

As Members of Congress, we have a responsibility to act and to ensure that a tragedy like the one that occurred at Columbine never happens again.

HUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE
OLYMPIAD CHAMPIONS

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly represent Ohio's 13th District, the birthplace of champions.

I rise today to congratulate Ohio 13's champion of the week: the Hudson Middle School Science Olympiad team, which recently placed first and second at the Eastern Regional tournament at the University of Akron.

Against 11 teams, Hudson Middle School dominated, winning 22 out of the 23 events and earning 44 sets of medals out of a possible 46.

This team's hard work, dedication, and perseverance has truly paid off, and I am honored to acknowledge this incredible achievement.

By winning the Eastern Regional tournament, they have not only demonstrated their exceptional talent and intelligence, but they have also proven that with focus and hard work, anything is possible.

As a member of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, I applaud the entire team's dedication and passion for science.

They have set a wonderful example for their peers, and I have no doubt that these students will be future leaders and innovators in the STEM field.

Once again, congratulations to Hudson Middle School Science Olympiad team on this well-deserved victory.

COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF KOREAN CONNEC-
TION

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Korean Connection, a nonprofit organization in Michigan's Third Congressional District working to build awareness and appreciation for Korean culture and community in West Michigan.

This year, on the 10th anniversary of their founding, Korean Connection is commemorating the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice Agreement between South and North Korea which ended the Korean War.

During the Korean War, hundreds of thousands of South Korean civilians perished, along with troops from South Korea, the United States, and the United Nations who gave their lives to keep South Korea free from a communist takeover. I'm proud to stand with Korean Connection as they honor the sacrifices made for freedom and democracy—values we all hold dear.

While this year holds particular significance for this historical moment and our values, it's

also important for me to recognize just some of the ways our shared lives are enhanced when we celebrate Korean cultural heritage: Korean Connection organizes Korean language classes, cooking classes, and annual celebrations. My hometown of Grand Rapids recently recognized Gangnam-gu as a Sister City, and we're proud to share art and music across the world, as well as partner in business and medicine.

Because of the work of Korean Connection, my district has enhanced respect for cross-cultural connection, business ties, and the diversity that enriches us all. On this historic day, we remember those who sacrificed everything to defend freedom and democracy. We hold space for the experiences of those with Korean heritage in West Michigan, and we commit ourselves to the good work of building a welcoming community for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAX L. MILLER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 183 and Yea on Roll Call No. 184.

DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE
COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND
JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT
ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 42.

House Republicans seem to think it is appropriate to stop the District of Columbia from enacting the kind of common-sense police reforms that many of our states, including my state of Minnesota, have already enacted.

My constituents did not elect me to interfere with the local politics of our nation's capital city.

Congress should respect the 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia by not interfering in their right to pass measures to improve their public safety and public trust. If my Republican colleagues won't support D.C. statehood, they should at least support the autonomy of D.C.'s local government.

The D.C. bill which Republicans are attacking was enacted to establish public trust with law enforcement and save lives. Banning chokeholds, limiting the use of deadly force, and requiring training on de-escalation are positive measures that duly elected D.C. officials have determined will make their community safer. Instead of using a Congressional vote to overturn D.C.'s law, Congress should be advancing law enforcement reform measures on a federal level, such as the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

My Republican colleagues need to stop interfering with D.C.'s duly elected officials.

Congress should instead get to work for the American people to cap insulin costs for everyone, make the wealthiest and the biggest corporations pay their fair share in taxes, or strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

President Biden has already said he will veto this legislation should it make it to his desk. But Republicans insist on wasting Congress's time with political stunts like this instead of solving problems for the constituents we all were elected to serve.

Mr. Speaker, H.J. Res. 42 should be rejected.

REMEMBERING DALE SCHNEIDER

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dale Schneider, who passed away on April 14, 2023, at the age of 76.

Born in St. Cloud, Dale took over the family-owned Sal's Bar and Grill in St. Joseph, Minnesota from his parents in 1971. Sal's is at the crossroads of St. John's University and the College of St. Benedict where all things Johnnies and Bennies reign supreme.

For over 50 years, Dale kept thirsty students, faculty, and community members well-hydrated and fed. Dale had a steel trap of a memory that helped him remember names of college alumni years after graduation and in some cases their outstanding bar tabs.

I had the pleasure of getting to know Dale during many visits to Sal's over the years. No trip to a Johnnies football game was complete without a post-game beer at Sal's. There is some solace in the fact that the next time I'm at Sal's, I'll likely see his son, Kyle, tending bar just like his dad.

We pray that Dale's lasting memory will give his wife, Diane, and the rest of the family comfort in this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING MS. CHRISTINE
JAMES-BROWN ON HER RETIRE-
MENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE
CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF
AMERICA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional service of Christine James-Brown, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), who recently announced her retirement as President.

CWLA is an outstanding organization that works to improve the quality and availability of child welfare and related services through standard-setting and advocacy. Ms. James-Brown began her tenure as President of CWLA in April 2007, assuming the leadership of the nation's oldest and largest membership-based child welfare organization. Ms. James-Brown has served as the eighth President of this 103-year-old organization. With more than sixteen years of service, she is the second-longest serving President of CWLA. Ms.

James-Brown is a national leader in efforts to protect children and strengthen families, and she has led CWLA through historic accomplishments and challenging times.

