

of ballistic missile attack should include protection for Alaska, Hawaii, the territories and the commonwealths of the United States on the same basis as the contiguous States." Language from this resolution was soon adopted into National Defense Authorization (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 1999 and enacted into law. This language helped to set the stage for the U.S. to withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, thereby allowing us to build our nation's first homeland missile defense system at Fort Greely, Alaska—a location which would protect ALL fifty states.

From that point on, Don continued to strongly support missile defense. He fought for defense budgets that were driven by strategy, not defense strategies that were driven budgets. For decades, he ensured critical military construction for our missile defense systems—located at Fort Greely, Clear Air Force Station, and Eareckson Air Station—expeditiously passed the House and were fully funded.

Then in 2017, amidst a resurgent North Korean threat, Don Young again championed our cause. He—along with Senator Dan Sullivan (the bill's original author)—sponsored the "Advancing America's Missile Defense Act of 2017" and led the charge to include it into the House's FY 2018 NDAA. Critically, this bill authorized an increase to our nation's Ground-based Interceptor capacity by 50% and it laid the groundwork for the construction of a new missile field at Fort Greely—Missile Field 4—to house that added capacity. During the debate on his amendment, the Congressman stated,

"I believe this reckless and calculated behavior by the North Korean regime speaks volumes to the importance of the strategically placed U.S. missile defense capabilities, including the Ground-based interceptors at Fort Greely, AK and other elements of the nation's ballistic missile defense system. These forces guard this nation and are the first responders against weapons of mass destruction."

He was right then and his words ring even more true today.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today is a solemn day.

Today, in the National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol, we paid tribute to the Dean of the House of Representatives, the late Congressman Don Young. And how fitting is it for Congressman Young to lie in state in National Statuary Hall. Much like this hall, Don Young is an icon—a pillar—in the history of the House of Representatives.

Longevity as an elected official isn't a given—it has to be earned. And for 49 straight years, Don Young earned the honor of representing Alaska in Congress, which he considered the privilege of a lifetime. Congressman Young loved Alaska, and Alaska loved him. By the end of his tenure, not only was he the longest-serving politician in Alaska's history, but also the longest-serving Republican Member of the House of Representatives in U.S. history.

Now, you may not think that a nurse from Texas and a frontiersman from Alaska would have a lot in common. And for the most part, you'd be right. But that never stopped us from working together when it meant the betterment of our constituents. We partnered on legislation that provided Pell Grants to Gold Star Families. We led an annual letter advocating for increased funding for the Innovative Ap-

proaches to Literacy (IAL) program. We spent long days and late nights together in the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee hearings. The list goes on and on.

We also had the opportunity to travel the world together on CODELs. He sponsored valuable and worthwhile trips that I never hesitated to sign up for. And the farther away we got from Washington, the closer we became.

My thoughts and prayers are with his beloved wife, Anne, with whom I had the pleasure of getting to know over the years, as well as his children, grandchildren, and all those who loved him. He will be dearly missed.

Mr. NEHLS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Congressman for all of Alaska, the 45th Dean of the House, and my mentor and friend—Representative Don Young.

Don was a soldier, a riverboat captain, and a teacher—but his true calling was serving and representing the good people of Alaska.

Throughout his 49 years in Congress, he was an icon and mentor to countless Members. When I first arrived here, Don was one of the first Members I met. In the short time I had with him, he taught me so much about the House and about being a true servant.

Don's love of his family and the people of Alaska was rivaled only by his love of the land itself. He took countless members and staff to his beloved state to show them the pristine natural wonder of his state.

This summer he was going to take me on a working trip to Alaska—and one of my great regrets in this body will forever be never getting to go with him.

Rest in peace, my friend.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2954.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### WOMEN OF THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to give all members 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, this night, and this Women's History Month, together with my colleagues in the Pro-Choice Caucus, I rise in support of the women of the reproductive rights movement. Women who stood

up, spoke out, and reached out to protect the rights of women in this country to determine whether and when to become parents. Of course, this work required and requires to this day, a broad, bold coalition of people, people whose work has necessitated tremendous sacrifice and has resulted in tremendous progress.

