

legislator to do everything in my power to improve healthcare resources for Virginians and tackle the maternal and infant health crisis.

Now, I am one of the few—less than 7 percent—mothers to young children in Congress. I am one of the even fewer 3 percent of Members of Congress who is a Black mother. I am proud to continue my efforts here in Congress on a bipartisan basis.

We can improve health outcomes and close longstanding health disparities by promoting awareness of this nationwide epidemic and encouraging parents and communities to take an active role in supporting preterm birth intervention programs.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution, and I am grateful for the bipartisan group of legislators who are supporting this effort. Together, we can make real progress on these issues, but only if we keep it a priority. We must because our children's lives depend on it.

#### FARM BILL IMPACT SERIES NO. 24: FIVE-YEAR FARM BILL

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the importance of reauthorizing a 5-year farm bill. America's farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers deserve it; America's food and national security depend on it; and Congress must deliver it.

It has been said that the farm bill is like a Swiss Army knife: It does a little bit of everything. This 5-year bill tackles the whole scope of American food and agriculture policy, addressing things like how we conserve our resources to how we support research from our land grant universities to how we keep people fed.

Since it is a 5-year bill, the farm bill is long enough to provide certainty to ag producers, and it is short enough for Congress to respond to market changes and strengthen the farm safety net accordingly.

The farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers that provide us all with food, fuel, and fiber deserve a 5-year bill. The last farm bill was signed into law on December 20, 2018. That legislation was put in place to respond to the needs of producers at that time.

Since 2018, a lot has changed. We had a global pandemic that devastated the supply chain. War broke out between Russia and Ukraine, one of the top wheat-producing countries in the world. The Biden administration's failed trade agenda and delayed appointment of trade officials resulted in unprecedented market fluctuation. The list goes on and on, and we haven't even mentioned inflation or drought conditions yet.

Since 2018, when the last farm bill was signed, input costs on the farm have skyrocketed. At one point in 2022, when inflation was at its worst, fer-

tilizer prices were up 222 percent, and diesel fuel prices were up 115 percent. For the producers whose operations even survived through that time, they are still shouldering the burden of an 80 percent increase in fertilizer costs compared to 2018 and diesel that costs \$4.50 per gallon today compared to \$3 per gallon in 2018. If you hear people talking about how input costs and inflation are coming down, it is an illusion if you compare it to 2018 when Congress signed the last farm bill.

Our national and global security depend on a new farm bill. Ninety years ago, Congress recognized the importance of protecting and strengthening America's food security, on which our national security depends. That is why the farm bill exists.

We cannot afford to have ag producers going out of business because of one bad crop year. Crop insurance helps us avoid that, and this year's wheat harvest in Kansas is a perfect example of why the program is so important.

In 2023, drought and market conditions caused producers to abandon the highest number of acres of wheat since World War I. Right now, crop insurance is helping thousands of producers keep their operations afloat until next year when they roll the dice again with Mother Nature and put their livelihoods on the line, all so that we can have stocked grocery shelves.

Crop insurance is one of the most successful public-private partnerships we have. I have said all along that my top priority for the farm bill is to strengthen and maintain it. If we make any changes to crop insurance, we need to use a scalpel and not a sledgehammer. It is the most cost-effective way to deliver a safe, steady, robust food supply.

Trade and trade promotion also help America remain competitive and secure, and our trade programs are authorized through the farm bill. Back in February, I introduced the Agriculture Export Promotion Act, which would allocate additional resources to the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program for 5 years.

Trade programs, which have longstanding records of success in America, represent the partnership between the public and private sectors of our country. These programs are essential because they spearhead innovative market access and new market development and promote agricultural sales overseas.

Between 1977 and 2019, USDA export promotion programs added 13.7 percent of additional export revenue, or nearly \$648 billion, to the value of U.S. agricultural exports. These programs also created almost a quarter of a million American jobs between 2012 and 2019 alone.

