

101st birthday. Granite staters will be forever grateful to Floyd for the impact he has made for our state, the country, and the world. I look forward to seeing what his next chapter holds, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF LILLY LEDBETTER, EQUAL PAY CHAMPION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the incredible life and legacy of a woman who never let anything dissuade her from fighting for what she knew to be right. My dear friend Lilly Ledbetter was a champion for women's equality and trailblazer in the fight for economic justice. Today, we honor her immeasurable contributions to our movement on the 16th Anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. This is the first anniversary we are commemorating since her passing last fall.

Her story begins in Alabama, where Lilly was born and raised, but it did not end there. Lilly was as passionate and fearless as anyone I have ever met. Underneath her genteel southern charm, she was an iron fist in a velvet glove. She never set out to be a hero, but she became one for me and millions of women whose struggles for equal pay and workplace fairness, which she elevated.

In 1979, Lilly accepted a job at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Gadsden, Alabama. She started there as the only woman in her position as an overnight supervisor. By the end of her career 19 years later, she was anonymously informed that over her decades of hard work for Goodyear she had been receiving 40 percent less pay than her male co-workers. Lilly left a quiet retired life behind to wage a righteous fight for the pay that she had earned and deserved.

Her lawsuit made it to the Supreme Court, which ruled 5–4 against her in a contentious decision that rested on a technicality. They reversed her jury award of over three million dollars, yet never reached the merits of her case. Reversing decades of settled law, they said she needed to bring her pay discrimination case when the discrimination began, two decades before, even though she didn't know about it. Many would have thrown in the towel then. But Lilly knew she was in the right, and as always, she refused to give up.

Lilly then came to Congress, where I had been leading the fight for equal pay for decades. She was an eloquent and powerful champion, and together we assembled a broad coalition of advocates in support of pay equity. In 2009, we passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. It was the first bill President Barack Obama signed into law, restoring the time period women have to sue for pay discrimination after receiving a paycheck tainted by discrimination.

It took remarkable perseverance and a relentless desire to see justice done. Lilly was attacked in the media and suffered all the pitfalls of becoming the public face of an equal rights issue. But as long as there was still work to do, Lilly never let that dissuade her. Lilly kept traveling the country—speaking out

and championing the cause of equal pay, and the need for new tools to challenge discrimination going forward.

She did this not because she benefitted from it, but because the work is not done. This is a fight that I continue to this day, for her and the rest of American women who, on average, still earns only 78 cents for every dollar that a man makes, regardless of state or occupation.

This is what my bill, the Paycheck Fairness Act, is designed to fix. The House has passed this bill four times—it is past time for the Senate to act.

In a world where women continue to suffer from intense economic pressures, Lilly showed that the power of one woman's relentless commitment to justice can make a difference. Because she refused to be silent in the face of terrible injustice, and because she exhibited such strength and perseverance in seeing a wrong made right, she transformed the lives of millions of American women for the better. I was consistently inspired by her strength, courage, and selflessness.

Reflecting on her continuous and persistent efforts, Lilly said, "I told my pastor when I die, I want him to be able to say at my funeral that I made a difference." While our Nation lost Lilly last year, I know she is looking down on us while we continue our fight for economic justice. And we are looking up at Lilly and to say, yes, she made a difference.

Lilly Ledbetter was a remarkable woman, a good friend, and a true American heroine. We must complete her legacy by ending the gender pay gap once and for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 21, 2025, I missed Roll Call Votes No. 18 and No. 19.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 18 (H.R. 186) and YEA on Roll Call No. 19 (H.R. 187).

HONORING OFFICER ANTHONY CATANIA

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Anthony Catania of the Frankfort Police Department, who was named the 2024 Officer of the Year. This prestigious award recognizes his exceptional commitment to the safety and well-being of our community.

Officer Catania exemplifies the core values of courage, respect, integrity, service, commitment, and loyalty. His bravery in crisis situations has not only safeguarded our community but also inspired his peers. He consistently treats all individuals with dignity, fostering trust between the police department and citizens. Integrity is fundamental to Officer Catania's service; he upholds ethical conduct even when unobserved. His dedication extends beyond

law enforcement through community engagement and mentorship. Additionally, his pursuit of professional growth enhances both his skills and the effectiveness of the Frankfort Police Department.

