however, he was recruited to join the American war crimes unit at the Nuremberg trials.

The couple spent the next decade in Germany, where four children were born and Ferencz worked alongside General Telford Taylor, lead prosecutor at the U.S. military tribunals. When the trials finished in 1949, Ferencz coordinated reparations claims for Jewish survivors' groups.

In 1956, he returned to New York and opened a law firm with Taylor, but later turned his attention to campaigning for a permanent international criminal court. He wrote legal and popular books, the last of which, *Make It Count*, an autobiography, was published earlier this year. One of Ferencz's greatest regrets was that the US consistently refused to ratify the ICC agreement and, in his words, repeatedly "tried to kill the idea".

International recognition of Ferencz's contribution came towards the end of his life. In his 90s, a path alongside the international court of justice in The Hague was named after him and a bench set up with the motto Law, Not War.

Ferencz identified the problem that international criminal law is a patchwork where offenders who commit atrocities often escape justice because many states have still not ratified international court statutes. His response was "Never give up!"

"He was inspiring precisely because in the face of all the horror, he somehow managed to be optimistic," Philippe Sands, professor of international law at University College, London, said.

Sir Geoffrey Nice, a war crimes prosecutor at the international criminal court for the former Yugoslavia, who also cooperated with Ferencz, paid tribute to the way in which he "turned the traumas he experienced . . . into an enduring determination to learn and teach from them".

Gertrude died in 2019. He is survived by his son, Don, who continued his father's work developing international jurisdiction for the crime of aggression, three daughters, Nina, Robin and Keri, and three grandchildren.

Benjamin Berell Ferencz, war crimes prosecutor, born 11 March 1920; died 7 April 2023.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Small Business Tax Equity Act. This legislation would create an exception to Internal Revenue Code Section 280E that allows businesses operating in compliance with state laws to take business-related deductions associated with the sale of marijuana just like any other legal business.

U.S. cannabis laws are broken and woefully outdated. Section 280E of the federal tax code prohibits anyone engaged in the purchase or sale of Schedule I or Schedule II substances from deducting their business expenses from their taxes. To date, 38 states have legalized medical or adult use marijuana in some form. However, marijuana is currently a Schedule I substance under federal law and therefore businesses operating in compliance with state law are not allowed to deduct the ordinary expenses of running a small business, like rent, utilities, and payroll. They cannot claim the Work Opportunity Tax Credit if they hire a veteran; they cannot depreciate their American-made irrigation equipment; and they cannot take any credit or deduction relating to construction or operation costs if they want to revitalize a building for their operations.

Prohibiting marijuana businesses from deducting their business expenses means that marijuana businesses often pay federal income tax rates that are orders of magnitude higher than non-marijuana businesses. Disallowing business expense deductions creates a disproportionate burden that can put small dispensaries out of business and prevents many small businesspeople from entering the industry in the first place.

The Small Business Tax Equity Act will finally allow state regulated marijuana businesses to deduct their business expenses on their federal taxes, restoring equity with other legal businesses and helping make the legal cannabis competitive.

I look forward to working with the original cosponsors, Representatives JOYCE, LEE, and MACE and my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation and end the harmful prohibition on tax deductions for state-legal cannabis businesses.

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