

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Bob and Linda Bracken of Port Washington for their 35 years of teaching in New York's Third Congressional District. I had the privilege of meeting them today and showing them around this very Chamber.

Mr. Bob Bracken is chock-full of knowledge, and he taught history courses for Port Washington public schools. His delightful wife, Mrs. Bracken, taught business courses in Great Neck South.

Unspoken heroes like Mr. and Mrs. Bracken paved the way for future generations, and I would like to place their names and legacy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I thank Mr. and Mrs. Bracken from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of New York's Third Congressional District for all of their invaluable service to our community.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, when I entered the House of Representatives, I was 1 of just 24 women serving in Congress. Today, there are 154 women in Congress, out of 540 Members of the House and Senate. What progress our country has made in recognizing and embracing the equal role of women in all aspects of our society.

This Women's History Month, we have the opportunity to celebrate the success and sacrifices of those who have committed themselves to uplifting women, families, and our society.

Meanwhile, let's also rededicate ourselves to continuing to fight for the advancement and security of our mothers, wives, sisters, grandmothers, godmothers, and daughters.

It is more imperative than ever for us to carry forward the legacy of those who came before us and to do our part to pave the way for future generations. Let us embrace a world where there is no limit to what women can be and what we can achieve together.

HONORING TEACHER OF THE YEAR THERESA MAUGHAN

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Theresa Maughan.

The East Orange Educator is New Jersey's 2022 State Teacher of the Year. She teaches 10th grade social studies at East Orange STEM Academy, and she is an inspiration to everyone in my district.

Ms. Maughan was born in Belize and immigrated to America when she was in elementary school. In her childhood, she was inspired to teach by her own social studies teacher. She has worked in education for 40 years.

Ms. Maughan tells her students that she tries to learn something new every day, and her commitment to my district's teachers and students has helped her win numerous awards, such as the 2021 Essex County Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations, again, to New Jersey's 2022 Teacher of the Year, Theresa Maughan. She is a great example of how teachers benefit our lives and communities every day.

ENSHRINE WOMEN'S RIGHTS INTO LAW

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise because it is Women's History Month.

I rise because I returned from Michigan on the heels of a Women's History Month event that I held yesterday in Farmington Hills, where I looked the women of my district in the face and promised them that I would return to the House of Representatives to seek to enshrine their rights into law.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because in the second year of this pandemic, maternal mortality increased by 40 percent, and in the following year, the Supreme Court repealed Roe v. Wade.

I rise because four women in Texas are suing for their right to bodily autonomy. Women are standing up and saying that they do not want to be subject to sepsis while trying to give birth to a child.

I rise because, in South Carolina, women will be prosecuted to a deeper extent than a rapist.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because I will not stop until we have enshrined women's rights into the law of this land.

□ 1930

NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SHOOTING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, a nightmare, a day of horror, and one that prayers and sympathy cannot quash the deep and piercing pain that the parents of these babies in an elementary school, a Christian school in Nashville, had to experience this morning at 10 a.m., and the loved ones of the adults that suffered an untimely death. How long is this Congress going to diddle-daddle around?

How long are we going to be divided over the reality that a 28-year-old who went to the school had two AR-15s and a handgun?

Oh, there is always the talk about the Second Amendment. I honor the Second Amendment, but I do not honor the violence of an assault weapon.

How many more babies can we lose?

How many more stories like Uvalde can we tolerate?

How many more parents, whose children's lives are just going to be snatched from them, are going to walk around like zombies?

It is time now to ban the assault weapons. Ban them now. It is time to address mental health issues in a larger way. It is time for this Congress to come together. It is time to stop the nightmare and to stop the horror.

How many more parents have to cry over dead babies? Ban assault weapons and do it now.

COMMEMORATING BLACK WOMEN AND THE ERA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order alongside the Honorable CORI BUSH of Missouri, founder of the first Congressional Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on finally getting the equal rights across the finish line and recognized as the 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 100 years after it was first introduced in the House of Representatives, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the incredible efforts of African-American women who have advocated for the equal rights amendment, ERA, throughout history. Their resilience, passion, and determination have driven the relentless pursuit of gender equality and justice for all.

In the 1970s, prominent Black women like Pauli Murray, Shirley Chisholm, Flo Kennedy, and Barbara Jordan were instrumental in advancing the cause of women's rights and the ERA.

When the 28th amendment is finally recognized as part of the United States Constitution, Black women deserve to have significant credit for its passage. Their legacy reminds us of the power of unity, conviction, and perseverance in the face of adversity. Let us not forget the profound words of feminist lawyer and civil rights advocate, Pauli Murray, who testified for the ERA at a 1970

Senate Judiciary Committee hearing. She said, "As a constitutional lawyer, a woman, and a Black person, I can say with conviction that Black women as a group have the most to gain from the adoption of the equal rights amendment."

Let us draw strength from these words of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who proclaimed in her speech in 1970, "I am for the equal rights amendment."

"This is what it comes down to: artificial distinctions between persons must be wiped out of the law. Legal discrimination between the sexes is, in almost every instance, founded on outmoded views of society and the prescientific beliefs about psychology and physiology. It is time to sweep away these relics of the past and set future generations free of them."

Mr. Speaker, let us be inspired by the words of Representative Barbara Jordan, who said, "The equal rights amendment is a mandate for change. It is a standard by which to measure our future legal and social constructs. . . . The equal rights amendment is for men and women. It is a constructive force for liberating the minds of men and the place of women. It is inclusive."

