

out of the tragic death of the late Kansas City Chief linebacker Derrick Thomas on February 8, 2000. Thomas' death was the result of a car accident; he was not wearing a seatbelt. His mother, Mrs. Morgan, felt a pressing need to get the word out to other mothers about the importance of training our children in the use of seat belts. She also realized there were other issues she wanted to address, wherein she could be of service to the community. In 2006, the Mom-2-Mom 58 Foundation started a breast cancer support group, and each year holds a fundraising walk and spa day for women with breast cancer and survivors. The goal is to empower and to encourage women with breast cancer and survivors of breast cancer.

Experts estimate that about one out of every eight women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some time during her life. The strongest risk factor for breast cancer is age. A woman's risk of developing this disease increases as she gets older. However, thanks to the work Mrs. Morgan is doing and improvements in cancer treatment and early detection, millions of women and thousands of men are surviving breast cancer today.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. The disease occurs almost entirely in women, but men can get it, too. Today, there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

I am honored to recognize Edith Morgan, founder of the Mom-2-Mom 58 Foundation, for her dedication and commitment to our community and the fight against breast cancer.

RECOGNIZING THE DRAGON DREAM TEAM NAMED AS OHIO'S 13TH CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Dragon Dream Team as the Ohio 13th Congressional District's Champion of the Week.

The Dragon Dream Team is Ohio's first group of breast cancer survivors participating in the team sport of dragon boating.

I am incredibly proud to celebrate their achievements as they prepare to represent Northeast Ohio next month at the 2026 International Breast Cancer Paddlers' Commission Participatory Festival in France.

Based in Akron, this team has spent 20 years showing that a breast cancer diagnosis does not define a person's future.

As board member Talie Schroeder shared, every woman in their boat has heard the words, "You have breast cancer," yet every time they push off from the dock, they remind us that a diagnosis is not the end of their story.

I congratulate the Dragon Dream Team on 20 remarkable years and helping show why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is proudly known as the Birthplace of Champions.

I wish them the best in France.

HONORING COLONEL LUKE A. WITTMER ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS GARRISON COMMANDER OF FORT BRAGG

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Luke A. Wittmer on his appointment as Garrison Commander of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Colonel Wittmer entered the United States Army in 2002 after graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point and receiving his commission as an infantry officer. Throughout his distinguished career, he has served in numerous infantry, Special Forces, operational planning, and senior leadership assignments, including positions with the 101st Airborne Division, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), the Combined Arms Center, and Special Operations Command Central.

Colonel Wittmer has deployed multiple times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Inherent Resolve. Most recently, he served as Deputy Commanding Officer for Special Operations Command Central before completing senior service college at the United States Army War College. He brings valuable installation-management experience to Fort Bragg, having previously served as Garrison Commander of the Yakima Training Center in Washington.

Colonel Wittmer's extensive experience, proven leadership, and distinguished record have prepared him well to lead one of the Army's largest and most complex installations. I look forward to working alongside him to strengthen Fort Bragg's readiness, advance critical installation priorities, support military families, and improve the quality of life for all those who live and serve on the installation. I also extend a warm welcome to his wife, Cristy, and their sons, Jack, Cole, and Aaron.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Colonel Luke A. Wittmer on his appointment as Garrison Commander of Fort Bragg and wishing him every success in this important assignment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESS LEADS BY EXAMPLE ACT OF 2026

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Congress Leads by Example Act of 2026, which would apply many of the laws that protect employees in the private sector and the executive branch to the legislative branch. Congress should abide by the laws it imposes on others.

In 1995, Congress passed the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (CAA), which applied 13 existing civil rights, labor and workplace safety and health laws to the legislative branch. In 2018, after reports of sexual harassment in Congress and in light of the #MeToo movement, Congress passed the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act (Reform Act), which changed the name of the Office of Compliance to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (OCWR),

revised the process to resolve workplace claims and extended CAA protections to unpaid staff, interns, and fellows. It also made Members of Congress personally liable for their own violations of workplace harassment and retaliation laws.

