

Located in Virginia Beach, Virginia, the Kellam High School Knights were able to bring the Class 5 Region A Championship back home to their fellow students, faculty, families, and friends through their hard work and dedication to their team. The Kellam High School Softball Team fought their way to victory, defeating their opponents in a close game ending in a three to two win, and defending their regional championship from last season, defeated their opponents in overtime, finishing the game eight to seven.

As a former athlete myself, I want each of these young women to know Virginia's 2nd District is extremely proud of their accomplishment and applauds them on their well-earned victory. Again, congratulations to the Kellam High School Softball Team on the Class 5 Region A Championship.

WISHING DR. FRANK WALERKO A  
VERY HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2024*

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and wish a very happy and special 100th birthday to World War II and Korean War veteran Frank Walerko, M.D.

Born on July 28, 1924, Dr. Walerko embodies what it means to be a member of the "Greatest Generation." When the forces of fascism and tyranny threatened the peace, security, and freedom of millions upon millions of people throughout the world, Frank answered the call to serve. Frank served in the Navy during World War II, and later as a Captain in the Army Medical Corp during the Korean War.

President Reagan reminded us that freedom is fragile and must constantly be fought for and guarded by each generation. That noble mission is exactly what Dr. Walerko helped carry out when he wore the uniform of the United States Military. Because of the service and sacrifice of veterans, generations of Americans have been able to experience the blessings of liberty and live in a land that is free. For that, all of us owe Frank and his fellow veterans a debt that we can never fully repay.

In addition to his military service, Dr. Walerko holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Notre Dame, and his Medical Degree from the St. Louis University School of Medicine. He also established a family practice in Mishawaka and South Bend, where he met the specific medical needs of Hoosiers in our area.

As Dr. Walerko celebrates a century of life well lived, I Join Hoosiers throughout Indiana's Second District and beyond in wishing Frank a very happy 100th birthday. I commend him for his loyal service and the many positive contributions he has made to the Second District and our country. May God bless Frank Walerko.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2024*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 346 (Dem Motion to Table on H. Res. 1344—Merrick Garland Contempt), and YEA on Roll Call No. 347 (Dem Motion to Refer to the Rules Committee on H. Res. 1344—Merrick Garland Contempt).

### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MS. GERTHA LEE STEWART

#### HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2024*

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Gertha Lee Stewart on her 100th birthday.

Gertha Lee Stewart is a venerable matriarch who has become the heart and soul of her large family, consisting of 250 members. Her wisdom and love have prospered generations, making her a cherished figure in their lives. Known for her incredible life story, Gertha Lee has been a beacon of strength and resilience.

A devout Christian, Gertha Lee's faith has been the cornerstone of her existence. She has spent countless hours in prayer and service, always ready to lend a helping hand or a listening ear. Her deep spirituality and unwavering commitment to her beliefs have inspired many in her community to find their own paths of faith and devotion.

Beyond her family, Gertha Lee is recognized as a pillar of her community. Her charitable acts, wisdom, and leadership have earned her the respect and admiration of all who know her. Whether organizing community events, supporting local charities, or simply offering sage advice, Gertha Lee Stewart embodies the spirit of kindness and community service, leaving an indelible mark in her wake.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Gertha Lee Stewart and her family as we congratulate her on 100 years of life. May she continually be a blessing and light to all who know her.

### RECOGNIZING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES VIENNA-OAKTON CHAPTER 1116

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2024*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 on its 55th anniversary. The Northern Virginia region is home to tens of thousands of federal employees and many retirees who have chosen to stay in the region. Throughout their careers, these dedicated civil

servants have given their time and effort to serve their fellow Americans, and NARFE has consistently provided them with coordinated support.

Founded in 1921, NARFE is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement, and health care benefits of federal employees and retirees as well as their spouses and survivors. Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 is one of more than 1,600 NARFE chapters nationwide.

The Charter for Chapter 1116 was signed on June 3, 1969. At that time, the Chapter name was "Vienna," and ended up being changed to "Vienna-Oakton" in 2005. Four of the past presidents are still active in this chapter. Chapter members have had a strong voice in many national and local legislative issues affecting federal retirees, senior citizens, and the public at large. The Board members of Chapter 1116 work to uphold the association's mission and promote the education and welfare of area members and participate in the Virginia Federation of NARFE meetings and conferences.