As we pay tribute to these trailblazing Black women, it is crucial to recognize that the fight for gender and racial equality is still ongoing. The number of Black women in Congress remains disproportionately low compared to the diverse population they represent.

As of today, only 57 women of African-American ancestry out of 12,505 people who have served in this august body have ever served in this Congress, a mere fraction of the total number of Representatives and Senators who have shared and served throughout our Nation's history.

Only two African-American women have ever served in the Senate and none in the Governor's mansion. The Senator is Democrat Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois, elected in 1992, and current Vice President, Mrs. Kamala Harris.

This underrepresentation is a call to action for all of us, a reminder that we must continue to strive for a government that is truly representative of the people it serves. We must also recognize that the fight for gender and racial equality is not limited to the Halls of Congress.

Across our Nation, countless Black women and women of color continue to face barriers in access to education and access to healthcare and access to employment opportunities and access to equal pay.

The struggle for justice and equality is a daily battle fought by millions of women who refuse to be silenced or sidelined in their pursuit of a more just and inclusive society. It is our responsibility as citizens and as leaders to ensure that the voices of Black women and women of color are heard, their concerns are addressed, and their con-

tributions are acknowledged and celebrated.

We must work together to dismantle the systems of oppression and discrimination that continue to hold back so many of our sisters, daughters, and mothers from reaching their full potential. As we continue to push forward, let us remember the words of the great civil rights leader, Reverend Martin Luther King, who said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Let us then bend that arc toward justice together and make the equal rights amendment a reality for all.

In the name of all those who have fought for justice, for equality, and for the rights of women, let us say amen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH).

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise today for the equal rights amendment.

We rise on this historic occasion, on the eve of the birth of the Congressional Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment, a caucus I am proud to be founding tomorrow alongside my co-chair-in-service, my sister-in-service, Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY.

We rise in the tradition of those who led this fight before us, those whose shoulders we now stand upon: shoulders like Pauli Murray, Shirley Chisholm, and Barbara Jordan.

On this ERA caucus eve, as we near the close of Women's History Month, it is only fitting that we are here on the floor of this U.S. House of Representatives with our Congressional Black Caucus colleagues, because Black women have always been leaders of the fight to enshrine equality in our Nation's Constitution, but we haven't always been in the headlines for leading that work. Today, we are here to declare that the reason the ERA is a priority for the CBC is because everyone in our communities has something to gain from its finalization. Black women, girls, and queer folk have the most to gain. We are here continuing to lead, demanding exactly what is owed to us: equality.

Because, you see, the Constitution, in all its wisdom, guaranteed fundamental inalienable rights, but stopped short of guaranteeing those rights for everyone. Women? We were written out. Black women? Not only were we written out, but too many authors of the Constitution were busy enslaving, exploiting, and extracting the labor of our ancestors for profit and were unconcerned with what was owed to us: equal rights, nothing less.

We need to start by being honest about who is harmed the most when equal rights are not enshrined in our Constitution. We know that without the ERA, the patchwork legislation that we have in place to protect women—including provisions of the Equal Pay Act, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX, and the Violence Against Women Act—has primarily benefited and made gains for White women. Now

is the time to build on those gains and expand protections for all women and LGBTQ+ folks, all of us, too.

This is our moment. One hundred years since the ERA was introduced in this body, 100 years. This is our moment to finalize the ERA so that we modernize the Constitution and make sure the fight for equality not only includes but centers the people who have been left behind, because we were written out of this document.

One hundred years, and all we are asking for is 24 words. In 24 words, 24 simple words, the equal rights amendment will add to our Constitution that: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

That is it. In other words, this amendment would make the "we" in the "we the people" become "us," all of us. In doing so, the ERA can protect people from gender-based discrimination by simultaneously acting as a vehicle for progress.

We see it here. This is just a portion. It can work to ensure permanent protections, like fair wages, like violence prevention, like healthcare equity, like reproductive freedom, like LGBTQ+ rights, and like much else we not only deserve but are entitled to and are owed. Equality and nothing less. That is what we are asking for.

But we need the ERA, and we need it now, because equality is overdue. Equality is overdue.

I rise in support of the equal rights amendment today, on the shoulders of the scores of Black women and LGBTQ+ people who have toiled on this initiative for 100 whole years, to amplify their calls, calls they made in this very Chamber and outside of it, calls that resonate today even as the attacks against us intensify, calls to publish the ERA now. Publish the ERA now. Publish the equal rights amendment now, because equality is overdue.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman CORI BUSH for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), my distinguished colleague.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for his leadership on a very important topic this evening that brings us all together.

I thank Congresswoman CORI BUSH for the vibrancy, along with Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY, in the organizing of the ERA Caucus. It is important that we work together to ensure that the equal rights amendment becomes law.

I am reminded of my entering Congress. I don't know if anyone would realize that there was a statue for suffragette women, women in the early 1900s who were seeking the women's right to vote. Even earlier than that, Sojourner Truth, who we galvanized around, with the National Congress for Black Women, to provide an opportunity for Sojourner Truth to even

have a statue here as an early suffragette and abolitionist.

When I came, the statue honoring women, who fought for women's rights and the right to vote, was in the basement. It was women, Members of the House and the Senate, who had to organize and fight to lift that very awesome sculpture out of the basement, covered by dust, to be able to be put in the rotunda.

