

work ethic, he rose to senior leadership at Microsoft, ultimately serving as Senior Vice President until 2015. I had the joy of getting to know him during our time at Microsoft together. His infectious smile and warm presence brought energy to every room he entered.

After leaving Microsoft, Soma devoted himself to supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs as a managing director at Madrona Venture Group, where he guided countless startups and helped strengthen our region's innovation ecosystem.

Beyond his professional achievements, Soma was deeply committed to his community. As the proud cofounder of the Seattle Orcas, he helped bring professional cricket to the Pacific Northwest and shared his love of the sport with many in our region. He was also a passionate advocate for women's empowerment, supporting organizations at every level that worked to expand equity and opportunity.

But above all, Soma's greatest joy was his family. His wife, Akila, and two daughters were the center of his world. He spoke of them often with great admiration, gratitude, and boundless pride. Everything he accomplished was grounded in love for them. To know Soma was to know how much they shaped him, supported him, and inspired him. It is their strength, love, and example that carry forward the legacy of a man who gave so much to his community, his colleagues, and his country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering Soma's remarkable legacy. His family, friends, and colleagues will cherish his kindness and wisdom for years to come.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. HALEY M. STEVENS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Huntington's Disease Awareness Month. As representatives in Congress, we hold the tremendous responsibility of representing our constituents bravely battling this condition.

Huntington's Disease (HD) is a fatal genetic disorder—with no treatment that slows or stops the progression—that causes the breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. For over 30 years, we as a Nation have honored this month by "going blue" in support of our loved ones with Huntington's Disease. In that time, we have identified root causes, defined metrics for early detection, and had revolutionary breakthroughs in treatment. We have come a long way, but we have much more to accomplish in this fight.

Given the genetic nature of Huntington's Disease, it often impacts families for generations. Christina, one of my constituents, has endured the loss of her grandmother and the pain of watching her father and aunt battle this disease. All too familiar with the uncertainty this disease brings, she is committed to breaking the cycle and has become an advocate for all Americans with HD.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent and amplify the fighting spirit of the Huntington's

Disease community in Congress. I call upon my colleagues to join Christina and myself in committing to greater federal support for brave Americans with Huntington's Disease.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. LLOYD FREESE

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Lloyd Freese, who celebrated his 100th birthday on May 9th. Lloyd is a lifelong resident of New Hampshire and a proud veteran of the United States Army who served our country honorably in the European Theatre during World War II.

Lloyd grew up in Manchester, New Hampshire, the son of Albert C. Freese and Gladys Freese, and graduated from Manchester Central High School in 1943, a varsity letterman in both Track and Hockey. As someone who grew up in the Great Depression, he learned early in his life the value of hard work and resilience. He carried that with him as a student, studying the Practical Arts so he could practice an essential trade.

He was only 17 years old when he joined the Army in 1943, and he served in the U.S. Infantry, Fifth Army Division during the Liberation of Italy from 1944 to 1945. After returning stateside at the end of that year, he narrowly avoided deployment to the Pacific, the war coming to end just before he was set to leave. That bit of good fortune earned him the nickname "Lucky Lloyd" and from there he built his life, family, and career over the ensuing decades.

He graduated from Hesser College in 1949 and launched a career of distinguished work and leadership, working first for Universal C.I.T. Credit Corporation, then as Vice President of Bankers Service Inc., Assistant Vice President of Indian Head Bank Inc., Vice President of Indian Head Properties, and eventually Senior Vice President of Indian Head National Bank of Nashua, New Hampshire. He also served on the Board of Directors of several organizations, including the First Federal Reserve District for Consumer Credit, New England Bank Card Associates, the New Hampshire Motor Vehicle Industry Board, and the Hundred Club of New Hampshire, for whom he also served four years as President.

Even with all his career accomplishments, those who know Lloyd best understand that his family and friends have always been most important to him. He married his wife, Alice in 1947, and together they raised two children, Gary Freese and Karen Freese Wilson. He has also been a consistently active member of his community, an avid golfer for much of his life and a dedicated skier until he was 89 years old. He is also one of the longest active members of the Manchester Country Club, where he has been a member for over 62 years.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Lloyd on his 100th birthday. Today, we join his loved ones in celebrating this exciting milestone and his life of service, leadership, family, and community.

