

be more loving family members, kinder friends, and better neighbors because that is the good that overcomes evil.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the Hortman and Hoffman families during this time of tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG).

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two incredible Minnesotans and friends who were taken from us too soon: Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark Hortman.

We lost Melissa and Mark two weeks ago in an unthinkable, politically motivated attack that also threatened the lives of State Senator John Hoffman; his wife, Yvette; and their daughter, Hope.

Like many Minnesotans, I have struggled to come to terms with this tragedy and to make sense of it, but I found comfort in community and in sharing stories of my friends, Melissa and Mark.

Today, I will remember the Hortmans for the people that they were and the legacy that they will leave behind. Anyone who knew Melissa and Mark knew that, together, they were a force for good. Melissa was a dedicated public servant, and both she and her husband devoted their lives to improving the lives of Minnesotans.

Personally, Melissa and I shared a love of golden retrievers. We often exchanged stories and photos of our beloveds. She adored her golden retriever, Gilbert, and he adored her.

Professionally, I had the privilege of working with Melissa over the years and watching her excel as speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives. I had always admired her work and her ability to work across the aisle and make tough decisions when she needed to. She was a true leader, and she led by example.

Recently, Melissa had to take a tough vote that she personally didn't agree with, but it was the best deal that she could get. In my last conversation with her, I told her that I was proud of her. I was proud of her leadership. Standing here today, I am so glad that I did.

It is still difficult to comprehend the violent attacks on the Hortmans and Hoffmans, but what I do know is that we got here, in part, because of our divisive rhetoric that we have allowed to seep into our politics and into our communities.

It will take our entire community coming together. We must hold ourselves and each other accountable. It is the only way forward, and it is how we honor the legacy of Melissa and Mark.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. OMAR).

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart in support of H. Res. 519.

What happened in my State of Minnesota was a painful reminder of the growing threats that public servants face simply for doing their jobs.

Speaker Melissa Hortman was a friend, mentor, and fierce advocate who dedicated her life to public service. The assassination of Melissa and her husband, Mark, and the harm done to Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette, is a tragedy that should shake all of us, regardless of party.

This resolution calls on us, on both sides of the aisle, to take that violence seriously.

□ 1530

Recently, we have seen acts of political violence minimized, joked about, and used as a talking point. This has to stop. This job is never supposed to come with a target on our backs.

Political violence has no place in our democracy. If we truly believe in the work that we are doing here, then we have to protect the people who serve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 519 introduced by Congresswoman KELLY MORRISON and the Minnesota delegation.

I join my colleagues in condemning the attack that took the lives of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, and wounded Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette.

Let me say this loud and clear as so many have said today. There is no place in our democracy for political violence. It violates our shared humanity. The violence we saw in Minnesota is a consequence of those in power irresponsibly stoking division and fermenting hate against political opponents.

I also rise today to amplify the resolution's call that we all reaffirm our commitment to a democracy where violent rhetoric and acts like this are not tolerated.

Their call is echoed in my resolution to honor the life of Wadee Alfayoumi, a 6-year-old boy from Illinois whose life was taken in the act of anti-Palestinian violence. It is the duty of elected officials and the media to tell the truth without dehumanizing rhetoric when informing the public of factual information.

We know that dehumanizing rhetoric can fuel sentiments of hate that result in violence, and each tragedy adds to a litany of evidence that our safety and our security are interconnected. Dehumanizing rhetoric makes us all less safe. Whether it be Truth Social polls, on Twitter or anywhere else, we all have a responsibility to denounce political violence in all its forms.

It is our duty to denounce, and we will continue to reject, all forms of

hate-fueled violence from Plainfield, Illinois to Gaza to Israel to D.C. to Boulder to Minneapolis and everywhere in between. It is our responsibility, and I thank the sponsors for bringing this resolution.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, we can all agree that political violence should be condemned whenever it happens. Public servants must be able to do their jobs and represent their constituents without fear. It is good to hear this bipartisan support today. Of course, our prayers and our thoughts are with everyone impacted.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I join my House colleagues in offering my deepest condolences to the people of Minnesota.

I particularly extend my sympathies to my House colleagues representing the Minnesota delegation. We mourn the loss of Melissa and Mark Hortman, remembering their lives and the lasting impact they had on the State they loved so deeply.

We send warm wishes of recovery to John and Yvette Hoffman, who have displayed true courage through this nightmare.

My prayers are with the families and friends of the victims who have had their lives upended and forever altered by these heinous acts.

We will not bend to intimidation or fear, and we refuse to tolerate the actions of those who would seek to usurp the will of the people and their representatives, advancing their own twisted agendas through violence and bloodshed.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage each of our colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 519, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO WILLIS  
ROSCOE BOWMAN

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very good friend of

mine and a dadgum good east Tennessean, Mr. Willis Roscoe Bowman, on his 90th birthday.

He is a lifelong resident of Bristol, Tennessee, and a lifelong entrepreneur. If I had to guess, I think his proudest accomplishment is his family. Mr. Bowman is married to his loving wife, and he is an outstanding father and grandfather to nine grandchildren. I know they keep him very busy.