Some of them were denied access to contraception, abortion care, and healthcare, and agreed to become the face of legal challenges. Some of them were strategists who shaped the arguments that became the fabric of legal protections for reproductive rights.

Some of them were healthcare providers who saw the tragic consequences of the denial of those rights. As a lawyer, I have known some of their names through the landmark cases that bear their names—Griswold v. Connecticut, Roe v. Wade, and more.

Tonight, we celebrate them, we celebrate their courage, their commitment, and their purpose in articulating, advocating, and ensuring the rights to equality, privacy, and dignity that their work represents.

Before yielding to my colleagues who are here this evening in person and in spirit, I will start with one of them who holds a special place in this work and in my own life. As a woman from Texas, it has always been a source of great pride that some fearless Texas women have been leaders in this fight.

In the late 1960s, a group of Texas women came together to challenge our State's ban on abortion. They found as their lawyer and lifelong advocate, a young woman named Sarah Weddington, who is pictured here behind me. A recent law school graduate, Sarah Weddington was working for the University of Texas at that time. Perhaps not surprisingly, although she had good grades and a law degree, she had a hard time finding a job in a law firm. But she was working to help people solve their problems in Austin, and this group knew she would be a good advocate.

I heard her tell the story once that when the group came to see her, they told her that they thought the best way to deal with the law was to challenge the law itself. She said that she had a law degree, but she really hadn't practiced in Federal court before. She wasn't a courtroom lawyer, and she hadn't handled a case like this one. So she told them she thought they should get someone with more experience.

She recalled to us they asked her, Well, what would you charge us to do this lawsuit?

And she said, Oh, I will do it for free.

And they said, You are our lawyer.

And that is how she got the case.

Sarah called her law school classmate, Linda Coffee, and they agreed to work on the case together. Many UT law students and professors helped Sarah and Linda with the case. They heard from women, of course, and from doctors who treated women who had had complications from illegal abortions and women who had died from illegal abortions.

Through their work, the strategizing, the organizing, the lawyering, these trailblazing Texas women brought us the framework to protect the health, privacy, dignity, equality, and freedom of women and families across this country in the case of *Roe v. Wade*. And 26-year-old Sarah Weddington and this team of Texas women took that case all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

On January 22, 1973, the Court ruled in one of the most consequential decisions in American history, the Texas State law banning abortions, except to save a woman's life, was unconstitutional.

□ 1945

Sarah carried this fight with her for the rest of her life. She was elected to the Texas legislature. She served in the Carter administration where she helped get more women on the Federal bench. She worked for many years as a lecturer and professor teaching at schools, including the University of Texas.

This year, 2022, was the first one that we marked the anniversary of *Roe* without Sarah Weddington. She left a legacy for us through her life's work, the rights and protections for the health, privacy, dignity, equality, and freedom of women and families enshrined in that decision that has shaped our country and our opportunities as women for the last 50 years.

She was part of a generation of trailblazing Texas women who made it their life's work to make our world one of equality, opportunity, and possibility for women. It is fitting to remember, honor, and celebrate her tonight.

Madam Speaker, several of my colleagues are here to remember and honor other women pioneers, trailblazers, and heroes of the reproductive rights movement.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS).

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER), who has been someone I have deeply admired as part of the women's movement, as part of the women's choice movement, and who has made herself a leader in this body and a leader in Texas, and for bringing us all here tonight as part of Women's History Month.

Madam Speaker, I am rising alongside my pro-choice colleagues in honoring the women of the reproductive health, rights, and justice movement. Women, like my own mother, who remember being young and without choice—without choice over their bodily autonomy. Women like my own mother who marched for women's rights, who remember when *Roe v. Wade* came down.

Madam Speaker, I am here today to rise for the brave providers, the fierce advocates, the trailblazing women of color who established the principles and coined the terms, and all those who believe in a society where women

are entitled to make personal decisions about their bodies, work, families, and futures.