This chapter's members support and contribute to Alzheimer's Research which had contributions of over \$16 million at the end of April 2024. Chapter 1116 members' contributions helped make Virginia Number One in the nation with a total of over \$37,000 contributed for the last fiscal year. The support of the Vienna-Oakton Chapter, and chapters throughout the country, is vital to the goal of a world without Alzheimer's or dementia.

The Vienna-Oakton Chapter is also very active in the community and has strong ties to civic organizations in the Vienna area. They are a member of the Vienna Business Association, which is the local Chamber of Commerce which promotes growth through professional development, networking, and marketing activities. Chapter 1116 is also active in the local American Legion Dyer-Gunnell Post 180, volunteering at the monthly breakfasts which raise money for scholarships and community activities for children at Easter and Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 for fifty-five years of dedicated service to Northern Virginia's federal employees. These individuals are the lifeblood of our federal government. I am grateful for their service and proud to represent such outstanding individuals. I wish them the best on their anniversary, and continued success in future endeavors.

### RECOGNIZING THE FIRST COLONIAL WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM

#### HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2024*

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the First Colonial Women's Tennis Team on winning the Class 5 Region A Championship.

As their Congresswoman, I am proud of these young athletes and their recent achievement.

Located in Virginia Beach, Virginia, the First Colonial Patriots were able to bring the Class

5 Region A Championship back home to their fellow students, faculty, families, and friends through their hard work and dedication to their team. The First Colonial Women's Tennis Team fought their way to victory after five hours of play. Coach Diane Deaton continued to encourage her team, even when the odds were not in their favor, and led the team to a five to four victory.

As a former athlete myself, I want each of these young women to know Virginia's 2nd District is extremely proud of their accomplishment and applauds them on their well-earned victory. Again, congratulations to the First Colonial Women's Tennis Team on their Class 5 Region A Championship win.

#### OPPOSING H.R. 8281—SAVE ACT

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD a letter from the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights that indicates the strong opposition to the SAVE Act of 146 local, state, and national organizations.

MAY 16, 2024.

Hon. BRYAN STEIL,  
*Chair, Committee on House Administration,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. JOE MORELLE,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on House Administration,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIR STEIL AND RANKING MEMBER MORELLE: On behalf of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of national organizations committed to promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States, the Declaration for American Democracy, a coalition of local, state, and national organizations working to strengthen U.S. democracy; and the undersigned 123 organizations, we write in strong opposition to the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act.

Congress has a pivotal constitutional responsibility to safeguard free and fair elections and to ensure all Americans have the freedom to vote. The SAVE Act represents a dangerous departure from fulfilling this vital duty. The bill's requirement of documentary proof of American citizenship to register to vote in federal elections is wholly based on falsehoods and, even worse, seeks to promote fear-mongering and divisive rhetoric. Instead of proceeding with this legislation, Congress should take actions that will help voters and promote democracy such as passing legislation that will strengthen protections against discrimination in voting and expand access to the ballot for all communities.

The SAVE Act is both unnecessary and dangerous. Our electoral system already deploys processes to ensure that our elections are secure and that only eligible voters are participating in our democracy. Voters in every state are already required to affirm or verify their citizenship status when registering to vote. State election officials already have in place existing systems to verify an individual's voter eligibility and ensure voter rolls are accurate.

Moreover, federal law already prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections. Every single state bans noncitizens from voting in state elections. These protections have proven very effective, given that there is simply no evidence of widespread noncit-

izen voting in elections. Indeed, it defies logic that non-U.S. citizens would risk their immigration status, the potential of criminal prosecution, future opportunity for naturalization, and freedom for themselves and their families by unlawfully committing an affirmative act to vote in an election in which they are prohibited from participating. The penalties for registering or voting as a non-U.S. citizen include imprisonment or deportation. The risks for any non-U.S. citizen to vote in a federal election are serious and steep, and our laws already effectively prevent significant unlawful voter registration and voting.

Introduction and advancement of this bill is the most recent example of what has been a string of recent efforts to make voter registration and voting more difficult, particularly for voters of color. False claims of non-citizen voting have been disingenuously used to enact more onerous voter identification requirements, limitations on voter assistance in languages other than English, and attempts to spread misinformation about voting. This legislation seeks to intimidate members of immigrant communities and communities of color from exercising their lawful right to vote. It also would make it harder for voters of color and naturalized citizens to register to vote and would prevent their full participation in democracy. These are already communities who are unfairly targeted by anti-immigrant policies at the federal, state, and local level. Congress should be doing everything possible to encourage and promote the political participation of these citizens, rather than seeking to diminish it through threats and fear tactics.