His life of service is an inspiring model for all of us to follow. I wish him a very happy birthday and all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. RYAN PILLOW

**HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a remarkable public servant whose career has been defined by courage, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to protecting others—Mr. Ryan Douglas Pillow—upon his retirement after more than 26 years of combined military and federal civilian service to the United States.

For over two decades, Ryan Pillow has served at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam as a federal firefighter with the Department of the Air Force, ultimately rising to the position of Assistant Fire Chief of Health and Safety.

Before beginning his civilian career, Mr. Pillow proudly served four years in the United States Navy, continuing a lifetime dedicated to serving and protecting our Nation.

Throughout his distinguished career, Ryan Pillow has been entrusted with some of the most challenging and high-risk responsibilities imaginable. As an Incident Commander and emergency response leader, he has overseen operations involving strategic military aircraft, critical infrastructure, and life-threatening emergencies under some of the most demanding conditions.

His operational experience includes leading emergency responses involving B-1, B-2, and B-52 strategic bombers—some of the most critical assets in our Nation's defense posture. He also led emergency operations involving fighter aircraft incidents, including assisting in the emergency egress of a fighter pilot and managing high-risk airfield emergencies involving F-18 aircraft.

But his service extended far beyond the runway. Mr. Pillow also led life-saving technical rescue operations, including over-the-cliff rescues, structural fire emergencies, and water rescue missions. During major typhoon events impacting Guam, he served as Incident Commander, helping ensure the protection of personnel, mission-essential infrastructure, and critical defense capabilities during some of the island's most dangerous conditions.

And during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, he once again demonstrated steady leadership by helping manage initial emergency response operations aimed at protecting personnel and establishing effective containment measures during an unprecedented national crisis.

These responsibilities required not only technical expertise, but calm under pressure, decisive leadership, and complete trust from the men and women he served alongside. Throughout his career, Ryan Pillow earned that trust time and time again.

In addition to his operational leadership, he played a critical role in strengthening firefighter health and safety programs, improving emergency response readiness, and fostering mutual aid partnerships that enhanced regional emergency response capabilities throughout Guam.

His extraordinary service has been recognized through numerous distinguished honors,

including the Navy Life-Saving Award, the Exemplary Civilian Service Medal, the Air Force Achievement Award, and recognition as Fire Officer of the Year.

But beyond the awards and titles, Mr. Pillow represents something larger. He represents the thousands of military and civilian first responders who work behind the scenes every single day to protect lives, defend critical infrastructure, and ensure mission readiness in one of the most strategically important regions in the world.

The people of Guam understand deeply the importance of those who stand ready in moments of crisis. Whether responding to aircraft emergencies, natural disasters, fires, or national emergencies, professionals like Ryan Pillow provide the steady leadership and courage that keep our communities and our servicemembers safe. His career reflects the very best traditions of public service: duty before self, leadership under pressure, and a lifelong commitment to protecting others.

As he retires after more than 26 years of honorable service, we recognize not only the accomplishments of an exceptional firefighter and leader, but the legacy of a man who dedicated his career to serving something greater than himself.

On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful Nation, I extend my deepest gratitude to Mr. Ryan Douglas Pillow for his extraordinary service and sacrifice. I also extend appreciation to his family, whose support undoubtedly made this long and distinguished career possible.

We wish Ryan Pillow the very best in this next chapter of life and thank him for the lasting impact he has made on Guam and our Nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to physically record my vote on suspensions. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 207; YES on Roll Call No. 206; NO on Roll Call No. 205; YES on Roll Call No. 204; NO on Roll Call No. 203; NO on Roll Call No. 202; and YES on Roll Call No. 201.

#### HONORING ELLA BAHN FOR HER OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD CAREER

#### HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ella Bahn on her outstanding high school track and field career.

Ella, a senior at Spring Grove Area High School in York County, Pennsylvania, capped off an extraordinary high school career with her set of victories in the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles at the 2026 PIAA State Track and Field Championships on May 23, 2026.

Over the past 4 years, Ella has achieved remarkable success in numerous events, most

notably, hurdles. She finished her high school career with seven individual PIAA State Championship gold medals and ten District 3 gold medals.