We still have work undone, because it was a half-finished sculpture. African-American women argued that they did not have Sojourner Truth in that statue, who was an abolitionist and leader on women's rights.

□ 1945

We did it through legislation, myself and Senator Clinton, we did, in fact, get a statue sculptured by an African-American woman of Sojourner Truth, she now remains in Emancipation Hall, and our task is not yet finished to be able to place her in the rotunda along with the other statues.

I say that to say that this Caucus, this announcement, couldn't be more important, and the reason is because Black women were very instrumental in having the loudest voices; realizing even then that Black women had the lowest hourly wage, Black women were still domestic workers, Black women were not, in fact, equal in many aspects of the law.

Pauli Murray, who I honor; Shirley Chisholm, Flo Kennedy, all of whom I remember and know, and Barbara Jordan, are a few of the prominent Black women who have advocated for the equal rights amendment in the 1970s.

Many Black organizations endorsed the ERA, including the National Black Feminist Organization, the NAACP, and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. A 1970s Gallup poll showed that 60 percent of Black women wanted the ERA. This has been a long history.

There is a long history of activism that Black women and women of color in support of women's rights and the ERA, stated by historian and professor of Africana studies, Dr. Mary Phillips.

Today, Black women still play a critical role in pushing for the ERA. In three States, to recently ratify the ERA, Black women were at the forefront. Nevada Senator Pat Spearman led a successful campaign for the ratification of the ERA in her State in 2017, and Representative Juliana Stratton made extensive floor speeches in support of the ERA in Illinois.

As well, JENNIFER MCCLELLAN led the successful effort to ratify the ERA in Virginia, finally bringing the total ratification of the ERA to 38 States required to become part of the Constitution.

And yet, we did not make our mark. Yet, we have more work to do. Yet, we are struggling to ensure that in 2023 Black women will have equal rights in the court. Black women will have equal rights in healthcare. Black women will have equal rights in education. Black

women will have equal rights in the issue of sexual assaults and rape when women are charged with agreeing or consent, which is not true. Equal rights to be heard. Equal rights in work. Equal rights in payments.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support my colleagues, and really to acknowledge these brave and historic women. I am so proud that my predecessor, the Honorable Barbara Jordan, was one of those who stood regally tall along with the first African-American woman in the United States Congress, Shirley Chisholm.

Of course, who could forget Flo Kennedy wearing those hats. Who could forget feminist and civil rights advocate Pauli Murray, who testified for the equal rights amendment at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in 1970. In her testimony, Murray drew up upon her own experience of race and sex, and these are her words:

"Although my motivation, energy, and effort to meet the highest standards of performance have been operative throughout my life, I have experienced numerous delays in my career, not for the traditional reasons given for the failure of women to develop on par with men in our society (marriage, childbearing, et cetera), but by a combination of individual and institutional racism and sexism—Jim Crow and June Crow."

As a constitutional lawyer, a woman, and a Black person, I can say with conviction that Black women, as a group, have the most to gain from the adoption of the equal rights amendment. All that has been said about the frustration and deprivations of American women, generally because of discrimination by reason of sex, can be said with special force about the position of Black women.

My concluding remarks—maybe she didn't call herself a fighter for the ERA, but Harriet Tubman was a fighter for justice and took slaves out of the Deep South. Her words were this:

If you hear the dogs coming, keep on moving. If you hear the noise, keep on moving. If you see the lights, keep on moving. Because if you want a taste of freedom, keep on moving.

Tonight we stand here for freedom and the equal rights amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a timeline of the equal rights movement.

1840:

Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton are barred from attending the World Anti-Slavery Convention held in London. They decide to hold a Women's Convention in the U.S.

1850:

Massachusetts, is the site of the first National Women's Rights Convention. Frederick Douglass, Paulina Wright Davis, William Lloyd Garrison, Lucy Stone, and Sojourner Truth attend. A strong alliance is formed with the Abolitionist Movement.

1851:

At a women's rights convention in Akron, Ohio, Sojourner Truth, a former slave, delivers her speech, "Ain't I a woman?"

1870:

The Fifteenth Amendment gave Black men the right to vote. The National Woman's Suffrage Association refused to work for its ratification. Frederick Douglass broke with Stanton and Anthony over this position.

1890:

The National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association, merged to formally expand the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). NAWSA focused on enfranchisement solely for white women.

1913:

The Alpha Suffrage Club was founded, with Ida B. Wells as one of the co-founders and leaders, this is believed to be the first African-American women's suffrage association in the United States.

1920:

Three quarters of the state legislatures ratify the Nineteenth Amendment.

1940:

Jim Crow laws such as poll taxes and literacy tests are enacted, designed to keep Black citizens from voting.

1965:

500 activists march from Selma to Montgomery, AL to demand voting rights for Black citizens. They are brutally attacked by law enforcement.

1965:

President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act into law.

2011:

Record numbers of state restrictions are enacted on voting, including voter ID laws and restrictions to early voting.

2013:

The Supreme Court strikes down the heart of the Voting Rights Act by a 5-to-4 vote, freeing states to change their election laws.

The first Equal Rights Amendment was drafted by the National Women's Party in 1921 to enshrine equality for women in the Constitution.

Fifty-one years later, the Equal Rights Amendment won the requisite two-thirds vote in the House of Representatives and passed the Senate.

In 2020, Virginia became the thirty-eighth state to vote in favor of the ERA, but whether the ERA has accordingly been ratified remains politically and legally contested.