For those who agreed to become the face of legal challenges to abortion access, the litigators who helped shape the arguments that became the legal fabric of protections for reproductive rights, and the women who have served as the jurists and the justices who wrote landmark defenses of these rights. We must protect their progress from destructive efforts in the States to overturn precedent that has saved countless lives and determined countless futures.

Rights are under attack. For nearly 6 months now, patients in Texas have been denied a constitutional right to an abortion due to a statewide law designed to restrict, shame, and penalize those who dare to terminate a pregnancy that they do not wish to carry to term.

Just last week, Idaho became the first State to copy Texas' model. We stand here in this Chamber across the street from another body of governance, our courts, the Supreme Court that might overrule *Roe v. Wade*. If it is overturned by the United States Supreme Court, my home State of Michigan would automatically join that list.

In fact, if *Roe* fails, if *Roe* escapes us, half the States in this Union will ban abortion entirely, leaving even more people across large swaths of the Midwest and South without access to care. This is not just an issue of bodily autonomy, my friends, it is an economic issue.

The U.S. is the only industrialized Nation without Federal paid leave policy, the emergence of COVID-19 has shown us the consequences of that foundational failure. Who are we to become? What Nation are we that will not stand up for its people's rights and the success of their families?

We all know that women have been disproportionately impacted by this pandemic, being forced to leave the workforce at record rates. When childcare and abortion services are both out of reach, a parent's financial future and ability to participate in our economy is severely jeopardized.

Let us not forget that the individual's most harmed by abortion restrictions are those who already face barriers to accessing healthcare, including women, people of color, members of the LGBTQ community, immigrants, young people, those living in rural communities, and people with disabilities. This is a wake-up moment in this Nation. We are here not just for history, but for our future.

When I was elected to Congress, on behalf of Michigan's 11th District, becoming the first woman ever to represent Michigan's 11th District. Sure, let's be proud then as we are now for the unprecedented number of women who are serving in this body. Those who are unequivocally claiming that we have the right to choose. Abortion is healthcare. Hear us say that in the

Chamber and on this floor. All women must be able to make the decision that is best for them, their family, and their body.

Congress has a responsibility to stand with people in communities fighting for racial, economic, and reproductive justice, and we must commit to protecting the right of every person to make their own decisions about their bodies, free from discrimination and political interference.

It is with immense gratitude and reverence that I join my colleagues in honoring the women who have made it possible for so many of us to stand here today—to be here today. During Women's History Month, let us all recommit to supporting the activism, the organizing, the efforts all around this country, those who are watching and who are counting on us.

Madam Speaker, we will vote today, we will vote tomorrow, and we will continue to do the work of the people.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY).

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend from Houston (Mrs. FLETCHER) for putting this together because this is hugely important as we wind down Women's History Month.

I think about my first term here in Congress, and previous to serving in Congress I was in the State legislature. The Republicans in the Texas State legislature were always trying to tear down women's reproductive rights. It seemed like there was just an endless supply of bills that they had aimed at stripping away freedom from women across our State.

I was giving a speech out on the triangle and momentarily thought that I was back in Austin and accidentally referred to myself as State Representative MARC VEASEY, just because when you think about D.C. and the various States that are here, you think about people being able to celebrate those sorts of freedoms.

We are fighting that battle not just in Austin but in D.C. and other States around the country. But today we are here to focus on Texas. Again, I just want to thank LIZZIE FLETCHER and the other women that are a part of the Texas delegation.

Madam Speaker, I also want to thank the female State representatives in the State of Texas that really have just fought fearlessly on this issue for so long now. This past regular legislative session so many of the women in the north Texas delegation, where I am from, were very poignant in making so many points about how S.B. 8, a sweeping anti-abortion law, was going to disproportionately impact low-income and women of color and minority communities.

Imagine just barely being able to get by; you may be on SNAP; you may be a single mother; you may find yourself trapped in a low-income job and trying to accumulate enough money to be

able to travel across State lines. You could have these services and get them done safely. It is sad to see us go back in time to where women were not able to have these services done safely. That is something that we have to continue to fight against, and that is why—whatever it takes—we need to make sure that this bill one day is reversed.