Legislation like the SAVE Act is intended to elicit irrational fear of the growing number of citizens of color. Congress should instead act to ensure that every eligible U.S. citizen has the freedom to vote unimpeded by discriminatory rules rooted in fear and division. We urge you to instead focus on passing real pro-voter reforms to ensure that everyone can fully participate in our democracy. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Proll, senior director of the voting rights program at The Leadership Conference, at [proll@civilrights.org](mailto:proll@civilrights.org).

Sincerely,

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; Declaration for American Democracy; 18by Vote; Accountable US; Advancement Project; AFT; All About The Ballots; All On The Line; All Voting Is Local Action; America's Voice; American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD); American Association of University Women (AAUW); American Civil Liberties Union; American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees; Arab American Institute (AAI); Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF); Asian Americans Advancing Justice—AAJC; Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote (APIA Vote); Autistic Self Advocacy Network.

Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club; Black Voters Matter Fund; Brennan Center for Justice; Campaign Legal Center; Carolina Jews for Justice; Center for Common Ground; Center for Living & Working, Inc.; Center for Popular Democracy; Chicago Survivors; Chispa LCV; CivicGeorgia; Clean Elections Texas; Coalition on Human Needs; Common Cause; Common Defense; Communications Workers of America; Courage for America; Defend Democracy; DemCast USA; Democracy 21.

Democracy Maine; Democracy Matters; Democracy SENTRY; Demos; Detroit Disability Power; End Citizens United // Let America Vote Action Fund; Fair Elections Center; Faith Commons; Faith in Public Life Action; Fix Democracy First; FLIC Votes; Free Speech For People; Georgia Coalition

for the Peoples Agenda; Get Money Out—Maryland; Government Information Watch; Greenpeace USA; HeadCount; Helping Hands Outreach Services of Mississippi; Hip Hop Caucus; Indivisible Santa Fe.

Interfaith Alliance; Japanese American Citizens League; JustLeadership USA; LDF; League of Conservation Voters; League of Women Voters of the United States; MALDEF; Memphis APRI; Missouri Voter Protection Coalition; MomsRising; MoveOn; Muslims for Community, Action and Support (MCAS); N.C. For the People Action; NALEO Educational Fund; National Action Network; National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA); National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities; National Association of Social Workers; National Community Action Partnership; National Council of Jewish Women.

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN); National Education Association; National Employment Law Project; National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC); National Urban League; Native American Rights Fund; NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice; New Georgia Project Action Fund; Out of Many 1 Advocacy; People For the American Way; People Power United; Pride at Work; Project On Government Oversight; Protect Democracy; Public Citizen; RepresentUs; RespectAbility; Safer Country; Scrutineers; Secure Elections Network; Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund.

Stand UP Alaska; Stand Up America; State Voices; Storied Analytics LLC; The National Vote; The Workers Circle; Transformative Justice Coalition; Transparency International U.S.; Un-PAC; UnidosUS; Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice; United Church of Christ; Vote.org; Voter Participation Center; Voters Rights and Protection Taskforce; Voto Latino; WALKING TO FIX OUR DEMOCRACY; We Are All America; Westchester for Change; Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center; Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice; Women's March; WV Citizen Action; WV FREE (West Virginia Focus: Reproductive Education and Equity); ZERO TO THREE.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF HUGH ARMSTRONG

**HON. LANCE GOODEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2024

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Hugh Armstrong, a dedicated civic leader and former district manager of the Athens office of Texas Power and Light, who passed away on Monday at the age of 84. Hugh Armstrong managed TP&L's Athens office from 1982 to 2002. In 1987, his outstanding contributions to the community were recognized when he was named Athens Citizen of the Year.

Mr. Armstrong served as president of the Athens Chamber of Commerce, the Athens Economic Development Corporation, and the Athens Rotary Club. Hugh was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his substantial contributions to Rotary's humanitarian and educational programs. In 2014, Keep Athens Beautiful awarded Hugh the Margaret Myers Award for his dedicated service. When the city reorganized its Park Board in 2015, Hugh was chosen as Vice Chairman.

Born in Paris, Texas, Hugh graduated from high school in 1958 and earned a bachelor's