The return on investment from private-sector contributions, which accounted for roughly 75 percent of export promotion between 2013 to 2019, is unparalleled. They must be addressed in a 5-year farm bill.

American agricultural producers already face endless hurdles as they work tirelessly to feed, fuel, and clothe the world, and a 5-year farm bill is our chance to support them with the tools they need to protect the future of America's food and agriculture.

As we work toward this, Congress must be brave enough to have difficult conversations and make smart compromises. If we aren't willing to do that, American agricultural producers will suffer the consequences.

If you think about a safety net, the higher the risk, the higher the fall, and the stronger the safety net that you need to survive. Producers' risk levels are at an all-time high because of inflation and input costs, which have shrunk their margins dramatically.

The livelihoods of American producers and consumers are on the line right now, and that means our food security and national security are on the line, too. America's farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers need certainty like never before, and Congress must deliver for them with a 5-year farm bill.

#### HONORING CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to sports, many athletes will tell you that they play better when they play at home. It is referred to as the home-field advantage. Having that home advantage is just as important to kids as it is to athletes.

Kids do better and are more likely to succeed and thrive with family at home. Every child deserves a safe and loving home where they are supported and encouraged. Sadly, not all do. That is where the Children's Home Society of Florida comes in.

Today, I rise to honor the Children's Home Society of Florida, a champion in childcare that for 120 years has served as a place of refuge, providing abandoned and homeless children with safe homes and loving care.

Since 1902, this society has exemplified what it means to truly look after a community. Starting with a team of just two and caring for 24 children, the Children's Home Society of Florida now boasts over 1,000 team members empowering more than 80,000 children and family members.

Their services include mental health care, trauma-informed care, early childhood services, job training, and so much more. These wonderful people's work spans every aspect of the development of tomorrow's leaders, ensuring that Florida will still be the best State in the U.S. for decades to come.

These accomplishments and more are why I am proud, by the power vested in me, to announce that November 17, 2023, is now recognized as Children's Home Society of Florida Day.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask you and my colleagues to join me in

celebrating this significant milestone. I wish the Children's Home Society of Florida to continue to score touchdowns and home runs for kids in the years ahead because every child is worth fighting for.

#### RECOGNIZING MAYOR RON SAPP

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Ron Sapp for his decades of dedication and service to Fernandina Beach.

During Mayor Sapp's 24 years of civic service as mayor, vice mayor, and commissioner—spanning four decades—he has displayed an unwavering commitment to bettering our hometown of Fernandina Beach, Florida. I was proud to serve alongside him and the commission, as did my father.

Fernandina is proud of Ron Sapp not only because of his dedication to his community but also for his military service as an Air Force veteran. However, no true biography of Ron would be complete without a chapter on Mr. Sapp, the teacher.

Mr. Sapp didn't just teach students what to think. He taught them how to think, and that is something special. Generations of Pirates developed an interest in and love for public service, and for that inspiration, we are grateful.

Mayor Sapp sought to preserve the spirit of Fernandina Beach as a small island town. It is a better place because of his accomplishments. Ron has done all these things with his wife, Kasey, by his side, the support of his daughters, Sherri and Lori, and the love of his grandchildren.

On November 14, one of Mayor Sapp's greatest achievements is being named after him, the Ron Sapp Egans Creek Greenway. Mayor Sapp's introduction of the open space bond issue secured the funding for this greenway, which will leave this land untouched by development to be enjoyed by all for generations to come.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mayor Ron Sapp for his significant role in shaping Fernandina Beach into the beautiful town it is today.

#### RECOGNIZING NORMAN HEGE JEWELERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of the Norman Hege family in Rock Hill, South Carolina, and their 72 years of outstanding service to generations of Rock Hill residents.

April 15, 2023, marks 72 years since Norman Hege Jewelers opened its doors in Rock Hill. Norman Hege Jewelers is the definition of a successful family-run business built on a commitment to quality service and a dedication to their community.