Passing the Women's Health Protection Act would codify *Roe v. Wade* and ensure that people can have the freedom to make personal decisions. I think that is something that everybody—regardless if you are Democrat, Republican or Independent, whatever you may happen to be—you ought to have the choice to make personal decisions. It used to be something that Republicans used to value, and it is sad to see them backslide so much in this area.

We need to make sure that we protect equal access to abortion care everywhere because it is essential to social and economic participation, reproductive autonomy, and the right for people to determine their own lives.

One of the things that really doesn't get talked a lot about on this issue is just really the number of Republicans that are against any sort of birth control. I see them, they come to my town hall meetings. They don't like to talk about it because they know that most people overwhelmingly, Democrats and Republicans, are for birth control. You hear them, they come and they say, no, no, no, birth control is wrong.

We had a lawsuit filed in Fort Worth in Federal Court to try to stop people from being able to get birth control. People need to understand that this is a larger battle. Right now it is abortion access, but believe me, Republicans have their sights set on people not being able to have basic birth control, just basic contraceptions, and they are trying to make that harder and harder for people to get a hold of. It is a slippery slope.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Houston, LIZZIE FLETCHER, for leading this hour because it is hugely important.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. VEASEY and I join him in his remarks that we are so grateful to our State legislators and the Members of our Texas delegation as we face these challenges at home.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative FLETCHER for holding this very important session.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the healthcare providers who have dedicated their lives working to ensure equitable access to reproductive healthcare.

Today I am honored to highlight the work and courage of Susan Hill of North Carolina, the former president of the National Women's Health Organization in North Carolina, and a fierce

advocate for abortion access and reproductive rights.

Susan opened clinics across the country to ensure that women could access the healthcare they need, including abortion care, with dignity and safety. She focused her work on providing reproductive health services in the Southeast, despite onerous restrictions, so that pregnant women could make the best healthcare decisions for themselves and their families no matter where they lived.

In fact, Susan Hill founded Jackson Women's Health Organization, which is now the last remaining health center providing abortions in Mississippi. This very clinic is at the center of the case directly challenging *Roe v. Wade* that is currently before the Supreme Court.

If the Court decides to uphold Mississippi's abortion ban and gut *Roe*, it will be overturning nearly 50 years of judicial precedent and undermining women's fundamental right to make their own personal decisions about their bodies, their families, their futures.

□ 2000

Susan Hill never wavered in her commitment to protecting patients' autonomy and safety, even as anti-abortion protestors used arson, fire bombing, and countless acts of vandalism to intimidate her into closing down her clinics.

Today, the stakes for reproductive freedom are more dire than ever before. Extreme abortion bans and medically unnecessary restrictions are sweeping our country and posing an enormous threat to women's health and constitutional rights. Decimating abortion access diminishes our equality under the law.

The consequences of these egregious attacks most acutely impact communities of color and underserved communities which already face barriers to healthcare.

Healthcare cannot just be for the few, as the legacy of Susan Hill reminds us. All people deserve access to the reproductive care they need, free from political interference, discrimination, and harassment.

Years ago, I spoke on a panel about abortion rights with a physician who had done his residency in Philadelphia before the passage of *Roe v. Wade*. He told us about his experience working in the emergency room, trying to save desperate women who were near death from botched back-alley abortions, women who suffered irreparable damage, women who didn't make it.

And he told us that history has shown there will always be abortions. The only question is whether abortions will be safe and whether they will be available to those who are faced with terribly difficult choices.

We must ensure that all people have the right to control their own reproductive decisions, and have the right to the reproductive healthcare they need.

I am proud to recognize a fellow North Carolinian, Susan Hill, and to

share her commitment to ensuring that abortion rights are protected, and comprehensive reproductive healthcare is accessible to all who need it.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative MANNING for the important points that she made, talking about the importance of access to safe abortions.

Even today, the World Health Organization estimates that 47,000 women die from unsafe abortions each year. That is 13 percent of maternal deaths worldwide.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, as an adoption attorney for 25 years, I worked with more than 300 birth mothers making the most personal, private decisions of their entire lives. They consulted their families, their loved ones, their doctors, but not one of these birth mothers looked to the government to make this choice for them.