He began his career after purchasing a small gas station, going on to own nine different domestic and foreign car dealerships across east Tennessee. At the age of 90, he still continues to go into the office three to four times a week, Mr. Speaker. I think Congress could learn a lot from his work ethic and dedication to his community.

Roscoe is also a NASCAR fanatic and never missed a race at Bristol Motor Speedway from 1961 until 2019. He even earned the coveted position of dropping the starting flag at a race. Over the years, he has become a collector of classic cars, restoring many of them himself.

Friends, family, employees, and customers of Roscoe's will always tell you that he is one of the best men in all of east Tennessee, and I agree with that.

He is most well-known for giving you his word and coming through every time, Mr. Speaker. This is yet just another example how Members of Congress could learn a little of something from Roscoe.

Mr. Speaker, from up here in Washington, D.C., I thank Mr. Bowman for his friendship, and I wish him the happiest 90th birthday. I thank him for his time and commitment to the people of east Tennessee.

#### IN MEMORY OF FREDERICK W. SMITH, JR.

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to appear here.

In Memphis, one of our great leaders in the State of Tennessee, in the United States of America, and the world, in fact, was Frederick W. Smith, Jr.

Fred Smith died suddenly this past weekend. He was 80 years old.

Fred Smith started a business called FedEx, the largest air cargo system in the world. He started it with an idea that he came up with at Yale University and made it a paper. The paper didn't get a very good grade, but the people of the world judged it as A-plus, and everything about Fred Smith was A-plus.

He was just a regular, decent human being and a good guy. He was always available. He never made you think he was a big titan of business or a leader of industry in the world. He was just somebody who was interested in what you had to talk to him about, and he would offer his advice.

In Memphis, he did have his hand in just about everything. Our basketball arena, FedExForum, has made the city the home of an NBA team. That is because of Fred Smith. Our college football team plays in Liberty Stadium. He has pledged \$50 million to improve that stadium and bring it up to higher standards. We have a golf tournament that is the FedEx St. Jude Golf Classic.

He had his hand in every good thing in Memphis from education, zoos, and the civil rights museum. It is a big loss to Memphis. It is a big loss to Tennesseans. It is a big loss to Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. BURCHETT for joining me up here. I ask everyone to stand for a moment of silence in the memory of Frederick W. Smith, Jr., a life well lived.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOBBS RULING

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

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago today, the Supreme Court made the courageous and correct decision to strike down Roe v. Wade, but, Mr. Speaker, when over a million abortions are still happening every year in our country, we cannot grow apathetic to the ongoing suffering of unborn children.

Our Constitution never was a pro-abortion document. It was always intended to guarantee equal protection for all people no matter how young or how small. The good from the Dobbs decision is eclipsed by the rise in abortions nationwide following the decision, mostly due to chemical abortions through telehealth.

Congress must act with urgency. My Teleabortion Prevention Act takes a step in the right direction by ending the practice of mail-order abortion that kills children and leaves mothers alone and helpless.

We must take the principles woven into the fabric of our country and ensure they are reflected in our laws.

#### REMEMBERING THE LATE FORMER SPEAKER EMERITA MELISSA HORTMAN

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late former Minnesota House of Representatives Speaker Melissa Hortman.

From the start of her career fighting housing discrimination as a volunteer lawyer to leading the Minnesota House as speaker, Melissa truly exemplified what it means to live a life of public service.

It was my honor to serve alongside her in the Minnesota legislature, where she showed me how to lead with passion and integrity.

I was heartbroken to learn that my dear friend and her husband, Mark, were assassinated in an act of senseless political violence.

There is absolutely no place in our communities for this kind of cruelty. We must settle our differences with civility and grace. We owe this promise to Melissa, Mark, and the Hoffmans, who also suffered at the hands of this violence, and our future generations.

Mr. Speaker, may Melissa's memory of unwavering dedication to all of Minnesota be remembered for years to come.

#### DO NOT MESS WITH OUR PUBLIC LANDS

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

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I have a simple message for my colleagues in the U.S. Senate: Do not mess with our public lands.

I helped to defeat a provision originally included in the House reconciliation bill that would have provided for public land sales. We got it removed, but now a similar provision has somehow reemerged in the Senate.

I will be very clear: The inclusion of any such provision in the final version of the bill will imperil the entire reconciliation package. Our beautiful public lands are not just national treasures. They are deeply interwoven with our communities. They are essential to the character of our region. They provide jobs and economic activity. They provide recreation and joy, and they are open to all.

Mr. Speaker, I will fight in every way I can to assure that they remain open to all and that the will of our local communities is not subordinated to decisions made in Washington, D.C.

□ 1545

#### CONGRATULATING AUSTIN RHODES

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Augusta radio host Austin Rhodes on the recent announcement that he will be inducted into the Georgia Radio Hall of Fame.

For over 30 years, Austin has been a consistent and dependable voice as the host of the "Austin Rhodes Show" on WGAC, making it one of Georgia's longest running weekday drive-time talk shows.

Nearly 3 years ago, I stood before this body to recognize Austin's 30th year anniversary in broadcasting, and it is my honor to stand here once again to mark yet another achievement in his long career.

During my time in Congress, I have had the pleasure of joining Austin's