Since 2013, Black Lives Matter has been a global social movement advocating against anti-Black racism and state-sanctioned violence, including but not limited to police brutality against Black men and women.

The movement has attracted broad participation by non-Black activists and lawmakers following the police murder of George Floyd.

SUFFRAGE IN AMERICA: THE 15TH AND 19TH AMENDMENTS

During the 19th and 20th centuries, Black women played an active role in the struggle for universal suffrage.

WHO GOT THE RIGHT TO VOTE WHEN?

August 18, 2020 marked 100 years since the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting women the right to vote.

However, obstacles like poll taxes, literacy tests and other discriminatory state voting laws would keep Black women (and men) disenfranchised for a further 45 years.

BLACK WOMEN HAD TO FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON TWO FRONTS

They were suffragists combating both racism and sexism long after the 19th Amendment was passed.

Women of color were crucial to women's suffrage—it's time we acknowledge them.

Wagner, who is behind books such as *Women's Suffrage Anthology* and *Sisters in Spirit*, has for almost 30 years studied the Haudenosaunee (or the Iroquois) influence on the early feminist movements.

MORE TO THE MOVEMENT

While Seneca Falls is considered the first American convention to focus exclusively on women's rights, the first convention to consider women's rights as an issue was the May 9, 1837, Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women in New York City.

LEGISLATION: H.J. RES. 25

Women have done the work of preserving and defending our democracy for centuries, and it is past time our laws recognize our contributions and the historic role that we have played.

The first time the ERA was put forward, women of color were not part of the conversation. Now, we're leading and working in coalition to advance this priority.

Our resolution will help address centuries of gender disparities in America by removing the unnecessary barriers that have prevented us from enshrining the dignity, humanity, and equality of all people into our Constitution.

We as women have done our job, the states have done their job, and now it's time for Congress to do its job and pass this resolution.

I know how transformative the ERA will be for millions of women and our LGBTQ siblings across this country.

H.J. RES. 25 HISTORY/WHAT THE BILL DOES

The ERA has been introduced in every session of Congress until it passed in 1972 in both the House and Senate.

Congress then placed an arbitrary deadline on the ratification process.

Our resolution would remove the arbitrary deadline imposed by Congress and affirm the ratification of the ERA as the 28th Amendment.

The only thing standing in the way of ratification is Congress passing legislation to remove that arbitrary deadline and declare the ERA valid, since 38 states, making up three-fourths of the country, have now ratified the ERA.

80 percent of countries across the world have enshrined language within their Constitutions that establishes equal rights and protection for women. The United States must do the same.

BLACK WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS IN HISTORY

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

An abolitionist and women's suffrage leader who became one of the first Black writers to popularize African American protest poetry.

Ida B Wells-Barnett

Wells-Barnett was a prominent journalist, activist, and researcher, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

In her lifetime, she battled sexism, racism, and violence.

As a skilled writer, Wells-Barnett also used her skills as a journalist to shed light on the conditions of African Americans throughout the South.

(Isabella Bomfree) Sojourner Truth

Formerly enslaved, Sojourner Truth became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights in the nineteenth century.

She challenged the notions of racial and gender inferiority through notable speeches and a lecture tour, including "Ain't I A Woman?"

Her work to help formerly enslaved peoples find jobs and build new lives after the Civil War earned her an invitation to meet President Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

Mary Church Terrell

One of the first African American women to earn a college degree, Terrell helped found the National Association of Colored Women, was a key activist in the suffrage movement, and helped desegregate restaurants in D.C.

Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin

Lampkin spent her life fighting for the right to vote and centered her work around many women's organizations, including becoming the president of the Lucy Stone Woman Suffrage League in 1915.

Nannie Helen Burroughs

A prominent African American educator, church leader and suffragette, Burroughs also helped found the National Association of Colored Women and was a lead writer on injustices endured by the African American community.

Sarah Parker Remond

Born in 1824, Remond brought a legal case against a theater after being forced out when she refused to sit in segregated seats.

She won the case and the theatre was ordered to stop segregated seating.

She became a speaker for the American Anti-Slavery Society and fought for voting rights in the US as well as abolition on an international scale.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE for those outstanding remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am so appreciative that we have male colleagues like you who do see this as a shared fight, and we appreciate your leadership and partnership in this moment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my sister in service, my partner in good, on so many issues of consequence, Representative CORI BUSH, for your leadership, your ingenuity, and your partnership. I never grow tired of your saying: St. Louis and I rise. I know every time that you say that, St. Louis and those that are the most marginalized, ignored, left out, and left behind are being advanced in that moment—that justice is on the way.

As Black women who have earned the right to be Members of this august body, we find ourselves at the intersection of both race and gender. Some of the most profound and most impactful policies come directly from our lived experiences.

Each day as we walk these sacred Halls of power, we see statues and portraits of White men that serve as reminders of the inequality and the lack of parity in these Halls in our Nation's past and present.

For centuries, the contributions of Black women have been excluded from the narrative and marginalized in history, but not today. Today, there will be no erasure. We will give all the flowers to Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, and Pauli Murray.

Black women, they believed, are inherently valued, and our equality is a necessity. They advocated for the ERA to codify those truths in our Constitution. Ratifying the ERA is not only about history, it is about the here and now. Black women are still organizing at the forefront of the women's rights movement. Zakiya Thomas, Christian Nunes, Melanie Campbell, and Fatima Goss Graves are community builders and organizational leaders that are working daily to get the job done: Black women, justice seekers, truth tellers, pace setters, table shakers, always doing the work of liberation, even when our own was often sacrificed.