Ella's specialty and favorite event is hurdles. She swept the 300-meter hurdles, winning the state championship each of her four years and won back-to-back golds in the 100-meter hurdles in 2025 and 2026. In addition to her success in hurdles, Ella won the gold medal in high jump in 2024 and helped the Spring Grove Rockets to a state title that same year.

Ella will continue her academic and athletic career at Princeton University. At Princeton, she plans to continue running hurdles and potentially use her talents for the high jump.

I commend Ella for the dedication and hard work that made these remarkable achievements possible. She serves as an example for young athletes across our community who strive to compete with excellence and advance their education.

I congratulate Ella on these amazing achievements. I wish her the best in her future academic and athletic endeavors.

#### HONORING 2026 SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES

#### HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2026 Service Academy Appointees from the 21st Congressional District of Texas.

I include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals who have accepted Academy Appointments:

Cecilia Rose Burris, Fr. Joseph T. O'Callahan School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, United States Military Academy; Zachary Allan Jaster, Smithson Valley High School, New Braunfels, Texas, United States Military Academy; Marlee Beatrice Lightsey, Canyon High School, New Braunfels, Texas, United States Military Academy; Jacob Lee Olson, Bracken Christian School, Bulverde, Texas, United States Military Academy; Mason Alexander Sutton, Geneva School of Boerne, Boerne, Texas, United States Military Academy; Wes Thomas Anderson, Dripping Springs High School, Dripping Springs, Texas, United States Naval Academy; Michael Reid Poole, Westlake High School, Austin, Texas, United States Naval Academy; Brandon Ells Tragord, Alamo Heights High School, San Antonio, Texas, United States Naval Academy; Catherine Kennedy Drummond, Westlake High School/Georgia Military College, Austin, Texas, United States Air Force Academy; Karina Deylen Mendivil, Madison High School, San Antonio, Texas, United States Air Force Academy; and Javan Warren Bammel Penniman, New Braunfels Christian Academy, New Braunfels, Texas, United States Air Force Academy.

These outstanding students have much to contribute to their chosen Academy and to our country. We appreciate their talents and their patriotism.

I hope my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating these truly heroic young men and women.

#### CELEBRATING AND HONORING DAVID STACY'S SERVICE TO THE LGBTQI+ COMMUNITY

#### HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor David Stacy's service to the LGBTQI+ community as he marks the end of his current chapter as Vice President of Government Affairs at the Human Rights Campaign.

David has been instrumental in the fight for LGBTQI+ equality for decades, helping found Fair Wisconsin, Wisconsin's statewide LGBTQI+ civil rights organization, and working in this chamber for then-Representative Tammy Baldwin as a Legislative Assistant for seven years. In his role for then-Rep. Baldwin, David worked on a range of LGBTQI+ issues, including marriage equality and hate crimes.

After leaving the Hill, David joined HRC where over the course of two decades, he has played a role in every major LGBTQI+ bill to become law, including the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, the Don't Ask Don't Tell Repeal Act, and the Respect for Marriage Act. He also played a key role in adding sexual orientation and gender identity nondiscrimination protections to the Violence Against Women Act and has helped lead organizations in opposing dozens of anti-LGBTQI+ bills and amendments—including the Federal Marriage Amendment—over the last twenty years.

David was also instrumental in the introduction of the Equality Act of 2015 and has continued to lead the coalition of organizations advocating for its passage since then. It is my honor to now be the lead sponsor of the Equality Act, and I am grateful for David's tireless work to build support for this critical and historic legislation.

I have had the privilege of getting to know and work with David since coming to Congress in 2013. I have appreciated his knowledge, wisdom, and counsel. I know countless staff on the Hill and advocates in the LGBTQI+ movement have similarly appreciated his advice and mentorship over the years.

Most of the people who have benefited from David's advocacy will never know his name, but I have seen up close the impact he has had and how he has helped push equality forward. Our movement for equality is better off because of David's decades of service to it.

I wish David the best of luck on this next chapter.

#### HONORING CARROLL ESTES

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2026*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Carroll L. Estes, Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of California, San Francisco, whose lifetime of scholarship, advocacy, and service has profoundly shaped aging policy and social welfare in the United States.