On January 1 of this year, sweeping abortion restrictions took effect in my home State of New Hampshire; in fact, the first abortion ban ever to pass the New Hampshire legislature and to be signed into law by our Governor, Chris Sununu, making it illegal to terminate a pregnancy after 24 weeks, with no exceptions; no exceptions for rape, for incest, or for fatal fetal anomaly; and requiring every person seeking an abortion to undergo an invasive ultrasound.

This new law places a felony penalty and fine of up to \$100,000 for doctors who violate the law, making New Hampshire a less desirable place for doctors to work, and for patients to seek care.

Granite State women and families are already feeling the impact of this harmful, regressive abortion ban.

Earlier this year, a constituent of mine, the daughter of a dear friend, reached out to tell me her story and how this law is impacting families like hers across New Hampshire.

Madam Speaker, 38-year-old Lisa, has a beautiful 1-year-old daughter at home and she is now pregnant with twins. Twenty-one weeks into her pregnancy, her doctors told her what no parent wants to hear: One of her twins had no chance of surviving outside the womb, and that twin was threatening the life of her other healthy twin.

Because of New Hampshire's abortion ban that makes no exceptions for late-term complications, fetal viability, or even maternal well-being, Lisa and her husband have had to travel out of state to get a second opinion on their options.

After traveling four States away for a specialist consultation, they learned that an abortion had the potential to save the healthy twin's life, and even the life of the mother. But in the time that it took to get this second opinion and to weigh her options, Lisa was past the 24-week threshold in New Hampshire, and she will be unable to get this treatment, even if it becomes medically necessary.

If Lisa chooses to deliver her healthy twin in New Hampshire, she runs the risk of losing both babies, and even her own life, as her doctors would not be allowed to perform an abortion, even to save her healthy twin's life or her own life.

Lisa and her family are already facing an impossible circumstance, which is being made even more excruciating by the New Hampshire extreme abortion ban.

Safe access to reproductive and preventative healthcare, including abortion, is essential to the health and well-being of women and their families in New Hampshire and throughout this country. Restrictions on access to reproductive care ignore the complexities of maternal health and threaten the life of countless mothers and their children.

New Hampshire's new abortion ban, and those like it across the country, are harming families, and putting politics above health and science. This I know: New Hampshire voters believe in less government interference in people's personal and private lives.

I want to thank Lisa for sharing her story, and for shedding light on the tragic impact that this abortion ban is having on mothers and grandmothers and husbands and families like her across the Granite State and throughout this country.

Madam Speaker, I thank the representative from Texas for this opportunity.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative KUSTER for her leadership and for her impactful story here tonight, one of the many women of this reproductive rights movement.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. My, my, my, Madam Speaker. Here we go again.

I thank my friend from Texas for yielding. I keep saying that I think Texas and Florida, we are in the race, the race for the worst. I don't know who is winning that one.

But like the gentlewoman, those of us in Florida, we have been stuck in an unfortunate situation, battling with a State government that is actively harming the people they are supposed to protect and it is especially true when it comes to abortion care.

They call us the so-called Freedom State. We are the Freedom State, which means that the Republican legislature and the Governor believe they have the freedom to deny people the freedom to make one of life's most personal decisions, and that is whether to bring a child into the world.

Madam Speaker, I remember the days before Roe v. Wade, and I was 15 years old, and I—literally, one of my friends was missing for a day, so I went looking for her and I found her in a bed covered with blood. And what had happened is she had had a back-alley abortion, nearly died. We got her to the

hospital in time, but how I wish she could have gone and gotten proper care. That is just an example.

Here's the thing. You can have all the laws you want to outlaw abortion. You are not going to stop abortion. All these laws do are try to stop illegal abortion, and they unfairly burden the people with the least amount of money, because if you are wealthy you find a place where you can get a safe abortion.

But I want to say, I really come to this as a mother, and as a grandmother. Those who know me know that I—and my grandchildren call me Lolo. I come to this as a Lolo. Really, it is the best part of my life. What a blessing my son is to me and my two grandchildren.