The CAA and the Reform Act were important steps in making the legislative branch accountable for its employment practices, but they did not finish the job. As noted, the CAA brought the legislative branch under 13 existing civil rights, labor, and workplace safety and health laws, but it omitted important substantive and procedural protections. OCWR has identified additional federal workplace laws and procedures that should apply to the legislative branch. This bill considers OCWR's recommendations.

This bill would provide general whistleblower protections and make additional Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) anti-retaliation provisions applicable to the legislative branch. This bill would provide subpoena authority to OCWR to conduct inspections and investigations into OSHA violations. It also would provide extended paid parental bereavement leave to legislative branch employees.

This bill would further the CAA's goal of preventing workplace discrimination in the legislative branch by prohibiting the legislative branch from making adverse employment decisions based on an employee's wage garnishment or involvement in bankruptcy proceedings pursuant to the Consumer Credit Protection Act or Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy code.

Finally, this bill would bolster the CAA's recordkeeping requirements. It would apply to the legislative branch the obligation to maintain accurate records of safety information and employee injuries, as otherwise required by OSHA, as well as employee records necessary to administer anti-discrimination laws.

This bill would help restore the public's trust in Congress by redoubling our efforts to exercise leadership by example. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING ADRIAN B. MCCLENNEY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Adrian B. McClenney, a breast cancer survivor and cofounder and president of the Miami, Florida, Chapter of Sisters Network Incorporated.

Mrs. McClenney was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011. During treatment and her search to find support, she learned about Sisters Network, Inc., a national African-American breast cancer survivorship organization. Its mission is to address the needs particular to African-American women, the underinsured and the underserved around the country by getting the message out that "we must stop the silence about breast cancer so women can start beating the odds." Mrs. McClenney contacted the organization and was so moved by their support and encouragement that in 2012, she and three other breast cancer survivors founded the Miami Chapter of Sisters Network.

The organization has since provided a strong support group for hundreds of women with breast cancer, as well as survivors in South Florida.

Experts estimate that about one out of every eight women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some time during her life. The strongest risk factor for breast cancer is age. A woman's risk of developing this disease increases as she gets older. However, thanks to the work Mrs. McClenney is doing and improvements in cancer treatment and early detection, millions of women and thousands of men are surviving breast cancer today.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. The disease occurs almost entirely in women, but men can get it, too. Today, there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

I am honored to recognize Adrian B. McClenney, a breast cancer survivor and co-founder and president of the Miami Chapter of Sisters Network, for her dedication and commitment to our community and the fight against breast cancer.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF LEON MEDICAL CENTERS

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of South Florida's most prestigious healthcare institutions, Leon Medical Centers, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, and the Leon family, whose dedication and commitment to service have had a generational impact on families across our community.

For three decades, Leon Medical Centers has stood as a symbol of innovation and compassionate care. Founded on August 3, 1996, by Benjamin Leon, Jr., Leon Medical Centers was created with a powerful mission: to ensure that members of South Florida's growing community could receive high-quality healthcare with dignity and accessibility. What began as one medical center in Miami has grown into one of Florida's most distinguished healthcare organizations, now serving more than 40,000 patients throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Leon Medical Centers is deeply rooted in the vision and perseverance of the Leon family. Benjamin Leon, Jr. arrived in the United States from Cuba in 1961 at just 16 years old, joining his father, Benjamin Leon, Sr., who had established Clinica Cuba to provide essential medical care to Miami's growing Cuban community. At a time when language barriers and an overwhelmed healthcare system created significant obstacles to care, Clinica Cuba became a lifeline for thousands of families seeking medical attention.

Together, Benjamin Leon, Sr. and Benjamin Leon, Jr. continued expanding access to healthcare, establishing Clinica Asociacion Cubana in 1970 and helping introduce managed care to Florida. In 1973, their efforts led to the organization receiving the first HMO li-

cense in the state of Florida, marking a historic advancement in healthcare delivery and setting the foundation for the future of Leon Medical Centers. In 1996, Benjamin Leon, Jr. opened the first Leon Medical Centers location at 27th Avenue and Southwest First street in Miami. Less than a year later, the organization expanded with a second location in Westchester, beginning a period of tremendous growth that would eventually lead to six regional facilities across Miami-Dade County.