I feel especially encouraged and emboldened that Black women are a part of the multigenerational and multiracial coalition leading and working in an intersectional way to advance policy change.

This Congress, I introduced a joint resolution to finally make the equal rights amendment the 28th amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, but I did not introduce it alone. I was joined by Congresswoman KAMLAGER-DOVE, MADELEINE DEAN, SYLVIA GARCIA, ABIGAIL SPANBERGER, and, of course, my partner in good, my sister in service, and co-chair of the Equal Rights Caucus, Representative CORI BUSH.

When the equal rights amendment was put forward 100 years ago, the coalition was not as diverse nor as inclusive. As a Black woman who has experienced firsthand many of the daily indignities of an unequal society and heard stories from my mother, Sandy, may she rest in peace and power, who throughout her career had to train men who were paid more and promoted over her—I know how transformative the ERA will be for millions of women and our LGBTQ siblings across this country.

It is long past time the Constitution affirms our equality—and our very existence—in the eyes of the law. The ramifications run deep as women face daily sexism, pregnancy discrimination, pay inequities, sexual violence, and persistent legislated attacks on our bodily autonomy.

We need the ERA now. I stand proudly with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, and my co-chair of the new ERA Caucus, to demand that Congress does its job, pass our resolution, and codify the equal rights amendment into the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that in short order there will be a calendar one day that will cite: On this day in history, the ERA Caucus was established. I look forward to the day that there will also be a calendar that notes: On this day in history, the ERA was passed.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable AYANNA PRESSLEY for her advocacy. I appreciate her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, to our Special Order Congressional Black Caucus chairman, Congressman JONATHAN JACKSON, it is my honor to stand here with you to thank you for your leadership and for all that you are doing—to be a Black man standing, talking about the equal rights amendment with us as members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, it also gives me great pleasure to be here tonight as the ninth woman to chair the Congressional Black Caucus, standing alongside with my colleagues as we pay tribute to countless advancements, achievements, and hard-fought victories by Black women to advance the equal rights amendment.

Let me just say, what an honor to thank the chairwomen of tonight's Special Order Hour, Congresswoman CORI BUSH and Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY.

You will hear tonight words like Sojourner, truth-tellers, fighters for freedom—that is just what you are. My sister, my friend, thank you for all that you do.

We stand here tonight on the heels of Black History Month, in the heart of Women's History Month, and we do so at such a critical time in our Nation's history. We stand on the shoulders of giants. Heroes who paved the way for the fight for civil rights and women's rights today, for women like us in this room and countless women across the Nation.

Women like Mary Church Terrell, "unbought and unbosomed" Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, Flo Kennedy, Pauli Murray, Aileen Hernandez who were instrumental in elevating the cause of women's equality in the ERA.

Women like we have heard about already, Senator Spearman to Lieutenant Government Stratton, to our very own JENNIFER MCCLELLAN of Virginia. Black women led the way.

It is interesting when we say: What did it get us? Whose shoulders do we stand on?

It seems fitting for me to say today, as we bring members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to the Capitol to fight for some of those same rights as they did in 1913 when, yes, it was 22 Black women who brought up the rear of the march for the women's suffrage march.

□ 2000

It is important for me to highlight today, on this chart, nine women have served as leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus, making history fighting for equal rights.

But for that, we would not have, as noted here, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS and Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

We would not have two Black women in America today who are CEOs of Fortune 100 companies—just two.

We would not have in the Halls of this Capitol two women's statues, Rosa Parks, brought to the Capitol by Members—us—fighting for justice, and we

would not have from the State of Florida one of their two statues, Mary McLeod Bethune.

Nor would we have the only woman when we started, in 1971, in the Congressional Black Caucus—no other than Shirley Chisholm.

Nor would we have Charity Edna Earley, the first Black officer in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

We have come a long way, and we could put petitions and posters around this whole Chamber about why we came today.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by saying that I am joining my colleagues to demand Congress act to finally adopt the equal rights amendment into the United States Constitution because, as I love saying, when women succeed, America succeeds.

The late Maya Angelou stated: "Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."

Today, Mr. Speaker, we stand up with Congresswoman BUSH and Congresswoman PRESSLEY.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank the Honorable Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY of the State of Ohio for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from the great State of New York (Ms. CLARKE).

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois, JONATHAN JACKSON, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day to acknowledge and thank Congresswoman CORI BUSH and Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY for their unyielding, unflinching, and unapologetic leadership and for leading the charge on the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

I rise today to reaffirm that ever-present need to have this ratification take place, as well as to recognize the tireless efforts and work of Black women on behalf of that mission.

It was more than half a century ago that the ERA first passed Congress due in large part to the efforts in drafting, advancing, and organizing by trailblazing Black women.

With that said, I am reminded of the words written by one of my congressional predecessors, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, decades ago in the very spot where I stand right now. She said: "Of course, laws will not eliminate prejudice from the hearts of human beings, but that is no reason to allow prejudice to continue to be enshrined in our laws, to perpetuate injustice through inaction."

Mr. Speaker, we are tired of the inaction. We are tired of the injustice. We are tired of being tired. So, it is my privilege to join the first-ever Congressional Equal Rights Amendment Caucus in history and support legislative efforts to affirm the ERA as the 28th amendment to the Constitution.