Ms. James-Brown led CWLA's advocacy efforts to help enact critical child welfare laws, including the Fostering Connections to Success and Promoting Adoptions Act of 2008 and the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018. Her leadership continued CWLA's policy work in areas including kinship care, adoption and foster care services, prevention services, and residential care.

Under Ms. James-Brown's leadership, CWLA worked with members and experts across the country during 2012 and 2013 to develop the CWLA National Blueprint for Excellence in Child Welfare that presents a vision for the future of child welfare where all children grow up safely in loving families and supportive communities.

Her service includes her work as a member of the Congressionally-mandated National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine panel with the mission of making recommendations to reduce child poverty in half over ten years. I and other policymakers used those recommendations and the science behind them to champion legislation that helped reduce child poverty during the global pandemic.

During her tenure, Ms. James-Brown helped CWLA continue its leadership and engagement of its network of public and private agencies and partners to advance policies, best practices, and collaborative strategies that result in better outcomes for children, youth, and families. She led the organization through 16 national conferences, including a celebration of 90 years in 2010 and a virtual conference during the pandemic on the organization's 100th anniversary.

I join with members of the Child Welfare League of America and the child welfare community to thank Ms. Christine James-Brown for her exceptional service to the children and families of our nation and to wish her health and happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

**INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
"CONDEMNING THE INACTION BY
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
IN ADDRESSING THE POISONING
OF IRANIAN SCHOOL GIRLS, THE
DAUGHTERS OF THE IRANIAN
REVOLUTION" AND THE FORMA-
TION OF THE IRANIAN WOMEN
CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS**

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a resolution Condemning the Inaction by the Islamic Republic of Iran in Addressing the Poisoning of Iranian School Girls, the daughters of the Iranian Revolution, and to announce the creation of the Iranian Women Congressional Caucus.

This resolution recognizes the bravery and resilience of women who have faced tremendous challenges in their fight for equality and human rights.

We have all witnessed the courage of women and youth leading the 2022 protests in Iran, calling for social freedom and political change.

As stated in the resolution, these protests stem from more than four decades of organized resistance against the Iranian dictatorship, led by women who have endured torture, sexual and gender-based violence, and death.

The uprising last year in Iran started with the murder of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman arrested by morality police in Tehran on September 13, 2022, for allegedly violating Iran's strict rules requiring women to cover their hair with a hijab, or headscarf.

Since the protests started in September, after the murder of Mahsa Amini's, women and men have taken to the streets, risking their lives for a free and democratic Iran.

Over 500 people have been killed, over 15,000 arrested.

Iranian courts have issued numerous death sentences linked to the protests, convicting people of being "enemies against God" and "spreading corruption on Earth."

As a long-time advocate and fighter for justice and equality, I am inspired by the ongoing revolution led by Iranian women, despite the tortures their people face daily imposed their government.

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), has been, for decades, the leading voice against the regime's abuses.

Her Ten-Point Plan for the future of Iran, which she presented to the European Parliament in 2006, provides a roadmap for a secular, democratic, non-nuclear republic where the rule of law is upheld.

Mrs. Rajavi's Ten-Point Plan stresses "Complete gender equality in the realms of political, social, cultural, and economic rights, and equal participation of women in political leadership. Abolishment of any form of discrimination; the right to choose one's own clothing freely; the right to freely marry and divorce; and to obtain education and employment. Prohibition of all forms of exploitation against women under any pretext."

As co-chair of the Iranian Women Caucus, and on behalf of all its members, I support Mrs. Rajavi's vision of a society where both men and women reject compulsory religion, compulsory hijab, and compulsory government.

The current regime's human rights abuses have their roots in past dictatorships, characterized by widespread human rights violations, including torture, extrajudicial killings, and political suppression by SAVAK, the notorious secret police.

It is essential that we acknowledge this history and address the root causes of the current human rights crisis in Iran.

I strongly condemn the deliberate gas attacks on schoolgirls in Iran and the violent suppression of students, men, and women participating in demonstrations. I call for transparent accountability for all killings of protesters by Iranian security forces.

I strongly encourage my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support the Iranian Women Caucus and this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 188 and YEA on Roll Call No. 189.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER
OF JENNIFER WICKRE

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, from congressional intern with Congressman Jerry Lewis, to senior staff member with Congressman Lamar Smith on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and now Deputy Staff Director of the Science Committee, Ms. Jennifer Wickre has led an impressive career on Capitol Hill. Even though she mistakenly tried to sneak away to the private sector for a brief lapse in judgement, Jennifer quickly realized that nothing could be as fulfilling as working at the United States Capitol. This career choice to come back to the Hill is a clear indication of the superior nature of her character: she is a true public servant who leads with a servant's heart.

The Capitol Hill community was shocked to learn of Jennifer's cancer diagnosis. When we speak of the staffers who have metaphorically "given their life to the job," it becomes a sobering moment to witness a woman who has quite literally laid down her life in the service of others. She has been an inspiration to our staff, a dear friend and mentor to Ms. Sarah Jorgenson, and a shining example of what it means to give of oneself. Let us all pray for a much-deserved miracle so that Ms. Jennifer Wickre's time here can last a bit longer. If a miracle is not in the works, let us all admire the miracle that has already occurred: Congress was honored by Ms. Jennifer Wickre's presence in the first place.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on April 19, 2023 due to a family medical situation. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 188 and YEA on Roll Call No. 189.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAUREN BOEBERT

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I had to fly back home to be there for the birth of my first grandchild. Had I been present, I would have