Officer Catania's years of exemplary service make him a deserving choice for this honor. I am proud to recognize him as the 2024 Officer of the Year. I am confident that Officer Anthony Catania will continue to serve as a role model for law enforcement officers across the 1st Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

CELEBRATING THE MARRIAGE OF KURT DIETER AND ADDISON BREIDING

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the marriage of Kurt Dieter and Addison Breiding. As proud residents of Boca Raton in Florida's 23rd Congressional District, Kurt and Addison have not only enriched each other's lives but have also become cherished members of our community.

On March 1, 2025, this wonderful couple will begin the next chapter of their lives together as they exchange vows at the Baker's Cay Resort in Key Largo, Florida. Their love story began on May 15, 2020, when a mutual friend introduced them at Tin Roof in Delray Beach. Since that day, Kurt and Addison have built a beautiful life together, filled with love, laughter, and shared adventures.

Kurt, an adventurous traveler and University of Maryland graduate, fell in love with more than just Addison when they met in 2020. Through her, he discovered the beauty of Florida as she introduced him to her favorite towns, beaches, and hidden gems. Their shared love for the Sunshine State led them to settle in Boca Raton in 2021, where they have created a warm and welcoming home with their beloved dog, Homer. Together, they reflect the vibrant spirit of our community and the joy of building a life filled with love and adventure.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Kurt Dieter and Addison Breiding as they prepare for a lifetime of happiness. Their union reflects the values of love, dedication, and community that make our district and our Nation strong. I wish them endless joy and look forward to seeing the incredible contributions they will continue to make to Boca Raton and Florida's 23rd Congressional District.

WARWICK GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Warwick High School Field Hockey Team on winning the PIAA Field Hockey Championship on November 16, 2024.

The Warwick School District Warriors shut out their opponents 4–0 at the PIAA Class 2A

Field Hockey Championship game. Warwick led their opponents less than two minutes into the match and never looked back, only allowing their opponents 7 shots on goal. Their state title crowned a spectacular 27–2 season.

The players and coaches of the Warwick Field Hockey Team should be proud of this extraordinary accomplishment. I congratulate them on their Field Hockey Championship and wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors. I am certain that the lessons that each of these students learned on the field will continue to serve them well throughout their lives.

HONORING MRS. SUSAN PEGLOW

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK"
FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and recognize McMinn County, Tennessee Veteran Service Officer Mrs. Susan Peglow on her retirement March 28, 2025.

Mrs. Peglow began her service to our country in April 1985 when she enlisted in the United States Army as a registered nurse. She served in this position until May of 1987 obtaining the rank of sergeant.

Following her military service, Susan continued to serve others in various capacities as a nurse. In September 2015, Susan accepted the duties as the Veterans Service Officer for McMinn County, Tennessee, a part of the Third Congressional District. This office provides support to approximately 4800 veterans and generates 88 million dollars of Economic Impact annually.

Susan is an active member of American Legion Post 68, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5146 Athens, Tennessee. As a member of the American Legion, Susan has been instrumental in the formation of the McMinn County Honor Guard and still serves with them today. To recognize both women veterans and Vietnam Veterans, Susan founded the McMinn County Veterans Ball just completing the third year.

Susan has been married to her husband Robert for 36 years and has six children. Though her career as the Veteran Service Officer is ending, I believe that she will continue to serve veterans and the community of McMinn County.

I am honored to recognize her for her many years of service and congratulate her on her retirement.

HONORING SHELLEY DIEHL
GEBALLE, JD, MPH ON THE OC-
CASION OF HER 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Shelley Diehl Geballe—a dear friend, community leader, and advocate—as she celebrates her 75th birthday, marking a remarkable mile-

stone in her extraordinary life. An attorney by education and training, Shelley has dedicated a lifetime to advocacy and mentorship, touching countless lives.

Following her graduation from the University of Michigan, Shelley went on to attend Yale Law School, where she earned her Juris Doctorate, as well as the Yale School of Public Health, where she earned a Master of Public Health degree. She has used this unique educational background throughout her career to make a difference in the lives of others, particularly children.