For decades, Black women have continued to pave the path toward ratifi-

cation, and I am proud to see we are carrying on that legacy today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank every woman who has played a significant and substantial role and continues to play their position in this battle and in this fight for equal rights. As the Honorable Marcus Garvey admonished each and every woman out there: Forward ever, backwards never.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE for her outstanding remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank my colleague, Mr. JACKSON of the great State of Illinois, for the opportunity to speak with you today.

Let me acknowledge my colleagues who are leading this fight, the Honorable CORI BUSH from the great State of Missouri, the Honorable AYANNA PRESSLEY from the great State of Massachusetts, and all the women who have held us down in the struggle. There would not be the great strides of African-American men if it were not for African-American women. I understand that, and I appreciate that every day.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the tremendous work of African-American women in the continued fight to pass the equal rights amendment, and I thank, once again, Representative BUSH for hosting this Special Order hour tonight.

The equal rights amendment is one of America's most important pieces of legislation. The amendment would guarantee equal legal rights for all Americans, regardless of gender.

The Constitution is an amazing document, and it is amazing how many people were left out of it. The ERA was written 100 years ago by Alice Paul, a New Jersey advocate for women's rights.

There have been several prominent African-American women who have made significant contributions to the Nation's fight for the equal rights amendment.

Pauli Murray was a lawyer and civil rights advocate who wrote the book "States' Laws on Race and Color." Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall called her book the bible of the civil rights movement.

Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American woman in Congress, and she introduced dozens of bills for gender and racial equality.

Flo Kennedy challenged the reputation of African Americans in the media and advertising.

Barbara Jordan was a lawyer and the first African-American woman from the South to be elected to Congress.

Many of my congressional colleagues continue their fight for women's rights every single day.

I am proud to be from a State with a long history of support for women's rights. In 1790, New Jersey was the first

State to enfranchise women in its constitution. Then, New Jersey's constitution was rewritten in 1947 to include equal rights for women—but that was only White women. In New Jersey, equal rights have been the law for 76 years.

Thanks to New Jersey's constitution, it is impossible to take those rights away. That is why we need a national equal rights amendment.

I am so proud of the gentlewoman from Missouri for spearheading this fight. It would keep extremist legislators from taking the hard-earned rights of women away from them.

If you look now at what is going on in this country, there is an effort to take rights away from many people—making it harder for them to vote, eliminating polling sites in minority areas, and not allowing people to get drinking water handed to them from someone else. There is already an assault to turn the clock back.

Is that what making America great again is all about, returning to a day when people don't have equal rights and making sure that minorities have a more difficult time exercising their rights?

Everyone thought that *Roe v. Wade* was the accepted law of the land, and look at where that has gone. It is chipping away at rights slowly but surely.

When African Americans got the right to vote, why was it only for a period of 25 years and then we have to revisit this topic every 25 years: Should we let Blacks vote, or should we not?

That baffles me. That absolutely baffles me. Why was it not just made the law of the land and forget about it?

It is because of times like now that we see what is going on. We are turning the clock back. We are questioning whether or not people should have the equal right to vote.

We are in a very dangerous time in this country. People are arming themselves with AR-15s. Someone is requesting that that be made the national gun of this country.

We are in a very dangerous time, and now an extremist Supreme Court has taken away the fundamental right for women to determine their own healthcare for their own bodies.

Mr. Speaker, one day my friends on the other side of the aisle say that government is too much in your business and your privacy—except when they want to take a woman's right to her healthcare. They want government to be involved in that. They don't want the government to be involved in anything important to them, but they feel that they have the right to determine what another woman does with her body. It is hypocritical. It is hypocrisy.

We must not let the legal rights that women deserve to be taken away from them. That is why we must pass the ERA, and we must pass it now.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable DONALD PAYNE, Jr., for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS).

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank the gentleman from Illinois for co-hosting this Special Order hour with the gentlewoman from Missouri. I thank Representative CORI BUSH as well for spearheading the ERA and for working toward this fight for all of us.

I rise today to observe Women's History Month and to reiterate this year's Black History Month theme of Black Resistance.

Since we last celebrated Black History Month and Women's History Month, Ketanji Brown Jackson has become the first Black woman on the Supreme Court; Beyonce claimed the record for most Grammys won in a lifetime; Serena Williams retired as one of the most accomplished athletes of all time; Congresswoman SUMMER LEE became the first Black woman to represent Pennsylvania in Congress; and JENNIFER MCCLELLAN became the first Black Congresswoman from Virginia.

□ 2015

In my home of Charlotte, North Carolina, Vi Lyles made history as both the longest serving woman and the longest serving Black mayor in our city's history.

In Winston-Salem, North Carolina, my friend and mentor, the late Annie Brown Kennedy, the first Black woman to serve in the North Carolina General Assembly, passed away at the age of 98 after a long and storied career.

These women join the legacy of other women we are celebrating here today, the women who helped lead the movement for the adoption of the equal rights amendment.

The equal rights amendment is still absolutely necessary because, according to the Constitution, we are not equal. Just look at the Dobbs decision. Look at all of the legislation from the State to the Federal level that aims, intentionally or not, to tell women what they can do with their own bodies.

Look at the maternal health crisis in America. Even as science, technology, and healthcare make amazing advances, the number of women dying due to childbirth is going in the wrong direction, and Black women have mortality rates that are three times that.