But I also know the responsibility. I know the responsibility, which really brings us to why we are here today because, whether or not to bring a child into the world, as I mentioned, I think is one of the most important personal decisions that a person makes.

They shouldn't have to call their Congressperson, their Governor, their State legislature.

So tonight, I want to thank the gentlewoman because we are recognizing those people that we know in our community who have really been advocates or providers for the healthcare that people deserve and need.

So I am going to recognize two courageous leaders from my home State of Florida, champions for women's access to full healthcare, not just abortions, which should be part, but all kinds of care. And they are Lillian Tomayo and Mona Reis.

And like the gentlewoman's advocates that she talked about tonight, they are fighting against, they have been fighting against an unending tide of terrible State laws that try to undermine reproductive freedom.

And once again, once again, this time we are following Texas, we are on the cusp of enacting a dangerous restrictive abortion ban, which is a ban on abortion after 15 weeks that is now awaiting our Governor's certain signature.

But for decades, Lillian and Mona, in their own capacities, have fought hard for reproductive freedom in our State. For more than 20 years, Lillian has been advocate for women, teens, the LGBTQ community as president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of South, East, and North Florida.

And Mona Reis is the founder of the Presidential Women's Center in Palm Beach County. She ran that for about 40 years, and she faced threats, arson.

There was a period of time, even today, abortion providers are under danger. Some have even been murdered.

But both have persisted. They have persisted to make sure our underserved communities have access to the healthcare that they need. And they have been essential in providing access to reproductive care, and the freedom that people deserve in our State.

Each are going on a new journey, but they leave a legacy of unrelentless pursuit of reproductive freedom. I say thank you to Mona and to Lillian.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative FRANKEL for sharing her stories from Florida.

At this time, it is a pleasure to yield to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. GREEN).

□ 2015

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise tonight to take a stand on behalf of the pro-choice movement and women who have had to make the choice, women who have had to make this tough decision, this choice.

Let's get the record straight. Henceforth and forevermore, let it be known that you are either pro-choice or you are anti-choice.

It is easy to be anti-choice when you don't have to make the choice. It is easy to be anti-choice when it is not your wife who was raped. It is easy to be anti-choice when it is not your daughter who has had the incestuous relationship, without her permission, I always say. But even with her permission, it is wrong.

It is easy to make the choice when it is not your child or your wife. You can be anti-choice then. But I only wonder how many persons who have been anti-choice, when confronted with having to make this choice, became pro-choice. We will never know. You can be anti-choice before the public and then pro-choice when it serves your purpose.

I sincerely believe, Madam Speaker and Mrs. FLETCHER, that the long arm of the law has no place in a woman's womb. This is not where the law belongs. This is the property of a woman, and she should make these decisions herself with those who she has trust in, those who care for her, those who she believes will help her to come to the right conclusions.

I stand for those who are pro-choice. For those who are anti-choice, I say: Thank God you have not had to make the choice.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GREEN.

Madam Speaker, I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Pro-Choice Caucus to identify stories that need to be told during this Special Order hour this evening. I am grateful to my colleagues who have taken to the floor this evening to share with us the stories of their constituents, to share with us the stories of those who they know have been fighters for reproductive rights, for reproductive justice, for choice.

One of our Pro-Choice Caucus leaders could not be with us tonight but has submitted a statement for the record that I would like to read now. From Representative JUDY CHU:

"I rise today to honor the women of the abortion rights movement who

have come before us. I remember what it was like before the days of Roe. So today, I am helping to remember and honor those who gave their lives, who put their own bodies in harm's way so that we might have the ability to decide what to do with ours.

"Women like Pam, who lives in my district in Pasadena, California—Pam is in her seventies, retired, and spends her time volunteering in her community. But Pam told me about a time when she was 22 years old. It was 1969, and even though she and her partner had been using birth control, Pam found out she was pregnant.