Shelley began her career as a civil rights attorney with the Connecticut chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union where she served as counsel in a variety of federal class action cases, including representing the state's abused and neglected children in a challenge to Connecticut's foster care system. In 1995 she co-founded Connecticut Voices for Children, a state research and advocacy organization focused on improving the well-being of Connecticut's children and families, specifically those that have been historically disadvantaged. Shelley led the organization as its President for more than a decade during which time she focused her own research and writing on state and federal tax and budget policy, family economic security, child welfare and juvenile justice, and children's health and mental health. She remains a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Connecticut Voices for Children. In 2009 Shelley co-founded the Connecticut News Project, the parent organization of the CT Mirror, an early on-line news site that provides professional reporting about Connecticut government, policy and politics. Shelley continues to serve on its Board of Directors.

Shelley has always felt a deep commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders. For 20 years she served as a Clinical Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School where she co-taught the Legislative Advocacy Clinic. There, under faculty leadership, students became familiar with the state legislative process and were able to work with non-profit organizations to advance their legislative agendas. Today, Shelley is a Professor in the Practice (Health Policy) at the Yale School of Public Health, the first Health Policy Professor to have held that title. In this role, she has developed and taught courses in Public Health Law and Health disparities while also directing the Health Policy Practicum. Since 2011, she has been voted best professor once, most inspiring teacher twice, and best mentor twice.

Shelley's background, experience, and knowledge have combined to give her a unique voice as well as earning her the respect and admiration of leaders across Connecticut. Her advice and counsel is often sought. Shelley has served in multiple appointed positions in Connecticut, including on the Advisory Committee of the Office of the Child Advocate. She has been a consultant in diverse international contexts, including the role of the non-profit sector and public health law. She has also served on the boards of multiple state and national organizations, including the ACLU, Planned Parenthood of America's Legal Advisory Board, and the Melville Charitable Trust.

Today, as Shelley reflects on her 75th birthday, she can be proud of her many accomplishments as well as her legacy of public service and invaluable contributions. I am hon-

ored to join her husband of fifty-two years, Gordon, as well as their three sons, Josh, Ben, and Dan, their nine grandchildren, and all of the extended family and friends who have gathered in extending my heartfelt congratulations to Shelley Diehl Geballe on her 75th birthday as well as my very best wishes for continued health and happiness. Happy Birthday.

RECOGNIZING ANIKKA GILLISPIE

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anikka Gillispie of the Frankfort Police Department for being named 2024 Telecommunicator of the Year in recognition of her exceptional service and unwavering commitment to public safety.

Telecommunicators are the critical first point of contact during emergencies, serving as lifelines that connect people in crisis with the essential help they need. Their role demands extraordinary skills: rapid decision-making, emotional intelligence, and the ability to remain calm under intense pressure. Ms. Gillispie has exemplified these qualities and more, demonstrating exceptional performance beyond standard expectations.

Ms. Gillispie's dedication to her role has not only ensured the efficient dispatch of emergency responders but has also provided crucial support to citizens during their most vulnerable moments. The Telecommunicator of the Year award celebrates not just professional excellence but also the compassion and resilience required in this demanding field.

Ms. Gillispie's outstanding service to the Frankfort Police Department and the community at large makes her the perfect choice for Telecommunicator of the Year. I am confident she will continue to serve as an exemplary role model for telecommunicators across the 1st Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

INTRODUCTION OF JONES ACT
MODERNIZATION BILLS

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, today I again introduce three bills to end over a century of federally-imposed monopolistic closed market domestic cargo shipping to and from my isolated home state of Hawaii and the other island and separated jurisdictions of our country not part of the contiguous 48 United States. In doing so, we seek to break the stranglehold on the peoples and economies of our exposed communities and our resulting sky-high costs of living which are caused by just a few domestic shipping companies controlling the lifeline of commerce upon which we absolutely depend.

These bills all amend the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, also known as the Jones Act. That federal law mandates that all cargo shipping between U.S. ports occur exclusively on U.S. not foreign, flagged vessels. Additionally,