As Women's History Month comes to an end, we must continue to teach the history of women—Black women, indigenous women, LGBTQ women, and women of color—from the halls of our campuses to the Halls of Congress because if you learn women's history, you learn very quickly how far we have come and how much further we have to go.

Each of us have a role in this history. If you learn this history, teach it. If you live this history, make it.

Join me and join us, join the CBC and all of my colleagues in renewing the

push for the equal rights amendment and equality for women not only in the United States but across the world.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. BROWN).

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my wonderful colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus for organizing this session tonight.

I join them today in recognizing the significant contributions of Black women to the advancement of the equal rights amendment.

Of the more than 12,000 Americans who have served in Congress, only 58 have been Black women. Remarkably, despite our historic and continuous small number among the Members of the House, Black women have often been the driving force behind significant policy shifts that have paved the way for change.

Among those achievements are landmark bills like the equal rights amendment, championed by Black women since its inception. A hero of many Americans inside and outside Capitol Grounds, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was a relentless advocate for equal rights in America. Nicknamed "Fighting Shirley," she stood on this very floor in her first term and decreed that the ERA was destined to become the law of the land. Today, we honor her legacy by advocating for the long-overdue ratification of the ERA.

Congresswoman Chisholm did not stand alone in her fight for equal rights. From educator and activist Mary Church Terrell in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to Congresswoman Barbara Jordan in the 1970s, Black advocates for women's suffrage helped drive the ERA forward.

In recent years, we have seen leaders fight for State ratification of the ERA, including our newest colleague, Congresswoman JENNIFER MCCLELLAN, who along with two Black female colleagues—State Representative Jennifer Carroll Foy and fellow State Senator Mamie Locke—led the final charge that resulted in Virginia being the 38th State to ratify the amendment in 2020.

That legacy lives on, as my colleagues in the 118th Congress maintain and build on the work of our predecessors.

With Representative PRESSLEY's efforts to remove the constitutional deadline for ratification and Representative BUSH's leadership of the first-ever Congressional ERA Caucus, we are closer to ratification than ever before.

I stand in awe of the power, strength, and contributions of these trailblazers and icons, both past and present.

As we continue the fight today, it is an honor to walk alongside my Democratic Women's Caucus colleagues to enshrine the ERA in the Constitution, continuing the legacy work started by the Black women who came before me.

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm envisioned the ERA as the law of the land

in 1969. She once said she wanted to be remembered as a woman who dared to be a catalyst of change, and she will always be known as just that.

Like our ancestors Terrell, Chisholm, Jordan, and more, Black women will continue to help lead the charge, but we cannot do it alone.

To my colleagues who have yet to join us in championing equal rights, I say to you: Dare to become a catalyst of change with us.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SHONTEL BROWN for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker I now yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE), the Congresswoman from the city of Los Angeles.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my brother and friend, Congressman JACKSON from the great State of Illinois, for managing this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour and standing with his sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work that my CBC colleagues are doing as we continue fighting to enshrine the equal rights amendment into our Constitution.

The ERA was sent to the States for ratification in 1972. As we reflect on the 100 years since the ERA was first proposed in 1923, attempts to ratify the amendment each year have faded. What is old has become new again, but the state of gender equality in our country has sadly remained unchanged.

Why all the controversy and why such difficulty in giving women the protection of the Constitution that should have been given to us long ago?

It is 2023. There is no reason that an arbitrary deadline should prevent women from having basic fundamental rights under the Constitution.

Around the country, women, especially women of color, continue to face discrimination in healthcare, in the workforce, in the boardroom, in the schools, and in everyday life.

Enough States have finally ratified the ERA, but it is past time that it becomes an official part of our Constitution and gives every woman in America full protection under the law.

If you support women, you should support the ERA. If you don't support women, stand up and say why you don't think your mother, daughter, sister, aunt, or grandmother deserves equal rights.

My colleagues, Representatives CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY, have led a renewed charge to add a 28th amendment to our Constitution and enshrine the ERA into law. I thank them for their commitment to confronting gender equality in the face of disheartening challenges.

The first ever Equal Rights Amendment Caucus is dedicated to this cause, and as vice chair and co-lead of Representative PRESSLEY's resolution, I stand arm in arm with my colleagues as we bring this battle home.

I am going to say this. This charge is being led by Black women. Historically, we are the ones who take up the mantle of equality and fight to not only uphold our democracy but to move it forward.

Abolition, suffrage, civil rights—all of these movements supported Black women even though they were not always recognized for their leadership and courage. A glaring irony of gender discrimination.

I am going to say the names again. Mary Church Terrell, Shirley Chisholm, Pauli Murray, Nevada Senator Pat Spearman, and even our own JENNIFER MCCLELLAN. These activists have led fierce fights for gender equality to uplift Black women and women across the country.

In fact, Pauli Murray once said: "If anyone should ask a Negro woman in America what has been her greatest achievement, her honest answer would be, 'I survived.'"

We must recognize the work of these pioneers as we continue their fight today. The ERA would allow Congress, Federal agencies, and courts to address the needs of women as they relate to pay equity, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and violence, abortion access, and LGBTQ protections because women are insulted, harassed, demeaned, demoted, and assaulted just for being women.

Enshrining these rights brings our Constitution into the 21st century. We might have been written out, but don't count us out. We will persevere until we can finally celebrate the addition of a 28th amendment to secure equal rights and a better and brighter future for our children and the women that we love.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I first acknowledge and thank our convener, the gentleman from Illinois. I thank the bold and brave women, our colleagues CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY who have put together this convening as well. And I also thank all the women on whose shoulders we stand, particularly those who brought an intersectional perspective and urgency to the fight for all women throughout this country, but also adding on to that urgency, a reminder that it is Women's History Month in the year 2023, and yet we pretend to be surprised that a document written by rich, land-owning White men in the 18th century does not protect my rights.