Today, Leon Medical Centers represents the future of integrated healthcare. Its nearly one million square foot, state-of-the-art facility provides patients with access to advanced screening technology, comprehensive dental services, physical therapy, and numerous medical specialties, often within a single location. This innovative approach has made healthcare more convenient and accessible while reflecting

Benjamin Leon, Jr.'s belief that patients should receive care in an environment where they feel valued and treated like family.

Leon Medical Centers' impact extends far beyond the walls of its facilities. The organization has earned national recognition for its contributions to healthcare, receiving honors from organizations including the South Florida Business Journal, Health Affairs, Florida International University, and the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society. Leon remains the only managed care organization partnered with Florida International University to provide a specialized teaching curriculum focused on genetic care demonstrating its continued commitment to advancing medical education and innovation.

Beyond its philanthropic contributions, Leon Medical Centers has built strong partnerships with leading hospitals throughout Miami-Dade, including Kendall Regional and Hialeah Hospital, further expanding access to quality care and strengthening the healthcare network in our community. As Leon Medical Centers celebrates its 30th anniversary, we recognize the lasting impact of Benjamin Leon, Jr., the Leon family, and the thousands of physicians, nurses, and healthcare professionals who carry forward this mission. Their work, commitment to service, and compassion represent the best of South Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate Leon Medical Centers on this important milestone and to commend everyone who has contributed to its historic legacy. From its humble beginnings servicing Miami's Cuban community to its role as a leader in modern healthcare, Leon Medical Centers remains a testament to what can be achieved through perseverance and dedication to service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote No. 276 on H.R. 8800, I mistakenly recorded my vote as AYE when I should have voted NO.

HONORING THE UNION PINES
SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the 2026 Union Pines softball team following their outstanding performance and recognition at the Carolina Pines Athletic Conference postseason awards.

Senior catcher Kileigh Cameron finished her season as the state home run leader with 19 home runs and led the state 6A class in RBIs with 61 RBIs. Kileigh was named the conference player of the year.

Junior pitcher Kaitlyn Blue pitched 116 innings and boasted a 1.57 ERA paired with 118 strikeouts. Kaitlyn was named conference pitcher of the year.

Seniors Allie Bauer, Emily Auman, Serena McCutchen, Maddie Stein and sophomores Caidence Crabtree and Abbie Tyner were also named all-conference from Union Pines for their extraordinary seasons.

I also want to recognize Head Coach Brian Blue, who was named the Carolina Pines Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. In his first season he led the team to a 28-4 overall record and its first conference title since 2013.

I am proud to represent such a talented, dedicated, and hardworking group of student-athletes and coaches. Winning a conference championship is a remarkable accomplishment. I am inspired by their achievements and glad to see them being recognized for them.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today honoring the Union Pines softball team.

RECOGNIZING ANDREA IVORY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Andrea Ivory, a breast cancer survivor and the founder of The Women's Breast Health Initiative (WBHI) in Hialeah, Florida.

Ms. Ivory was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006. While she was fortunate that her breast cancer was detected early and that she had insurance and access to doctors, she knew that many other women did not. To better the odds for at-risk women with fewer resources, she founded the Women's Breast Health Initiative in 2008. WBHI is an outreach organization dedicated to educating women about the importance of breast health and providing them with the resources to beat the disease.

Since it was founded, WBHI has delivered literature to 50,000 households and by use of a mammography van, the organization has provided free breast cancer screening for thirteen hundred women. For her contributions to the fight against breast cancer, Ms. Ivory was named Cable News Network's (CNN) Hero, in 2009. CNN "Heroes" is a tribute to ordinary people changing the world.

Experts estimate that about one out of every eight women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some time during her