"This happened in the days before Roe v. Wade, which meant that her options were limited. That is how Pam found herself standing on the curb of an airport in Mexico City, waiting for someone to pick her up. Finally, a large black car came up and rolled down the window. 'Are you Pam?' the driver asked. 'Yes,' she replied, and got in the car, forced to trust and hope for the best. Thankfully, Pam wasn't hurt during this experience, but she told me she has never forgotten the fear and uncertainty of putting her life in the hands of a stranger who could have hurt her and abused her, especially when we know that this is a procedure that is safe and can be done in a doctor's office, not someplace unknown and unsafe.

"That is why, now, Pam is determined to ensure that no one ever feels as scared and alone as she did that day. Pam volunteers at the Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley, serving as a support system to women who need a hand to hold or a shoulder to lean on. Pam is an abortion advocate in her community because she believes, like I do, that everyone, no matter where they grew up, what language they speak, or how much money they make, deserves to have a say in what happens to their bodies.

"I rise today, as part of Women's History Month, to honor Pam and so many others like her who were forced to make history so that others could have the choices that they were denied. The fight for reproductive rights would not be where it is today without advocates like Pam who stand up, time and time again, and demand that women have the right to decide."

Madam Speaker, this evening, the Pro-Choice Caucus and I also want to recognize the women who launched and built the groundbreaking reproductive justice movement. While women of color have long fought for these principles, "reproductive justice" as a term was coined in 1994 when a group of Black women gathered in Chicago ahead of the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo.

Loretta Ross is one of a number of women who built the reproductive justice movement. She was part of the 1994 meeting and went on to co-found the organization SisterSong, which defines "reproductive justice" as the

human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy; to have children, not have children; and to parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

A scholar who teaches both at Smith College and who has published extensively on reproductive justice, she recently testified at the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in this legislative session.

Dorothy Roberts is another pioneer of the reproductive justice movement. From Pennsylvania, she is also considered one of the leaders.

There have been many leaders in our government and in our communities who we celebrate tonight. We, in the Pro-Choice Caucus, have identified a few women who we want to highlight this evening.

I will start with some of the lawmakers and legislators who helped pave the way, including Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She was also the first Black woman to run for President. Throughout her trailblazing career, she was a strong supporter of reproductive rights.

In 1969, she was named honorary president of the National Abortion Rights Action League, NARAL. In 1970, she supported legalized abortion in her home State of New York. In 1970, she described abortion as an issue of economic and racial justice.

Louise Slaughter, a longtime Member from New York and chairwoman of the Rules Committee, during her long tenure in Congress, served as a founder and co-chair of the Pro-Choice Caucus.

In addition to championing legislation to protect and expand access to abortion and contraception, Representative Slaughter condemned efforts to expand the so-called conscience protections at the expense of healthcare access and was an early leader on marriage equality.

First elected in 1972, Pat Schroeder was one of only 14 women in the House at the time of the January 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. When a male colleague asked her how she could be a mother of two small children and a Member of Congress at the same time, she famously replied: "I have a brain and a uterus, and I use both."

Other figures who are large in the women's reproductive rights movement, of course, must include Ellen Malcolm, who, in 1985, led a group of friends in creating an organization dedicated to electing pro-choice Democratic women, giving them the credibility and resources that they needed through her organization, EMILY's List.

We began this evening talking about Sarah Weddington, and there are many lawyers and judges who have been a part of this movement at some time in their careers, including, famously, of course, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Kathryn Kolbert, Priscilla Smith, and Linda Coffee.

Of course, we heard from several people tonight, several of our Members,

about the work done in their local communities at Planned Parenthood health centers across the country. As we touch on some of these important women leaders in our community and our country, we certainly recognize the leadership that we have seen at Planned Parenthood health centers, including Faye Wattleton, who was the first Black woman to serve as the president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, as well as the youngest; Cecile Richards, who was president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, and she is the daughter of the late Texas Governor, another champion for reproductive rights, women's rights, and women's equality, Ann Richards.

Alexis McGill Johnson, the current president and CEO of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, is in charge of and oversees Planned Parenthood's vital health services to 2.4 million people each year through more than 600 health centers across the country. She is a champion for social and racial justice, a respected political and cultural organizer, and a tireless advocate for reproductive freedom.