The watch repair business started with Norman Hege. As it grew, his

wife, Kathleen, began taking a more active role. Soon after, their children, Steve, Mike, and Linda, were old enough to work at the store. Linda and Mike now co-own the very store that their father started and successfully run it with values that were held so closely by their parents—to offer quality products, treat customers with respect, and earn trust by being open and honest. Now, Norman Hege Jewelers has employed four generations of the Hege family.

I also recognize the impact of the Hege family well beyond the customers who walk through their doors. The Hege family have supported Rock Hill and York County throughout their 72 years in business. Norman Hege Jewelers donates homecoming crowns for local high schools, donates to a wide variety of causes in the Rock Hill area, and has built meaningful relationships with the entire community.

Businesses like Norman Hege exemplify what makes the United States the greatest nation in the world. The Hege family continues to be devoted to their business and is looking forward to passing it down the family line.

On behalf of the Fifth District of South Carolina, it is my most sincere pleasure to recognize Norman Hege Jewelers and the Hege family for this great service to our State. Please join me in recognizing this great family for its outstanding service in the jewelry industry and the legacy that they have built.

They exemplify the words of the late great Winston Churchill when he said: There will be a time when doing your best isn't good enough; you have to do what is required. The Norman Hege family has done what is required to earn the respect and admiration of people throughout the State of South Carolina.

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#### HONORING DETECTIVE MIKE WAGGONER

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my dear friend, Detective Mike Waggoner, for his service with the Knoxville Police Department. You see Mike in this picture with that incredible moustache.

Detective Waggoner joined the department on November 11, 1974, and I note that I was in the fourth grade at that time. He is celebrating 49 years of service with the KPD.

Waggoner embodies all the characteristics the Knoxville Police Department likes to instill in future generations of officers.

As such, every year, an officer of the department is awarded the Mike Waggoner Leadership Award. This award is given to the officer that exhibits strong passion, dedication, and

thoroughness while inspiring those around them to do the same.

This award was named for Detective Waggoner as he has spent his career in service to the people of Knoxville and is a respected leader among his fellow officers.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Detective Waggoner on his 49 years of service. He is a great friend, a great father, and a great husband. I thank him for all he has done for our city.

#### HONORING CAPTAIN JACK GILLOOLY

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Gillooly, an American hero who served his country during World War II.

At 103 years old, he is believed to be the oldest living Navy football player and Navy aviator. He played in three Army-Navy football games and never lost to Army. Jack played in the last game held at West Point in 1943.

Jack had a long list of highlights, but most would say his best was his tackle of Glenn Davis, a Heisman Trophy-winning Army halfback.

After graduation, he was assigned to the USS *Columbia* and fought in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the longest Naval battle in World War II. He survived three kamikaze attacks on his cruiser.

Jack wanted to get off the water and into the air, so he applied and was selected to become a Naval aviator. During the Cuban Missile Crisis in the early 1960s, he was the commanding officer of an antisubmarine fighter.

Captain Gillooly was also part of the Navy's first electronic countermeasure squadron during the Korean war, and he was the base commander at Orlando Air Base, which was later converted into the Orlando Naval Training Center.

Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces, Mr. Speaker. It is my honor to recognize Captain Jack Gillooly as the Tennessee Second District's November 2023 Veteran of the Month.

#### HONORING COLONEL EDMUND MORRISEY

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Colonel Ed Morrisey who passed away on November 7 at the age of 94.

In 1952, Colonel Morrisey was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Reserves in the U.S. Air Force and placed on Active Duty as a weapons controller.

In 1968, the colonel became the first commander of the I.G. Brown Training and Education Center at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base. He went on to build the Air National Guard's premier professional military education institute, leading it for 15 years.

He is the only field officer in the National Guard to have earned the Order of the Sword, the enlisted force's highest honor to be bestowed on officers. The sword symbolizes truth, justice, and righteous power given to a leader among leaders.

Ed is survived by his wife of 41 years, Pauline; his son, John; stepdaughter,