We pretend to be surprised that a document that saw my Black ancestors as property until the 19th century legally does not yet empower people who look like me.

We are oh so surprised that a document that did not allow women the right to participate in our democracy

through voting, let alone the right to have land or a bank account until the 20th century is in need of an update.

Well, I am not surprised. Actually, I am pissed. I stand today as one of the vice chairs, the new vice chairs of the ERA Caucus to demand the obvious need for a constitutional amendment so that our future daughters and granddaughters, mine and yours, are not discussing what we failed to do in the 21st century.

Yes, I stand today frustrated that it is not obvious to all elected Members of Congress that the rights of all women, and specifically Black women, need to be protected. As we are wrapping Women's History Month, I remain steadfast in making sure that our daughters and granddaughters of the future do not have to continue to discuss this.

Constitutional equality is powerful. Women and the States have done their part to ratify the ERA, as we have heard, including our new colleague, who is joining us in the 118th, but now Congress must swiftly follow suit. We must take this action to move one step closer to enshrining the dignity, humanity, and equality of all people into the highest law of the land.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania, the Honorable Congresswoman SUMMER LEE, for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. MCCLELLAN).

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JACKSON for convening this Special Order and Representatives CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY for their leadership in creating the Congressional ERA Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the first Black woman to represent Virginia, the birthplace of American democracy and the birthplace of American slavery.

I rise as a former State legislator who led Virginia to become the 38th and final State necessary to ratify the equal rights amendment. It is poetic justice that Virginia was the final State necessary for ratification.

It has been a long march toward equality in Virginia's history. In 1619, when the first women were recruited to Jamestown, it was to make wives to the inhabitants, and their rights were surrendered to their husbands. They couldn't vote, they couldn't hold public office, they couldn't control their own property.

African-American women who arrived in 1619 were considered property and had fewer rights, if any at all.

In 1776, the Declaration of Independence established the principle that all men were created equal with inalienable rights. They didn't mean me.

When the Constitution was developed for we the people in order to form a more perfect Union, it didn't include me.

The Constitution purported to create a government by, of, and for the people, but not for me. Only for White men.

For the past centuries, we have made major progress to secure the blessings of liberty for every American.

We have made that progress thanks to the struggle and sacrifice of Black women who were in the fight from the beginning but were the last to benefit from our work. We were there in the fight to abolish slavery. As you heard, we were there in the fight for women's suffrage, even when we were told to march in the back.

□ 2030

We marched for civil rights in the 1960s, even though we weren't given a speaking role. We have fought, organized, and marched for ratification of the equal rights amendment for over a hundred years.

It is absurd that, a hundred years after the ERA's introduction, women still do not have the same constitutional rights as men.

That is why I am not only committed but honored to carry on this fight in Congress with my sisters in this fight, with Representatives Bush and Pressley in the Congressional ERA Caucus.

Women across our Nation have waited too long for equality. It is our time. Publish the ERA today so that, tomorrow, our daughters don't have to fight the same fight.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JENNIFER MCCLELLAN, our newest Member, for her remarks.

You heard from our distinguished colleagues about our topic on the ERA, all issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to avoid vulgarity in their remarks.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-636. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Control of Air Pollution from New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards; Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0055; FRL-7165-04-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU41) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-637. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — New Source Performance Standards Review for Industrial Surface Coating of Plastic Parts for Business Machines [EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0200; FRL-8515-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV23) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-638. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality Redesignation for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Canton, Ohio; Stark County, Ohio [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0195; FRL-9631-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV66) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-639. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Maine; 111(d)/129 Revised State Plan for Large Municipal Waste Combustors and State Plan for Small Municipal Waste Combustors [EPA-R01-OAR-2022-0515; FRL-10220-02-R1] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-640. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Delay of Submittal Date for State Plans Required Under the Affordable Clean Energy Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355; FRL-10477-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV88) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-641. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacteriophage active against *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae*; Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *corylina*; Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *juglandis*; and Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni*; Exemptions from the Requirement of Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0519; FRL-10544-01-OCSPP] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-642. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Modified Potato Acetolactate Synthase (StmALS) in Potato; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0237; 10775-01-OCSPP] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-643. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — EPA Method 23-Determination of Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans from Stationary Sources [EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0677; FRL-5937-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AT09) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-644. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Testing Provisions for Air Emission Sources [EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-

0556; FRL-8335-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV35) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-645. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-02; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 1] received March 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-646. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2023-02; Item III; Docket No.: FAR-2023-0052; Sequence No. 1] received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-647. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Business Program Amendments [FAC 2023-02; FAR Case 2019-008; Item II; Docket No.: 2019-0008; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AN91) received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-648. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's summary presentation of final rules — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-02; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 1] received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-649. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Accelerated Payments Applicable to Contracts with Certain Small Business Concerns [FAC 2023-02; FAR Case 2020-007; Item I; Docket No.: FAR-2020-0007, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AO10) received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-650. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category-Initial Notification Date Extension [EPA-HQ-OW-2009-0819; FRL-8794-1-02-OW] (RIN: 2040-AG28) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Ms. WILD, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. PHILLIPS):