The National Abortion Rights Action League, which I mentioned earlier, has always had an incredible role to play in the fight for reproductive rights. Its leaders—Karen Mulhauser, Nanette Falkenberg, Kate Michelman, Nancy Keenan, Ilyse Hogue, and, today, Mini Timmaraju—have left an incredible mark.

The Guttmacher Institute and its current leadership under Dr. Herminia Palacio—the Guttmacher Institute's mission is to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States and across the globe.

There are so many people, so many women, who have come together around these issues, who have come together to protect the health, the equality, the autonomy, and the dignity of women across this country. Whether named or not this evening on the floor, those are the people who we celebrate tonight.

Madam Speaker, we began this hour with a celebration of trailblazing, fearless women from my home State of Texas. I am so grateful to my colleagues from Texas who joined me this evening and to my colleagues from across the country who spoke out tonight.

Today in Texas, and across the country, reproductive rights are under attack. The passage of the draconian Senate Bill 8 in Texas, which Representative STEVENS discussed, which Representative VEASEY discussed, has created a healthcare crisis for women and healthcare providers across our State. Sadly, but not surprisingly, other States are quickly following suit.

As we have seen, and as we have heard from some of our colleagues this evening, it is not merely abortion. Advocates with cases pending before the

United States Supreme Court today, including Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, are arguing that the protections recognized in Roe v. Wade and Griswold v. Connecticut, which gave married couples the right to use birth control, that those principles should be rejected.

This is alarming. This is terrifying. This is not what the majority of Americans want. It is not what people have fought so hard for so long to achieve.

That is why it is so important that this evening we remember and honor the work that people have done to ensure reproductive rights, reproductive health, and reproductive justice. It is also important that we recommit ourselves to continuing that work.

As my colleagues noted, in September, thanks to the leadership of Representative JUDY CHU and the Pro-Choice Caucus, the House passed the Women’s Health Protection Act to protect the right to access abortion care against restrictions and bans in every State in our Union.

Passing this legislation is a critical step toward creating a world where every person, whoever they are, wherever they live, whatever their circumstances, is free to make the best healthcare and personal decisions for themselves, their families, and their futures.

We must continue to defend and protect the fundamental rights essential to our autonomy, our dignity, and our equality that are represented in the case of Roe v. Wade and the Women’s Health Protection Act.

In times like these, it is important to me to remember, and it is important for all of us to remember, that Texas gave us S.B. 8, but it also gave us Sarah Weddington, Loretta Ross, Cecile Richards, and so many other people who we talked about this evening and who we know have been champions for women’s health, women’s reproductive rights, and reproductive justice.

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Mrs. FLETCHER. Like women across the country, from New Hampshire to North Carolina to Florida to Michigan to California, all of whom spoke this evening, Texas women have fought and will continue to fight for the right to safe, legal, accessible abortion care, to reproductive healthcare, and to reproductive justice. I am proud to be one of them.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o’clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2954

Table with columns for fiscal years 2022-2031 and rows for Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact and components. Total impact is 90 million dollars.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-3694. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Program Fraud Civil Remedies [31 CFR Part 16] received March 9, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3695. A letter from the Senior Procurement Analyst, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — GSAR Extending Federal Supply Schedule Orders Beyond the Contract Term [GSAR Case 2020-G509; Docket No.: GSA-GSAR 2021-0015; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 3090-AK19) received March 2, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3696. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration’s direct final rule — Classified National Security Information

[FDMS No. NARA-22-0002; NARA-2022-021] (RIN: 3095-AC06) received March 16, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3697. A letter from the Chief, Division of Bird Conservation, Permits, and Regulations, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Migratory Bird Permits; Administrative Updates to 50 CFR Parts 21 and 22 [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2021-0025; FF09M22000-223-FXMB1232090000] (RIN: 1018-BF59) received March 9, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3698. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf — Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment [30 CFR Part 250] (RIN: 1014-AA55) received March 2, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3699. A letter from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, De-

partment of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Railroad Workplace Safety [Docket No. FRA-2019-0074] (RIN: 2130-AC78) received March 16, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5343. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report to Congress on case management personnel turnover, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 117-281). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6865. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-282). Referred to the